

Week of July 29-August 4

## **PINKY PROMISE**

**Scripture Reading:** Read 2 Corinthians 1

Have you ever seen two school-aged friends make a “pinky promise”? A pinky promise (sometimes called a “pinky swear”) is when two people entwine their pinky fingers



to signify that a promise has been made. Traditionally, the pinky promise or swear is considered binding and equivalent to a handshake for sealing a deal. The pinky promise originally indicated that the person who broke the promise would cut off his or her pinky finger as a consequence. Such a drastic measure is not followed through today but, nonetheless, the pinky promise is still intended to signify that the promise can't (or shouldn't) be broken or counteracted.

While pinky promises may have their place, God has given us even greater assurance regarding his promises. Take a look at what Paul says in today's chapter reading: *“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ.”*

So, how many promises did God actually make? Years ago, David Wilkerson (Founder of Teen Challenge and author of The Cross and the Switchblade) produced a little book called, “The Jesus Person Pocket Promise Book” that included over 800 promises from the Word of God! Other folks claim to have found over 1,200 promises in the Bible. Regardless of the exact number, it's pretty clear that God has made an enormous number of promises and all of them are *“Yes” in Christ.*”

Why were such an amazing number of promises given? According to the apostle Peter (2 Peter 1:3-4), *“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”* In other words, He has promised to provide for you all that you need to be what he has called you to be and to do what he has called you to do. And, just so you know: God didn't even need to guarantee it with a pinky promise. He proved it instead with the death of His Son!

**Action Step & Prayer Focus:** As you read through 2 Corinthians this week, be on the lookout for God's promises. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to claim the promises you need so that you can be and do all that he has called you to in His kingdom.

**Take-a-way:** *God's promises are stronger than a pinky swear!*