

PART 1: The Promise-Maker

INTRODUCTION

We've all had people make us promises. We've all made promises to others. Some promises are big and some are small. Some are kept. Others are broken.

When it comes to promises, there is someone who has promised you more—in quantity and quality—than anyone else ever has or ever will: your heavenly Father.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about a time when someone kept a promise, big or small, that he or she made to you. Why was the promise important to you?
2. Have you ever had to break a promise that you made? How did it affect you?
3. Talk about a time when someone broke a promise they made to you. What was the fallout of that broken promise?
4. Have you ever faced or do you currently face a choice between taking a step in faith or being paralyzed by fear? Explain.
5. In the message, Matt says, *"When you draw near the promises of people, be careful that they don't move you away from the promises of God."* Looking back at your life, what promises of people have moved you away from God's promises? How has that affected the direction of your life?
6. What is one step you can take this week to begin to draw near to your heavenly Father? How can this group help you?

MOVING FORWARD

Your heavenly Father has made you promises. He loves you and has a plan for your life. And when he makes a promise, he never breaks it. That's great news.

To begin to receive God's promises, you only need to draw near to him. When you draw near to him, he'll draw near to you.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

...let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings.

Hebrews 10:22a