



Group Discussion Guide – Week 2: Promises, Promises

Key Texts: Hebrews 11–12, Jeremiah 31:31, Luke 22:20, Hebrews 4:16

INTRO – Set the Tone

Say something like:

“Welcome, everyone. This week we’re unpacking how our expectations of God can be shaped by promises He never actually made. We often expect good outcomes if we behave well—but the New Covenant invites us to fix our eyes on Jesus, not our circumstances.”

Invite someone to read aloud:

 Jeremiah 31:31 – “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.”

1. Which Covenant Are You Living Under?

-  Read Luke 22:20 and Hebrews 9:15.
- Q: What is the difference between the old covenant and the new covenant Jesus introduced?
- Q: In what ways do you sometimes “sign God’s name” to promises He never made?

2. When Faith Gets Complicated

-  Read Hebrews 11:32–38 (the “Hall of Faith”)
- Q: This chapter celebrates both those who escaped danger and those who suffered terribly. What does this tell us about the nature of faith?
- Q: Have you ever felt like your faith “wasn’t working” because of your circumstances? How did you respond?

3. God Had Something Better

-  Read Hebrews 11:39–40
- Q: What do you think “God had planned something better for us” means in light of the new covenant?
- Q: How does this change your expectations of God?

4. Fix Your Eyes on Jesus

-  Read Hebrews 12:1–3
- Q: What does it practically look like to “fix your eyes on Jesus”?
- Q: What distracts you most from doing that?

5. Approaching the Throne

-  Read Hebrews 4:16
- Q: What promises does God make under the new covenant?
- Q: How does knowing we have “access to the throne of grace” change how we face suffering?

WRAP-UP QUESTION

Q: Has there ever been a time when you felt disappointed by God, only to realize later that your disappointment was based on something He never promised?

CLOSING WORD

Remind your group:

“The old covenant was about blessings for obedience. The new covenant is about access to Jesus. Let’s not hold God hostage to outcomes He never guaranteed. Let’s hold tight to the better promise—His presence, His grace, and our eternal inheritance.”

Close in prayer, thanking God for the new covenant and asking for clarity to recognize and let go of false expectations.