# THE PROMISE

# Week 1: caling & Faith

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## **Getting started:**

What is the best "kept" promise that was ever made to you other than salvation? Why do you consider it one of the best?

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Was there anything that stood out to you from the sermon that you would like to discuss further?

Read Genesis 3:15. How does this verse foreshadow the idea of redemption and victory over evil in the biblical narrative? Discuss the theological implications of "He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Read Genesis 11:1-9 and Genesis 15:1-6. Why is this promise so important? What is its connection to Matthew 1:1? What does this tell you about the character of God? How can this grow your faith?

Read Galatians 3:6-14. Why is believing in God's promises such a big deal for Abraham, and how does it connect to us today? Why is faith so critical to our relationships with God and others?

Explore the notion of the covenant in the Bible, especially in the context of God's promises to Abraham. How does the covenant establish a relationship between God and humanity? How do the blessings promised to Abraham extend to all nations, as mentioned in Galatians 3:6-9; 14?

### **PRAYER:**

Who has a need they would like the group to pray for? How about sharing a story from this past week of victory and praise? If you are doing this on your own, journal your story and prayer request.

Take some time of silence and solitude to reflect and journal this week on God's faithfulness to fulfill promises in your life. Perhaps you want to write a lament instead on something that is still unresolved from your perspective.

#### **application:**

Consider how it feels when a promise is kept versus when it is not. Is there a promise you have failed to keep? What could you do this week to make that right?