

Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way



January 24, 2016

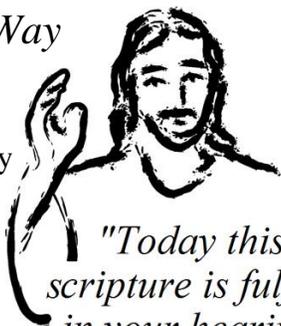
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

I Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21



*"Today this
 scripture is fulfilled
 in your hearing."*

Luke 4:21

God's Promises Fulfilled. *Object: None Needed.*

People make promises every day. Sometimes we give something to another person as a sign of our promise, sometimes we sign our name to seal our promise, other times we just give our word to another person that we will do something.

People make promises every day. Do they always keep their promises? Unfortunately, some people don't. God makes promises too. The Bible is full of God's promises. Does God always keep his promises? Yes he does! One of my favorite verses in the Bible is one that says, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor. 1:20) That is what our Bible lesson teaches us today.

Jesus was in the city of Nazareth on the Sabbath day so he did what he always did on the Sabbath. He went to the synagogue. He stood up and began to read the words of the prophet Isaiah from the Scripture. He read where it says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."

When he had finished reading, he sat down. All eyes were on Jesus. Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture that you have just heard read has been fulfilled this very day!" Jesus came to earth to fulfill the promises of God. All of God's promises are fulfilled in him.

Wouldn't it be great if you and I were as faithful in keeping our promises to God as he is in keeping his promises to us?

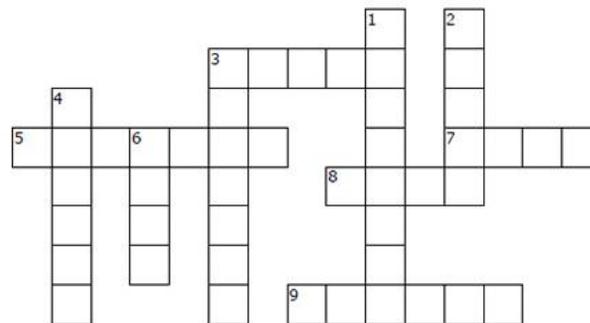
Our Father in heaven, thank you for your faithfulness in keeping your promises. Help us to be faithful in keeping our promises to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives.
 Alleluia (Luke 4:18)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3. Something you do to help someone
- 5. A person who speaks for God
- 7. Information about recent events or happenings; previously unknown information
- 8. The opposite of bad
- 9. A long roll of paper with writing on it

DOWN

- 1. A person who is kept in jail
- 2. Unable to see
- 3. To be allowed to do whatever you want to do
- 4. To deliver a sermon
- 6. Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions

PRISONER	FAVOR	GOOD	PROPHET	POOR
BLIND	FREEDOM	NEWS	PREACH	SCROLL

God's Promises Bible: Provide children with supplies to make a Bible shaped paper, cut out and glue on to a piece of construction paper. Write as many of God's promises as you can think of together as a family. Fold the "Bible" in half and use it to encourage each other through the week! When the "Bible(s)" are folded, you can write GOD'S PROMISES BIBLE, on the front cover.

God's Promises Necklace: Give children small pieces of various colored paper to write one of God's promises on each paper and fold at the top where there are no words. After 10 (or desired amount) promises have been written on the papers, give children a long piece of ribbon or yarn that will tie around their neck and hang down to display the promises. Children can fold the paper over the yarn or ribbon and tape each paper and then hang their Promises Necklace around their neck.

JESUS READS FROM THE SCROLL

LUKE 4

