

Part II, Week Two: Certainty!

Digging Deeper

Read Hebrews 6:13-20

We sometimes find ourselves in situations where we must trust someone's word. Sometimes it is something simple. We are lost. They are helping us with directions. A little voice inside says I'm not sure these directions are correct. Other times, the word we must trust is more serious. The spouse who has been unfaithful has returned, vowing never to wander again. Now the voice is screaming, Can I ever trust my spouse again?

The author of Hebrews helps us understand how we can trust God. He says that when humans confirm their word, they swear on something greater than themselves. I swear on my mother's grave. If so, on what does God swear? He must swear on himself. He is the only being who can ultimately substantiate his own word.

When God affirmed His word to Abraham in Genesis 22, He said, By myself have I sworn. Indeed, what else could God swear on such that we could believe Him more?

The assurance we have in God's word creates in us hope. Hope is part of the triad that Paul speaks of in 1 Corinthians 13: faith, hope, and love. These three terms relate to the Christian's view of things. Faith looks backwards on the finished work of Christ. Love is always present tense. We love our brother now. Hope, however, is always in the future. We hope in things to come. Hope is to the future what faith is to the past. Just as our faith is sure, based on past events, our hope is sure, based on the security of future events. How do we know that these things are secure? God told us so. And God never lies.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read Hebrews 6:9-10- This passage speaks of God being just. Discuss the three things that God would not overlook in this church's ministry. How is your life characterized by these things in regard to Currey Creek?
2. Read 6:11-15- Why does the author want them to demonstrate earnestness? How are we as Christians often *sluggish*? Why do you think Abraham is given as an example?

3. Read 6:16-20- In these verses we see that we can trust God based on three dependable things.
4. In vs. 16-17 what is it that God gives us? (His word)
5. In vs. 16-18 what are we to have confidence in? (God's nature - immutability)
6. In vs. 19-20 what are we to rest upon? (God's Son)

Group Application Questions

1. Do you trust in God? Do you believe that what he says is true? Will you commit to trusting in God's word?
2. In order to trust what God says, we must first know what he says. Will you commit to reading faithfully in God's word, with the goal of knowing what God has promised you?
3. Trusting in God's word is one aspect of the Christian life, but it is one that spills over into other areas as well. Will you commit to allowing your trust in God to help you live victoriously in the present? Will you allow God's promises to you to help you love others more deeply?

Prayer

Psalm 25:1 "In you, Lord my God, I put my trust."

Take time to share prayer requests in your group and pray for one another.

*Overview was adapted from Richland Hills Community Church

*Questions were adapted from "Hebrews, An Anchor for the Soul" by Kent Hughes and "The NIV Application Commentary" by George H Guthrie.

