



Grace Assembly Of God

Chapter-By-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture:	Genesis 38	Title:	Staying True
Author:	Sis Goh Lee Choo		
Summary of Chapter:	This is an account of Judah's failed promise to his daughter-in-law Tamar to raise an offspring for his son that led to deception and danger for his family's future.		
Key Verses (NLT):	How does it speak to me?		
<i>¹¹ Then Judah said to Tamar, his daughter-in-law, "Go back to your parents' home and remain a widow until my son Shelah is old enough to marry you." (But Judah didn't really intend to do this because he was afraid Shelah would also die, like his two brothers.) ...</i>	<p>Before I joined Grace as a staff, I was a teacher. I made a commitment to my students that as long as they wanted to do well, I would offer extra classes and stay back in school to coach them (even when there was only one student). It took a lot out of me. But because I stayed true to my words, they felt valued and began to work hard. In many areas, I find myself forgetting about my promises or parking them aside because I do not really value them. Simple promises such as running errands for my parents, taking my niece to her playground or being on time for an appointment. I learnt that whenever I know I cannot fulfil a promise, it is important for me to take the initiative to go back to the person whom I have committed to. Because every commitment made is to someone or a group of people to whom I value. In fact, staying true is about honouring God by being true to our words.</p> <p>How often are we like Judah, changing our minds about the promises we make with others? When challenges arise, our commitment is put through an integrity test. Those who stay true to their promises often make sacrifices and go all the way out to keep them.</p> <p>Tamar honoured God with her commitment and God honoured Tamar by giving her two sons! Surely, we can count on God to keep all His promises.</p>		
APPLICATION QUESTIONS:			
Adult:	Is there strained relationship at home or workplace because of your repeated failure to keep your promises? Ask God for humility as you seek forgiveness and understanding from the people involved. Be proactive to change with God's help.		
Youth:	How do you respond when you have to face consequences due to your lack of commitment in schoolwork or responsibilities at home? Guard your heart from anger or resentment, and embrace lessons learnt to develop a good virtue in you.		
Child:	Share a time when you broke a promise to someone? How do you think the person would have felt? Promises are meant to be kept and follow through. Pray today and ask the Holy Spirit to help you to be a promise keeper; you will do all that you have said you would do.		
PRAYER:			
Praying Scripture:	Dear Father God, thank You for being our Promise keeper. All Your words are true. You are faithful, trustworthy and Your love never changes. In every season, we are so secured in Your Word. As we desire to reflect Christlikeness, help us to stay true to our promises because this honours You. So that we can make the world a better place for strong relationships to bloom.		
Thanksgiving:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food they ate, prayer that is answered, etc)		
Intercession:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing, family, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)		
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (name). In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.		