



NO BIBLE SUNDAY?

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Bible Celebration resource

My favourite promise

Description:

A spontaneous expression of some of the verses people love the most

What's needed:

A couple of people willing to share a favourite promise from the Bible

Aim:

Remind people that Scripture has impacted their lives

Time:

3 minutes

Instructions:

1. Ahead of time, think of one of your favourite promises from the Bible. Ask a couple of other people to also choose a promise and be prepared to share it at the appropriate time.
2. Say: *"Do you have a favourite promise from the Bible? I do. It is... (share the verse and why). God makes an incredible number of incredible promises in this incredible Book. He promises in Isaiah 55:11 that '...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.' (NIV) God promises to keep his promises."*
3. Say: *"Let's celebrate some of these incredible promises right now, by speaking them out. Who has a promise memorised (after all, I know that all of you lost your Bibles on the way in today!)? Be brave – raise your voice and quote it right where you are. Let's speak out the truth of God's word!"*
4. Have your volunteers share the promises they have prepared. Then encourage others to share promises that they love. If you have people stay where they are and speak loudly, you may want to repeat what they say into the microphone to be sure everyone can hear. Another option is to using a roving microphone or have people come up to the front.
5. Say: *"Just think about it. God has promised all of that in his word! And there are hundreds of more exciting promises in here! Without the Bible, how would we have known about any of them?"*
6. Pray: *"God, we thank you that you love us so much that you want to make all these precious promises to us. But we also thank you that you want us to know about these promises, and so you have given us your word. We praise you and receive your promises. We want to live our lives according to the truth of these promises. In your son's holy name; the son whom we learn so much about in your Book. Amen."*
7. Continue with the service.

Ways to adapt this idea:

Read together: if you are worried that people won't have enough promises memorised to make this work, project up the following list of promises and have the congregation read them together.

Promises parade: cut the following list of promises into slips with a promise on each slip. Give one to each person on the front row and have them line up at the microphone and read each one in turn.

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Great promises from the Bible

God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;
Has He said, and will He not do it?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?
Num 23:19 NAS

The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you;
he will never leave you nor forsake you.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.
Deut 31:8 NIV

For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous;
With favor You will surround him as with a shield.
Ps 5:12 NKJV

The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.
Those who know your name will trust in you,
for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.
Ps 9:9-10 NIV

But the LORD has become my stronghold,
and my God the rock of my refuge.
Ps 94:22 RSV

For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture,
and the sheep of His hand.
Ps 95:7 NAS

Great peace have they who love your law,
and nothing can make them stumble.
Ps 119:165 NIV

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
Ps 145:8 RSV

Trust in Jehovah with all thy heart,
And lean not upon thine own understanding:
In all thy ways acknowledge him,
And he will direct thy paths.

Prov 3:5-6 ASV

But the path of the just is like the shining sun,
That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.

Prov 4:18 NKJV

"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD:
"though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool."

Isa 1:18 RSV

Like a shepherd He will tend His flock,
In His arm He will gather the lambs,
And carry them in His bosom;
He will gently lead the nursing ewes.

Isa 40:11 NAS

But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.

Isa 40:31 NKJV

"I, yes, I alone am he who blots away your sins for my own
sake and will never think of them again."

Isa 43:25 TLB