



# The Harvest

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## The Faithful Few

*“If we are faithless, He remains faithful,  
for He cannot deny Himself.”  
~ 2 Timothy 2:13 ~*

Our God is eternally faithful. He never forsakes His people. Even if we walk away from the Lord, He awaits our return. We see this evidenced repeatedly throughout Scripture. The most famous example is that of the prodigal son.

*Read Luke 15:11-32.*

Here, we see a son who had run so far from his father. He dishonored his father by taking his inheritance and squandering it. He held pride in his heart and refused to come back until he was desperate – attempting to strike out on his own and make his own way instead of admitting that he needed the help and support of his family. When he reached the end of his ability to stand on his own, he came back to his father. Notice here the humility with which he returns home: *“I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.”* So he got up and went to his father.” The reunion is not what the son expects, however. Instead of becoming a hired servant, his father shows both mercy and grace. The father sees his son while still far away (meaning that likely, he was looking for him), feels compassion, and celebrates his son’s return.

This is a parable giving us a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven and an illustration of how our heavenly Father views us. He forgives and throws our sins *“as far as the east is from the west”* (Psalm 103:12). As if that wasn’t enough, He also celebrates our repentance. He pulls us in close, with love and compassion, and He rejoices in our return. He was waiting there all along with open arms.

Righteousness requires judgement and a sacrifice to pay the price of sin. Even in His judgement, God demonstrates faithfulness to His people. He keeps His promise to bring salvation to His people. In Isaiah, God’s people were walking out the Torah without keeping the heart of it: *“Love Adonai your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength”* (Deuteronomy 6:5). This love is supposed to guide all of our actions – we are called to keep the Torah BECAUSE we love the Lord. The love of God should be the lens we operate out of at all times. Keeping the Torah to look righteous, to receive praise, or to be esteemed as the most noble – these are all examples of pride. Fulfilling the Torah in pride spoils the entire act – *“For you would not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it, nor be pleased by burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise”* (Psalm 51:18-19). Isaiah prophesies judgement against God’s people for doing this very thing that angers the Lord. The verse repeated here over and over throughout the book of Isaiah demonstrates God’s faithfulness to His people, even when they have continuously chosen to be faithless towards Him:

*“For all this His anger is not turned away,  
yet His hand is outstretched.”  
~ Isaiah 5:25b, 9:11b, 9:16b, 9:20b, and 10:4b ~*

Pause: In what ways have you seen God’s faithfulness recently in your life?

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Covenants are two-sided. As God keeps His promises to us, we are to hold fast to our word as well: to love and serve God and to follow Him. Just as He is faithful, we must be faithful to Him as well. This means pressing into Him when the earth shakes. This means keeping His commands when the world tells us not to. This means seeking His will when the opinions of man infiltrate. Faithfulness, like all of the fruits of the Spirit, require the Holy Spirit living inside of us in order to be able to walk forward regardless of life circumstances.

Press on towards the goal, and ask the Lord to help you live a life that demonstrates faithfulness to the Lord. He will not let you do it alone. In the end, He will say to you, *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a little, so I’ll put you in charge of much. Enter into your master’s joy!”* (Matthew 25:21).

Spend some time examining your life and notice the ways that you have not been faithful to the Lord. Ask Him to search your heart. Write down where it is you have been unfaithful and pray about those areas. Ask God to open your eyes to the ways you can live faithfully where you have struggled in the past. As He reveals what it is you need to do to increase faithfulness in you, write down the ways you’re going to live that out daily.

Worship: Spend some time worshipping the Lord, giving thanks for His faithfulness in your life and seeking to know where you can increase your faith towards Him.

- ~ Faithful Now by Vertical Worship
- ~ Trust in You by Lauren Daigle
- ~ Confident by Steffany Gretzinger

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