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I PROMISE

Jeremiah 34-35

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord,
when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

and all the kingdoms of the earth under his dominion and all the peoples were fighting against Jerusalem and all of its cities:

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

2 "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:
Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah and say to him,

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

'Thus says the Lord: Behold, I am giving this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

3 You shall not escape from his hand but shall surely be captured and delivered into his hand.

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

You shall see the king of Babylon eye to eye
and speak with him face to face. And you shall go to Babylon.'

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

**4 Yet hear the word of the Lord, O Zedekiah king of Judah!
Thus says the Lord concerning you: 'You shall not die by the sword.**

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

5 You shall die in peace. And as spices were burned for your fathers, the former kings who were before you,

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

so people shall burn spices for you and lament for you, saying,
"Alas, lord!" For I have spoken the word, declares the Lord."

JEREMIAH 34:1-6 (ESV)

6 Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah, in Jerusalem,

1

God **keeps** His **promises**.

JOHN 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

ROMANS 8:28 (ESV)

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

MATTHEW 6:33 (ESV)

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13 (ESV)

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability,

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13 (ESV)

but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape,
that you may be able to endure it.

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APPLICATION QUESTION

What's your favorite promise of God in Scripture?

PROVERBS 16:9 (ESV)

The heart of man plans his way,
but the Lord establishes his steps.

**Knowing God keeps His promises is the main antidote
to help us keep our promises to Him.**

Local Businessman Pledges College Tuition to Third Graders

By [Name]
[Date]

Local businessman [Name] has pledged to pay the college tuition for 100 third graders in the [City] area.

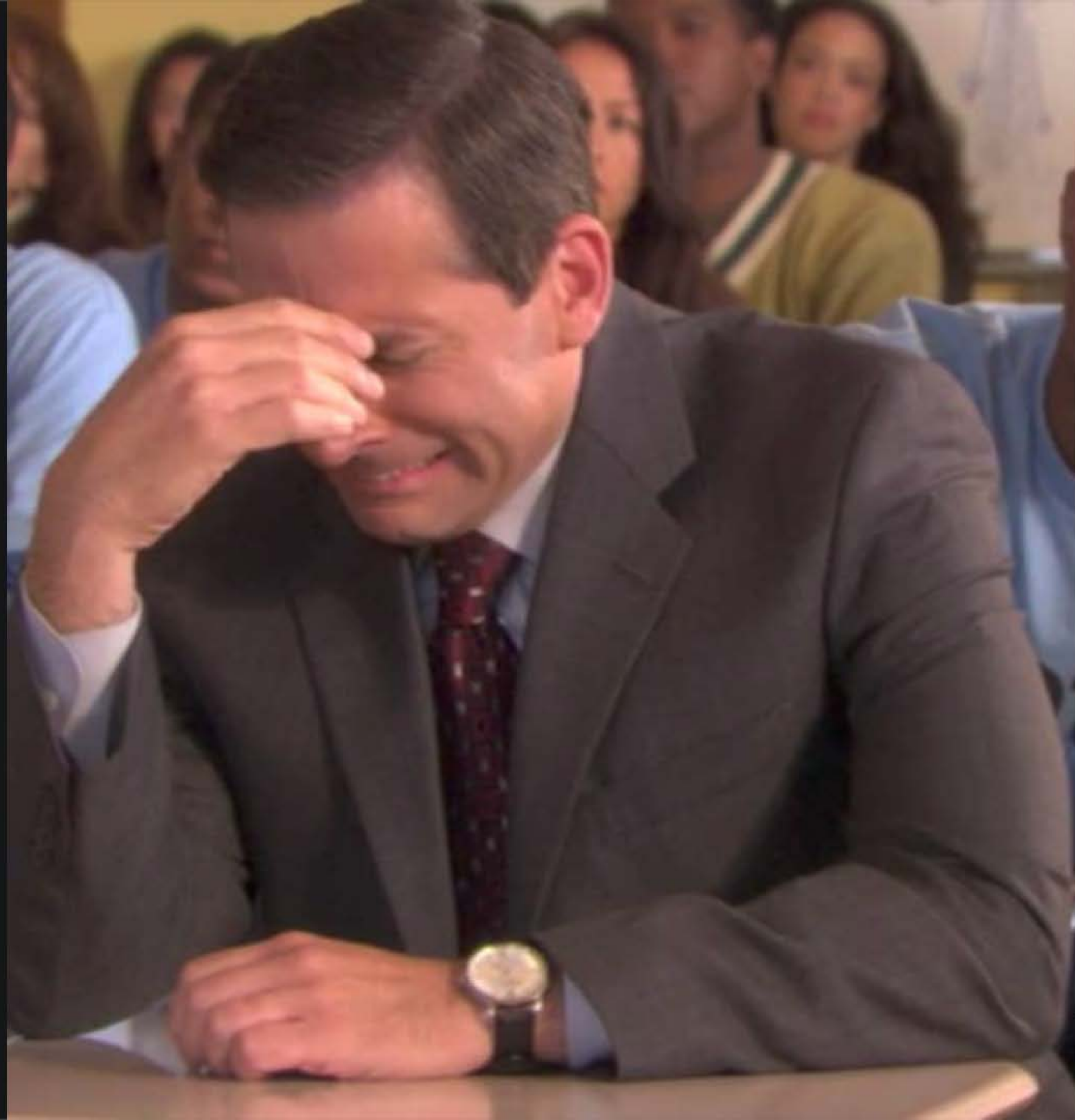
[Name], who owns [Company], said he was inspired by the success of the [Company] and wanted to give back to the community.

He said he will pay the tuition for 100 third graders in the [City] area, starting in the fall of 2000.

[Name] said he will pay the tuition for 100 third graders in the [City] area, starting in the fall of 2000.

[Name] said he will pay the tuition for 100 third graders in the [City] area, starting in the fall of 2000.





ECCLESIASTES 5:5 (NLT)

It is better to say nothing than
to make a promise and not keep it.

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

8 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord,
after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

in Jerusalem to make a proclamation of liberty to them, 9 that everyone should set free his Hebrew slaves, male and female,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

so that no one should enslave a Jew, his brother.

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁰ And they obeyed, all the officials and all the people who had entered into the covenant that everyone would set free his slave,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

male or female, so that they would not be enslaved again.
They obeyed and set them free.

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

11 But afterward they turned around and took back the male and female slaves they had set free,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

and brought them into subjection as slaves.

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

12 The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah from the Lord:

13 "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

I myself made a covenant with your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, saying,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁴ 'At the end of seven years each of you must set free the fellow Hebrew who has been sold to you and has served you six years;

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

you must set him free from your service.'
But your fathers did not listen to me or incline their ears to me.

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

**15 You recently repented and did what was right in my eyes by
proclaiming liberty, each to his neighbor,**

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

and you made a covenant before me in the house
that is called by my name,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁶ but then you turned around and profaned my name when each of you took back his male and female slaves,

JEREMIAH 34:8-16 (ESV)

whom you had set free according to their desire,
and you brought them into subjection to be your slaves.

JEREMIAH 34:15 (ESV)

You recently repented and did what was right
in my eyes by proclaiming liberty, each to his neighbor,

JEREMIAH 34:15 (ESV)

and you made a covenant before me
in the house that is called by my name,

JEREMIAH 34:16 (ESV)

but then you turned around and profaned my name
when each of you took back his male and female slaves,

JEREMIAH 34:16 (ESV)

whom you had set free according to their desire,
and you brought them into subjection to be your slaves.

JEREMIAH 37:5 (ESV)

The army of Pharaoh had come out of Egypt.

JEREMIAH 37:5 (ESV)

And when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news about them, they withdrew from Jerusalem.

2

Promise **breakers** put **themselves** first over **God**.

Spurts of faithfulness lead to destruction.

APPLICATION QUESTION

Are there any promises you are breaking with God right now?

APPLICATION QUESTION

What needs to change for you to stop having spurts of faithfulness that last a couple weeks, but to be continually faithful?

**What in this passage reminds you that we need to prioritize the poor and underprivileged in our community?
How can you personally do a better job of this?**

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord
in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah:

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

2 "Go to the house of the Rechabites and speak with them and bring them to the house of the Lord, into one of the chambers;

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

then offer them wine to drink.”

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

3 So I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, son of Habazziniah and his brothers and all his sons and the whole house of the Rechabites.

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

4 I brought them to the house of the Lord into the chamber of the sons of Hanan the son of Igdaliah, the man of God,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

which was near the chamber of the officials, above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, keeper of the threshold.

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

5 Then I set before the Rechabites pitchers full of wine, and cups, and I said to them, "Drink wine."

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

6 But they answered, "We will drink no wine,
for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

'You shall not drink wine,
neither you nor your sons forever.

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

7 You shall not build a house; you shall not sow seed; you shall not plant or have a vineyard; but you shall live in tents all your days,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

that you may live many days in the land where you sojourn.'

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

8 We have obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, in all that he commanded us, to drink no wine all our days,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

ourselves, our wives, our sons, or our daughters,
⁹ and not to build houses to dwell in.

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

We have no vineyard or field or seed,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

¹⁰ but we have lived in tents and have obeyed
and done all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

¹¹ But when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against the land, we said,

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

'Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans and the army of the Syrians.'

JEREMIAH 35:1-11 (ESV)

So we are living in Jerusalem."

3

Promise keepers put ancient commands first over pressures of culture, crowds, and famous pastors.

**They lived by the ancient command
and not by trendy culture.**

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

16 The sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have kept the command that their father gave them, but this people has not obeyed me.

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

17 Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the God of Israel:

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

Behold, I am bringing upon Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the disaster that I have pronounced against them,

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

because I have spoken to them and they have not listened,
I have called to them and they have not answered."

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

18 But to the house of the Rechabites Jeremiah said,
"Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel:

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

Because you have obeyed the command of Jonadab your father and kept all his precepts and done all that he commanded you,

JEREMIAH 35:16-19 (ESV)

19 therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Jonadab the son of Rechab shall never lack a man to stand before me.”

APPLICATION QUESTION

**Are you following God's ancient commands
or culture and the crowds?**

APPLICATION QUESTION

**Are the pressures of life making you compromise in any way?
Are you a promise breaker or a promise keeper?**

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