

Adult Bible Studies

Current Events Supplement June 2, 2019

Jesus Institutes the New Covenant Mark 14:17-24; Hebrews 8:6-7, 10-12

Alex Kunda just graduated from Brunswick High School in Brunswick, Georgia, where he was given an award for perfect attendance. Alex “never missed school—not one day—since he started kindergarten.” His parents, concerned that Alex was “putting too much pressure on himself,” even tried to break that record by offering him a trip to Disney World when he was in the fourth grade, a trip he declined. Alex’s older sister, Miranda, “never missed a single day of first grade—all the way up until the day she died” of autoimmune hepatitis. Then four-year-old Alex made a promise to his sister that he would never miss a day of school. “This was the one promise I remembered making to her. And I can’t make any more promises to her in person, anymore. So the one promise I did make, I was going to keep it.”¹

The student book author writes, “With the advent of Jesus, we are given a new power to become promise-keepers; we are enabled to move from brokenness to wholeness, from sin to redemption, from faithlessness to faithfulness.”² As we grow and mature in faith, we come to rely on the movement and guidance of the Holy Spirit. That movement and guidance helps us to keep our promises. Promises kept bring about growth, strength, healing, and deliverance, and all come from a relationship with Jesus.

In his grief over his sister’s death, Alex found a way to honor her, by making and then keeping a promise to do something she would have done: never miss school. Through fulfilling his promise, he found wholeness out of brokenness. Jesus brings us wholeness, redemption, and faithfulness through a new covenant with God. May we all tap into our faith and the faithfulness of Jesus to be better promise-keepers and witnesses to the ultimate Promise-Keeper.

1. How does Jesus give you the strength and perseverance to keep promises?
2. How is God the ultimate Promise-Keeper?
3. How does our promise-keeping bear witness to God’s promise-keeping?

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¹From “A 4-Year-Old Made a Promise to His Sister After She Died. He Kept it for 13 Years,” by Steve Hartman, CBS News (cbsnews.com/news/a-4-year-old-made-a-promise-to-his-sister-after-she-died-he-kept-it-for-13-years/).

²From *Adult Bible Studies*, Summer 2019, by Kevin Baker (Cokesbury, 2018); page 9.