



Important Phone Numbers
 National Alliance on Mental Illness Help Line
 1-800-950-6264 <https://www.nami.org/help>
 Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800.273.TALK
 Veteran's Crisis Line 800.273.8255 *press 1*
 Pastoral Care—Pastor Jim Alexander
 623.792.5295

The Church of the Palms' W.I.S.E. focus will be combined for November and December. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's will be experienced differently than ever before in our lifetime because of COVID 19, traveling restrictions, sizes of groups recommended for safety. Amid celebrations and losses, we all come with anticipation and hopes of something to touch our souls as only the Divine can.

"PROMISES" and reminders of God's continued presence can comfort and embolden our choices of how to respond to the myriad of emotions that holidays bring. Most of us own our nostalgic tendencies during this season. That brings sorrow and joyful memories. So let's go exploring about God's "PROMISES" for eight weeks.

Please read the overview and scripture ties for each week and pray that Emmanuel will open you to new ways of celebrating the holidays of 2020. God *is* with you!

Ready:

"God will be our guide." —Psalm 32:18

God "IS." There requires no preparation for God to be available to us. God is ready.

It is about my state of willingness. It is a conscious choice to receive the promises of the Divine.

It is indeed effortless. I fear we oft make it too hard. Old beliefs of fear of God hold us back.

The little our human minds and hearts can understand about love at our clearest and strongest moments is: love is unconditional; love is not earned; and love cannot be taken away.

That is God's love. Am I ready to let that kind of love into my heart and claim it as one of the enduring promises of this season?

Wisdom 8:4 reminds us: "Wisdom is an initiate of God's mysteries of God's knowledge, making choice of the work God is to do." If indeed is God is "ready," then my only response can be:

I am ready God; show me the work to do.

P

Proclamation:

Isaiah 41:10
I will be your God.

R

Ready:

Psalm 32:18
God will be our guide.

O

Overture:

Jeremiah 1:5
Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you...

M

Mercy:

Hebrews 2:18; 4:15; 12:3
We never walk where Jesus hasn't already walked.

I

Initiator:

Psalm 42:1
As the hart panteth after the brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

S

Steadfast:

Psalm 123:1 *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.*
 Hebrews 13:5 *I will never leave you.*
 Isaiah 43:3,4 *God will carry us.*

E

Endued:

1 Peter 1:4
...to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away...

S

Shining Forth:

Deuteronomy 33:2
And he said, the Lord came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them: he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints...