

January 30 - February 3, 2017

Robert Ballard, Pastor of Worship Ministries



5 MINUTES / 5 DAYS

Standing on God's Promises! In 1886 Russell Kelso Carter wrote the now famous hymn *Standing on the Promises of God*. Carter had written the hymn a couple of years prior to a major health crisis in his life. The hymn became real to Carter as he endured the trials of life. Just like Carter, we can also stand on the promises of God in our lives today. So let's stand on the promises of God each day this week as we claim a new promise for each new day.

MONDAY

PROMISE: God Forgives

Psalm 103:12

It's true—we all sin. It's part of our human nature. Sin is disobedience to God's commandments, either by doing what is prohibited or failing to do what is required. God tells us in His Word that sin is a serious thing that disrupts our relationship with Him. But what a wonderful thought that God forgives sin!

Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin for us that we might be seen as righteous. The good news is that, in spite of our mistakes and falling short, God is always pursuing us and is willing to forgive and forget and to give us a new beginning. God is ready to forgive you today, and He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sin if we confess them to Him (1 John 1:9). As long as we live, it is never too late to ask for forgiveness and make a new start!

Let's confess our sinfulness to God and stand on His promise of forgiveness.

TUESDAY

PROMISE: God Gives You Strength

John 16:33

As believers, we are not exempt from facing difficulty and painful situations. The Bible tells us that we will face difficulty and trouble. Job 14:1 says that *man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble*. But as followers of Jesus, we have a wonderful promise that God will give us strength in the face of our difficulty. God promises in Isaiah 40:29-31 that *He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for 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*.

Ask God for strength to face your difficult situation, and stand on His promise that He will provide strength in turbulent times.

Glorifying God by producing more maturing followers of Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

PROMISE: God Answers Prayer

John 14:13-14

D. L. Moody once said, "If when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in Thy presence and cry unto Thee in our affliction, then Thou wilt hear and help."

God promises in His Word that He will answer prayer. Sometimes, His answer may not be what we want to hear, but He will answer. It is important to stay close to our Savior to better recognize when He is answering our prayers. Sometimes, His answer is "yes" and other times "no." Sometimes, He answers with "wait," but He will give grace in our time of waiting. God hears your prayers, desires to answer your prayers, and truly cares for you!

Stand on God's promise that in His time He will answer your prayer.

THURSDAY

PROMISE: God Will Comfort You

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

What an awesome thought that we have a God who can comfort us in all our times of trouble. It is one thing to have comfort when the sun is shining and when things are going well. But, what we really need is comfort in the time of trouble and times of uncertainty. God will comfort you in the hospital. He will comfort you during times of grief. He is our Comforter in any place, at any time, and in every situation. He is the God of all comfort and He will come at our time of need.

In his hymn, *The Comforter Has Come*, hymn writer William J. Kirkpatrick wrote about this comfort: *The Comforter has come, the Comforter has come! The Holy Ghost from Heav'n, the Father's promise given; Oh, spread the tidings 'round, wherever man is found; the Comforter has come!*

Rest in His promise that He is the true Comforter, and know that He will comfort you in your time of need.

FRIDAY

PROMISE: A Home in Heaven

Philippians 3:20-21

It's been said that "all good things come to an end." We've all heard this common phrase before. While this popular saying has some thread of truth in it for earthly things, it is a false statement for the believer. As followers of Jesus, our spiritual lives will never end. God has promised that we have a home in heaven and that we will one day be with Him. It is hard to imagine how wonderful that day will be! We will see loved ones who have gone before us, and better yet, what a day that will be when we see Jesus face-to-face! In Philippians 3:20-21, the apostle Paul writes, *But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself*.

Thank the Lord for His promise and provision of an eternal home in heaven, and rest assured that, as believers, the best is still yet to come!