

Faithful: steadfast in allegiance, firm in adherence to promises/duty

God is faithful in the small.

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you **everything you need.**” *Matthew 6:33*

God is faithful in the big.

Israel **saw** the great **power** that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people **feared** the Lord, and they **believed** in the Lord and in his servant Moses. *Exodus 14:31*

God is faithful in our mess.

“Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will **build my church**, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.” *Matthew 16:18*

But Peter said, “Man, I **don’t know** what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. *Luke 22:60*

Jesus repeated the question: “Simon son of John, do you love me?” “Yes, Lord,” Peter said, “you know I love you.” “Then **take care** of my sheep,” Jesus said. *John 21:16*

Grace is God’s faithfulness on display.

Yet I still **dare to hope** when I remember this: The **faithful love** of the Lord never ends! His **mercies** never cease. Great is his **faithfulness**; his mercies begin afresh each morning. *Lamentations 3:21-23*

Jesus Christ is the same **yesterday** and **today** and **forever**. *Hebrews 13:8*

I entrust my spirit into your hand. Rescue me, Lord, for you are a **faithful** God. *Psalms 31:5*

Where has God been faithful in your life?

One Year New Testament Devotionals

Small group discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume in January 2018 during our next 10-week group cycle. Use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually.

Devotional

Did you know that God sees you as salt and light? As we are faithful, He uses us as lights that penetrate the darkness, as well as salt that preserves and causes others to desire a fresh drink of living water from the well of Jesus. We must remember, however, that it is His righteousness, not our goodness, that allows us to make a difference – and many times, it is not our actions as much as our attitudes that keep us from giving people a “taste of Jesus.”

December 31: Revelation 22:1-21

What do you imagine it will be like to look into the face of Jesus? To what acts of service does God call you right now? What act or deed can you do today as a “mark of ownership” placed on your life by God?

January 1: Matthew 1:1-25

Why do you think God waited for so many generations to send Jesus? How do ancestors and family histories affect who we are? What actions do you need to take (or choices do you need to make) so that your descendants look back on your life as something to live up to and not something to live down?

January 2: Matthew 2:1-23

What prompts people to make great sacrifices for others? How can a competitive, prideful, or insecure spirit alter a person’s behavior? What sacrifice of time, effort, or money would demonstrate your love for Jesus this week?

January 3/4: Matthew 3:1-4:25

How do you think you might have responded had you been fishing with these men, and heard Jesus direct this challenge to you? Why did Jesus handpick ordinary men to be the leaders of His church? What do you think Jesus saw in these men? What possessions, goals, dreams, or relationships are keeping you from following Jesus wholeheartedly today?

January 5/6: Matthew 5:1-48

What did Jesus mean when He called His followers salt and light? What specific behaviors mark the lifestyle of a salty, shining follower of Christ? How can you be salt and light to the people God has placed in your life?