



HAMILTON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP HEARTBEAT



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The Promise

by Keith Tuplin

Has anyone ever made you a promise? Perhaps when you were young, your parents promised you a new bike for your birthday. And you COULDN'T WAIT for that day to finally arrive!! All that emotion, the expectation, the dreams, excitedly sharing the news with your closest friends (and they go to their parents, saying, "Johnny is getting a bike for his birthday – can I have a new bike, please, please, P-L-E-E-A-S-E??") Your heavenly Father has made some promises to you as well. It's tough to get an accurate count; some people say 3500; Herbert Lockyer wrote "All the Promises of the Bible" which lists 8000! That's a LOT of promises! II Cor. 1:20 states: For as many as

are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.

So no matter how many promises He made, they are all YES – in other words, they will all be fulfilled. We can say Amen to that, because part of His glory is fulfilling those promises in and through us!

So what is "The Promise?" In Biblical text, the word "promise" is used about 55 times. But "Promise" (with a capital P) is found only twice in the NKJV, both times concerning the same event:

Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Acts 1:4-5 And being assembled
[cont'd bottom page 2...](#)

Andi Brandsma-Kennedy Profile

by Trish Connolly



"Put your arms around me, honey, hold me tight. Huddle up and cuddle up with all your might." These words from a 1910 Broadway musical were not playing on the radio. The Lord was singing them over Andi and before she knew it, they were singing a duet! What a beautiful picture of the steadfast love of the One who loved Andi first! There have been many precious moments of intimacy that have sustained Andi throughout her life to build an immovable faith in the promises of God. It is the assurance that comes with the promise of eternal life that Andi holds fast to, with a tremendously grateful heart.

One of Andi's life verses is Ps. 37:4. She knows just how much God has given her the desires of her heart because she has delighted herself in Him. Andi reflects that she has had a "beautiful and amazing life where God has ministered to me, where
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Profile cont'd...

He has sent angels. My faith has increased with each day." Andi was in a horrific car accident at age 20 that claimed her sister's life and marked her own, physically and emotionally. But, always, God's grace. His tender mercies and His love undergirded her. Andi has lived with pain and a number of chronic illnesses, the last of which is Sjogren's syndrome (auto immune disease) which has led to an incurable blood cancer. This lady is indomitable, drawing from the strength of the Lord and grateful for each day. She is a warrior woman, not just for herself but for others. While Andi believes in the power of prayer for healing, she also believes that she is able to accept the days numbered for her, facing her mortality with dignity and a readiness to meet Jesus. This dear friend is starting a once a week hospice program, and Andi's focus? "Why, I have the freedom, as a guest, that I wouldn't have as a volunteer, to share that I am a Christian and I love the Lord God." She relishes and delights in this, never missing an opportunity, to share her story, His story to encourage others. While Andi appreciates prayer, she feels that there is room to push the pause button and ask God, 'What do you want me to pray for this person, at this time.' When praying for seriously ill people, rather than praying 'thus and thus', based on your own concept of healing, ask the question. Basically, Andi desires for others to respect her acceptance of her time.

Andi and Andy have shared 38 years together and are blessed by son Dr. Mark, a scientist/inventor living in Norway and daughter, Sarah, a social worker. They have five delightful granddaughters for Andi to pray for and love. Each New Year's day, Andi asks the Lord, "What's my purpose for this year?" and for the past five years... 'focus on your grandchildren'. Each visit, each cuddle, each adventure with the Grand Girlies is a treasure. Andi and Andy take missional life seriously. You can hear Andi's compassionate and heart of justice when she shares about her RNA days in palliative care, fostering emotionally damaged teens at the tender age of 24, followed by fostering with Andy in Brant County. Andi seriously considered training for chaplaincy, which, with her tender, wise and discerning spirit, she would be suited to. However, God had other plans. In the mid 1980's, while both worked with Student Mission Advance, in Hamilton, Andy and Andi sought the Lord on 'the next step'. They went off to separate rooms to pray and when they reconnected, the Lord was clearly speaking the same directive to both: 'Go Now' and go to Tonga! They quickly sold their home, took training with YWAM in Hawaii and headed to Tonga, for life, so they thought. Their time, however, was reduced to two years due to mission politics. In the midst of pain and confusion, God clearly showed them that He fulfilled His purposes through them. A young man, Ofa, whose name

means love, could have suffered rejection but through the love, encouragement and mentoring he received, Ofa, today, is a minister of the gospel, a lawyer for the Crown and will someday influence Parliament for the kingdom. Andi's life verse, 1 Samuel 15:32, speaks of God preferring obedience over sacrifice and Andi feels that what transpired in Tonga supports that. God also showed Andi about His sovereignty and Lordship, and the humility of man, through the way the Tongans respond with great reverence and submission to their earthly king. We would do well to approach our King in the same manner! Upon their return, Andi and Andy continued to be intentionally missional. At Brantford's Cornerstone and Hamilton's Stanley Baptist churches, Andy and Andi were active in Hospitality, Prayer, Prophetic ministries and offered their home to those in crisis. Andi openly shares her story/His story and Andy serves with Godly integrity as President of their Hillview Terrace Cop. Their mission field surrounds them and His promises easy to confirm! In closing, Proverbs 18:10 is a promise, key to Andi's life; 'The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.' Andi exhorts us with, "He is my strong tower, the air that I breathe. Know that He is your strength, run into Him, run into Him." Andi, He has shared His victor's crown with you and you wear it well, my friend! I am honoured to know you. 🍷

The Promise cont'd...

together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. As with many of the promises in Scripture, this is conditional. It could only take place if Jesus, who issued the promise on behalf of the Father, left them. I don't think the disci-

ples were very excited about this promise. In fact, Jesus, who never, ever lied to them, said, "I tell you the truth." Why? This was really important – He wanted them to understand just how important this event would be to them, even though it was past knowing with their natural minds. To our advantage? Are you kidding me Jesus? How can we get excited about you leaving us? There was a second condition: they had to stay in Jerusalem until the promise was delivered. It's kind of like us having to be home when the FedEx truck arrives; if you want your promise, you have to be at home! So what did Jesus promise them?

Ac 1:4-5 states that the Promise is the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Jn 16:7 speaks of the Helper who would come after Jesus left. The Greek word used for Helper is parakletos. It is also translated Advocate (which role Jesus also fulfilled, as found in 1Jn 2:1) It's a lawyer who pleads someone's case, or a counselor/coach. Parakletos is a compound word, para and kaleo. Para means very close. It Phi 2:2 Paul uses this word to describe his relationship with Timothy. My wife, Dixie is para to me; there is no one closer on this earth. Kaleo means to beckon or call. It's used by the Apostles when they

"A New Day"



spoke of their calling (Ro. 1:1) So this word speaks of the Holy Spirit's calling – He is called alongside us (closer than a brother!) to coach, instruct, give direction in our lives, and to plead our case before the Lord, against our enemy. And because the same word was used of Jesus, the Holy Spirit's work is a continuation of the work of Jesus when He walked the earth – except that He's not limited to a group of people in one geographic location – He can be in millions of lives, holding thousands of conversations with saints in scores of different countries and languages all at the same time!!! And He gives each one of us personal, intimate care and counsel! Now THAT'S a promise worth getting excited about! I believe that as the day of Pentecost drew closer, the 120 that remained

in the Upper Room began to get excited. 10 days of prayer, praise and worship had brought them to that wonderful place of expectation. The person of the Holy Spirit was coming to live inside them for the rest of their days! No longer would they know Jesus after the flesh, but from now on, they'd know Him after the Spirit. John 14:12-14 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. Are you filled with the Holy Spirit of promise? There is nothing that will make a bigger difference in your Christian walk. If not, seek Him with your whole heart and ask for prayer from spirit-filled believers. He turned a group of ordinary fishermen into powerful, on-fire disciples

of whom the world was not worthy. He would be delighted to do the same for you and me!! PS We'll be covering the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives in a series at Fire By Night, the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Come join us! 🍷

"Every promise of Scripture is a writing of God, which may be pleaded before Him with this reasonable request, 'Do as Thou hast said.' The Heavenly Father will not break His Word to His own child." - Charles Spurgeon

HCF Prophetic Ministry: Something New!

by Denni Roy
Director of the Prophetic, HCF

If you have attended HCF for the last few years, you are well-acquainted with the format of the Prophetic Segment that occurs after Worship in our Sunday morning services. It has been a blessing to see the stirring up as well as increase of the prophetic here. Now there's come a sense of new direction in this arena, even a fresh stirring to move into more...to go deeper in & higher up in the realms of God!

That said, going forward, while we are still keeping this portion of the service open for anyone in the congregation to prophesy, we will be changing in focus & goal. Instead of allowing for numerous words, the prophetic leader will spiritually sense the "weighted" or significant word in our midst & how we might move with the Holy Spirit to minister forth or enter in to more from that Word.

In so doing, we can then move into more corporate response & allow the Lord to work in hearts in a deeper way.

We encourage the congregation to continue to cultivate a sharp "ear" & a hunger for hearing the voice of the Lord, along with a pure desire to serve His purposes. We want to learn to discern when & where the anointing is present, how our part fits in & to also so strongly desire to prophesy that we continue in ways that mature the gift! Let's cultivate a culture of higher expectation of the Lord speaking & moving in our gatherings! He moves where there is faith!

Along with this shift, we believe it is time for another layer of the prophetic that will be released during worship. This part of the prophetic takes a greater skill set & an ability of co-operation with the worship ministry therefore will be limited to an authorized team who may serve in this part of the service. This will include the elders, leadership plus those who have a proven or seasoned prophetic voice/gift. Over time this team may grow by including those up & coming prophetic voices as they continue to mature & bear fruit. We see this aspect as the spirit of prophecy

serving to undergird, support & lift up what is happening in the worship so we have breakthrough dynamics to open the spiritual atmosphere.

The protocol:

The prophetic overseer of a given Sunday will sit up front with a microphone. Those of the authorized group if they receive an utterance will first submit the word they are sensing to the prophetic overseer. The Prophetic leader will discern the fit & timing & give them the release if it is fitting. They will need to find their "spot" in the flow of the music...wait for the Worship Leader to see them!

The limit of such words in this segment will be 2 or 3 to speak forth. It is not a time for light words or those that "turn a corner" but that which is in unity with the flow of what is happening in the worship.

Doesn't it sound exciting?! May the Holy Spirit our Holy Conductor orchestrate us more & more into a glorious expression of worship before Him...in spirit & in Truth! May our worship become as a seedbed for the supernatural activity of our King! Praise the Lord! 

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JUNE 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Kid's Prayer 4pm Worship and Warfare 7pm	4 Corporate Prayer 10 am Preparedness Prayer 1-2 pm Band of Brothers 7 pm	5 Men's Prayer 5:45 am Worship With The Word 7 pm	6
7 Community Sunday Service 10 am	8 Prayer for Israel and The Jewish Community 7 pm Justice Prayer 8 pm	9 Watchman Prayer for Canada 9:30 am	10 Kid's Prayer 4pm Fire By Night 7pm	11 Corporate Prayer 10 am Preparedness Prayer 1-2 pm Band of Brothers 7 pm	12 Men's Prayer 5:45 am Worship With The Word 7 pm	13
14 Worship Service 10 am	15 Prayer for Israel and The Jewish Community 7 pm Justice Prayer 8 pm	16 Watchman Prayer for Canada 9:30 am	17 Kid's Prayer 4pm Worship and Warfare 7pm	18 Corporate Prayer 10 am Preparedness Prayer 1-2 pm Band of Brothers 7 pm	19 Men's Prayer 5:45 am Worship With The Word 7 pm	20
21 Worship Service 10 am	22 Prayer for Israel and The Jewish Community 7 pm Justice Prayer 8 pm	23 Watchman Prayer for Canada 9:30 am	24 Kid's Prayer 4pm Fire By Night 7pm	25 Corporate Prayer 10 am Preparedness Prayer 1-2 pm Band of Brothers 7 pm	26 Men's Prayer 5:45 am Worship With The Word 7 pm	27
28 Worship Service 10 am	29 Prayer for Israel and The Jewish Community 7 pm Justice Prayer 8 pm	30 Watchman Prayer for Canada 9:30 am				Prayer Building  Sanctuary 