

10 PROMISES FROM GOD TO REMEMBER:

1. I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28-30)
2. I will strengthen you (Isaiah 41:10)
3. I will answer you (Jeremiah 33:3)
4. I will bless you (Hebrews 6:14)
5. I will not fail you (Deuteronomy 31:8)
6. I will provide for you (2 Corinthians 9:8)
7. I will never leave you (Jeremiah 31:3)
8. I love you (Jeremiah 31:3)
9. I am for you (Romans 8:31)
10. I will direct your steps (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Dear 55Alive Ministry –

The promises listed above are encouraging and, at the same time, challenging!! I hope these promises along with the daily scripture readings will be an encouragement to you this week.

Thanks to all of you who brought cards for the residents at Ridgmar Place – I know they were a blessing to many of the people there. The people who live at Ridgmar Place and who are members of our church received more than one card each – thank you so much!

You have probably read or heard that Bro. Bob has said that we will meet together for the first time post-quarantine on May 31! Did I hear an AMEN?!? We will, of course, follow the guidelines for meeting safely – but, won't it be great to be back together!! The schedule for a few Sundays will be a little different than our usual pattern. Please be on the lookout for the "revised, temporary" schedule. It will be a little different... but, it will be WONDERFUL to be back together!! Don't forget to watch online <https://birchman.org/resources/live/>!

Happy Mother's Day to our mothers – thank you for all that you do and have done!

I can't wait to see each of you very SOON – Bro. Phil

SUNDAY, May 10

Since we can't meet together right now, I am so grateful for the technology that makes it possible for us to worship at the same time – together...but not in the same building! It won't be long before we can lift our voices together, praising the King of kings and the Lord of lords!!

Here are some verses and special words to encourage our hearts this week:

Monday, May 11

Psalm 68:35 (ESV)

Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

2 Peter 1:4-8 (HCSB)

By these He has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"God does not give us everything we want, but He does fulfill His promises, leading us along the best and straightest paths to Himself." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Tuesday, May 12

Isaiah 54:10 (NASB)

"For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, But My lovingkindness will not be removed from you, And My covenant of peace will not be shaken," Says the LORD who has compassion on you.

John 7:38 (AMP)

He who believes in Me [who cleaves to and trusts in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water.

"I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. I ended up by asking God to do His work through me." – Hudson Taylor

Wednesday, May 13

1 Chronicles 29:12-13 (MSG)

Riches and glory come from you, you're ruler over all; You hold strength and power in the palm of your hand to build up and strengthen all. And here we are, O God, our God, giving thanks to you, praising your splendid Name.

Matthew 19:26 (ESV)

But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

"We never grow closer to God when we just live life. It takes deliberate pursuit and attentiveness." — Francis Chan

Thursday, May 14

Psalm 135:6-7 (ESV)

Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

Colossians 1:9-12 (HCSB)

For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing [to Him], bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience, with **joy** giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.

"God will meet you where you are in order to take you where He wants you to go." — Tony Evans

Friday, May 15

2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Ephesians 3:20 (NLT2)

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

"Having the answers is not essential to living. What is essential is the sense of God's presence during dark seasons of questioning." — Ravi Zacharias

Saturday, May 16

Jeremiah 10:12 (AMP)

God made the earth by His power; He established the world by His wisdom and by His understanding and skill stretched out the heavens.

2 Peter 1:2-3 (NASB)

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

"The will of God will not take us where the grace of God cannot sustain us." — Billy Graham

Some closing words from PJ!

I hope that you are faring well in these unusual days! However, I understand from the media that many people are spending their time eating... kind of like they are “storing up for winter.” Let me encourage you to put down that fork and get a little exercise for body AND mind! This can be a perfect time to read more and expand your wisdom – not your waistline!! I know that there are people who are reading more to their grandchildren, even reading to them through Facebook or Skype. If you are blessed with grandchildren, they would love for you to read something and what an opportunity to let them know what you believe! Take the plunge and make it happen.

I read in a devotional this past week something that I thought was perfect for the situation in which we find ourselves.

As long as Jesus is with you, you can be at peace. As you face storms and turbulence, cultivate the habit of turning to Him. Talk with Him. Declare His Word. Praise Him, knowing that, as we trust in Him, we don't have to be afraid. He can give us peace and bring us through whatever difficulties we may be facing.

May the Lord **bless** you and give you **peace**!! Keep smiling – Bro. Phil