

2019-2020 TOUR

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GAME CHANGER

Have you ever played a card game or board game and things just looked bleak? Sometimes when we get to the end of a game it seems impossible to win, but then we draw the "wild" card and suddenly it doesn't matter what happens next. You know because of that "wild" card you can get through anything the game may throw at you. It completely changes the way you play. It gives you hope that you can win. It's a Game Changer.

A lot of preteens today are starting to feel like the odds are stacked against them. What do they do when they're not sure how to get through what life throws at them?

This year's SuperStart tour is about finding hope in those moments through God's promises. Preteens will learn that when they trust God and hold tightly to His promises, they'll discover the hope that can carry them through any circumstance and into the abundant life of a Kingdom worker. Knowing that changes everything. It's a Game Changer.

MAIN IDEA

I can trust God because He loves me. God proved He is trustworthy through his love on the cross.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:16 "We know how much God has loved us, and we put our trust in His love."

When we think about God, what are the first things that usually come to mind? Prayer? Reading our Bibles? Going to Church? Most of us, if asked, could name at least a couple books of the Bible – maybe we could even quote our favorite verse. We could name a couple of the Apostles, or even most of the 10 commandments. But what if I asked you to quickly name a promise of God? A lot of us have to pause and think about it. Webster's Dictionary defines a promise as: "A statement that a person makes to either do, or not do something. A course or grounds for hope." The crazy thing is that there are as many as 5,000 statements in the Bible that God makes in which He says He will either do or not do something. FIVE THOUSAND! That's a lot of promises! There are some absolutely amazing promises God makes to us, to Israel, and to specific people throughout the Bible that all reveal His nature and character. The best part is that He comes through and delivers on every single promise He ever makes.

The real question then is: If God makes so many promises, why is it sometimes so hard for us to trust them? Sometimes we have trouble trusting that God will do what He said He was going to do because of past experiences in which we have been let down. That causes us to lose sight of exactly who God is. He is all powerful. He is eternal. He is loving. God, because of His love, promised to save us from sin and death, and He delivered that promise through the cross. 1 John 4:16 says "We know how much God has loved us, and we put our trust in His love." When we find it difficult to trust God and His promises, all we need to do is remember His love. Anyone who would love us enough to actually die for us can be trusted to do what they told us they are going to do. Just like 1 John 4:16 said, When we know just how much God loves us, we can put our trust in Him.

MAIN IDEA

God's promises give me hope. When we trust God and hold onto His promises we will find the hope that will get us through all of life's circumstances.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm for God can be trusted to keep his promise."

Maybe your preteens already feel like they believe in God, and maybe they even feel like they trust him. They may be wondering "Why is it so important to know God's promises? What do they do for me?"

Preteens today are facing increasing pressure and tense stressors. They are being exposed to more at an earlier age. They are being pushed into pursuing specific hobbies and carriers. They are beginning to experience significant physiological and psychological changes. Issues such as divorce and moving are common, and according to recent studies cause the most physiological harm during preteen years. Social media and having an online presence are becoming increasingly popular and harmful. Anxiety in preteens is shifting from being an abnormality to commonplace. What do God's promises do for preteens? They give them something they desperately need ... Hope.

Hope is simply expecting that something good will happen.

When we trust God, and know what He has promised us, it gives us the hope that can get us through even the worst circumstances in life. It can get them through anything life throws their way. It's a game changer.

MAIN IDEA

God's promises are for everyone. The hope that we get from trusting and knowing God's promises isn't meant to be a secret we keep, but something that we share with everyone.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 "God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us."

When we trust God, and find the incredible hope that comes from holding onto His promises, the next step in our faith journey is to share that with others. We'll be teaching our preteens that the same comfort they get from understanding and holding onto God's promises isn't just a secret we get to keep to ourselves. It's for everyone. Just like 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 says, when others are troubled we are able to comfort them with hope - the same comfort God has given to us. When we understand this it helps take our eyes off of our own circumstances and directs us to look at others and leads us into the abundant life of a Kingdom worker.