

Introduction

"Do we keep our commitments to God?"

Tough question!

We would like to say, "I certainly do!" but since God knows everything we are stuck having to admit the truth. We don't keep our commitments to Him and this creates problems for us.

We make promises to God and sincerely want to follow through with them. Whether it be "doing more do's" or "doing less don'ts" we make a plan and sooner or later we no longer stick to it. The sense that we have failed God pushes us to try harder. We try harder for a period of time and after we lose steam we give up. Try hard again. Give up again. Try hard again. You get the picture. Life in the "give up - try hard" cycle is exhausting. How can we escape?

We need to begin with a different question.

"Does God keep His commitments to us?"

God wants us to have faith in Him. Faith is confidence in God's faithfulness in spite of evidence to the contrary. God wants us to base our confidence in Him on what He says rather than what we see. He wants us to believe that He is faithful to do what He commits to do.

Before we can keep God's commandments, we must believe that God can keep His commitments!

引言

“我们有没有对上帝信守承诺？”

这是个很尖锐的问题！

“当然有！”，我们多想如此坚定地回答！但是，因为上帝能鉴察一切，我们不得不实话实说。由于没有对上帝信守承诺，矛盾冲突比比皆是。

我们向上帝许诺，想由衷地履行这个诺言。“多行义”，抑或“少行不义”，我们总是踌躇满志，却又虎头蛇尾。对上帝的愧疚感，迫使我们一再努力，但这种热情为时不长，随着气势减弱，我们也放弃了起初的诺言。努力，放弃；再努力，再放弃。生活在这样周而复始、上下求索的怪圈里，我们心力交瘁。如何才能获得解脱呢？

我们换个问题重新开始。

“上帝有没有对我们信守承诺？”

上帝要我们相信他。信，就是对上帝的信实抱有信心，即使有种种相反的迹象存在。上帝要我们将信心建立在他的话语之上，而非依靠我们的眼见。他要我们相信，他将信实地去实现对我们的承诺。

在我们遵守上帝的诫命之前，必须相信，上帝信守他的承诺！

When we look our circumstances and our conduct we can wrongly assume that God is no longer committed to us. Trouble at home or at work causes us to doubt God cares about us.

Areas of disobedience in our lives cause us to question whether God could ever care about someone who struggles with the sins we struggle with. We assume that we must try harder to do what God wants so that He will care for us and do what we want . . .

. . . and back into the “give up – try hard” cycle” we go!

Try an experiment. For the next forty days focus on God’s commitments to you.

40 Days with the Ten Commitments will focus your attention on ten commitments that God makes to you. Each day for forty days you will reflect on one of these commitments.

Moses looked at God for forty days and it changed him . . .

当我们面对周围环境或自己的行为时，就会错误地认为上帝不再对我们信守承诺。家庭或工作中的矛盾冲突，使我们怀疑上帝的关爱。

自己在生活中的某些叛逆使我们质疑：“上帝是否在乎挣扎在这样或那样罪中的我们？”并认定，必须加倍努力，遵上帝的旨意而行；他才会关爱我们，给我们想要的……

……这样，我们又回到了“放弃 – 再努力”的恶性循环之中！

尝试一下。在以后的四十天中，关注上帝对你的承诺。

“*四十天之十约*”使你定睛于上帝对你的十个承诺。四十天中的每一天，你都将逐一思考每一个承诺。

摩西仰望上帝四十天，从此他获得了改变……