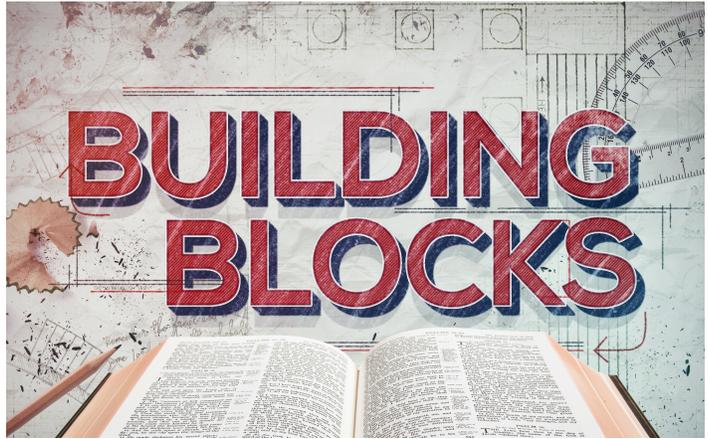


What is God Like?

05 / Abounding in Faithfulness



The LORD passed before [Moses] and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and _____..." (Exo 34:6)

Faithfulness in Scripture is closely related to **stability** and **reliability**. In [Exodus 17](#), the Israelites were attacked by the Amalekites. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, so Aaron and Hur helped to keep Moses' hands "_____ " until the going down of the sun ([17:12](#)). When Moses was looking for "able men" to help lead Israel, he looked for "trustworthy" men ([Exo 18:21](#)). **Steady** and **trustworthy** are from the same root word for **faithfulness**.

In [Deuteronomy 32](#), when Moses wanted to poetically describe this "God of faithfulness," what better word picture could he use for **stability** and **reliability** than "the _____ " ([32:4](#))? We've learned this month that God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. This last attribute—**faithfulness**—emphasizes the truth that God will be consistent to his character.

- His "testimony" is " _____ " ([Psa 19:7](#))
- His "rules" are " _____ " ([Psa 19:9](#))

It's no wonder, then, that leaders like Joshua would call the people to serve the LORD "in sincerity and in _____ " ([Josh 24:14](#)).

In the New Testament, God's faithfulness is most clearly seen in Jesus Christ ([1 Cor 1:9](#); [Rom 15:8-9](#); [2 Cor 1:20](#)). When I hear his words and do them, I am like "a wise man who built his house on the _____ " ([Matt 7:24](#)). Because our God abounds in faithfulness, when we build our lives on him, we can be " _____ " and "immovable" ([1 Cor 15:58](#)).

What is God like? He **overflows** with **faithfulness**.

For Class & Family Discussion:

- When you think of a person as "steady," "stable," "reliable," "trustworthy" ... what comes to mind?
- Let's read the wisdom of [Proverbs 27:6](#) together. In what way are the "wounds" of a friend "faithful"?
- Why is it very good news that God will be "consistent" to his character?
- How do passages like [Malachi 3:6](#) and [Hebrews 13:8](#) help us understand that good news?
- So what, then, will it look like for us to serve the LORD "in sincerity and in faithfulness" ([Josh 24:14](#))?
- In [Romans 5:1-5](#), Paul describes how suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope. How can hard times actually help us develop **faithful** character that is "steadfast" and "immovable" in our walk with Jesus?