

SERMON NOTES

From *In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley*



God—Our Faithful Companion

KEY PASSAGE: 2 Samuel 7:18-29 | SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES: 2 Samuel 7:1-17 | Psalm 32:8 | John 3:16
Philippians 4:19 | Hebrews 13:5 | 1 John 1:9

► SUMMARY

Upon trusting and receiving Jesus Christ as Savior, we became the recipients of many spiritual blessings, and one of them is the promise that God will never leave or forsake us (Heb. 13:5).

Throughout life's journey and into eternity, the Lord is our faithful companion because He has come to live within us through His Holy Spirit.

► SERMON POINTS

David's Prayer

When the prophet Nathan gave King David a message from the Lord promising that his house and kingdom would endure before Him forever, David responded with a prayer recorded in 2 Samuel 7:18-29. He acknowledged God's faithfulness to him saying, "Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that You brought me this far?" (v. 18). The Lord had been with him throughout his lifetime from the time he was a lowly shepherd until He made him the ruler of His people Israel (2 Sam. 7:8-9).

Amazingly, now the Lord was giving him a promise regarding his future kingdom. This blessing had nothing to do with David's worthiness but was for the sake of God's Word and according to His own heart (v. 21). Having experienced the Lord's past faithfulness, David asked Him to confirm what He had spoken and establish his house as He'd promised so that His name would be magnified forever (vv. 25-28).

As he sat before the Lord, David praised Him and made this request: "Now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are truth, and You have promised this good thing to Your servant. Now therefore, may it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You. For You, O Lord GOD, have spoken; and with Your blessing may the house of Your servant be blessed forever" (vv. 28-29).

Although we are not promised an everlasting kingdom, David's prayer challenges us to consider whether we have ever asked God to bless our house and family. Like David, we should humbly come to the Lord and meditate on His Word, asking Him to bless our house that He may be magnified and glorified.

Although no family is perfect, our goal should be to live in such a way that God's blessing can become a reality. This means we must review the past so we can take a fresh look at how He wants us to live in the future.

- What is the condition of your relationships?
- Are your plans in accordance with God's will, or are they self-directed?
- How has the Lord worked through your successes and failures?
- How is your devotional life? Is Bible reading and prayer a vital part of your daily life? Have you prayed for your family, asking the Lord's blessing upon them?
- Are you honoring God with your health habits, or have you been undisciplined and careless with your body?

Whether our house seems in good condition or in need of changes, we cannot live wisely and righteously without God as our faithful companion. He will never mislead us or

fail to give us wisdom, guidance, and insight regarding our families. If our homes function according to His guidelines, He is glorified because they become a testimony to those around us of how the Lord can bless those who obey Him.

God's Promises to His Children

When the Lord is our faithful companion, He is committed to us and our spiritual growth.

- 1. God has promised to walk with us.** His everlasting presence is always with us because He has affirmed that He will never leave or forsake those who are His children (Heb. 13:5).
- 2. He will guide us.** “I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you” (Ps. 32:8). In His omniscience the Lord knows all things and is therefore the only one who can perfectly guide us through life if we are willing to follow.
- 3. The Lord listens to us.** Prayer is an amazing privilege by which we can freely come to Him with all our concerns and know that He hears and answers. Our responsibility is to ask, trust, wait, and obey.
- 4. God promises to encourage us.** He sustains, strengthens, and encourages us when we are weak and exhausted, by supplying all we need according to His riches in glory (Phil. 4:19).
- 5. He will empower us.** At the moment of salvation, the Holy Spirit comes to seal us as children of God and indwell us forever. He is our Helper who empowers our obedience, guides our lives, gives us wisdom, enables us to serve God as He desires, and strengthens us to endure. Without His presence, we would be unable to live the Christian life.
- 6. The Lord provides for us.** He is a good God who desires the best for us. That's why He has given us His Word as

our guide so we can know Him and His will. As we obey what He has said, His best is unfolded to us.

- 7. God protects us.** Although He does not remove all problems and suffering, He guards our souls, walks with us through affliction, and works every situation for good according to His divine purpose. When we are unable to understand what He is doing, we can trust in the fact that He knows what is best and how to achieve it.
- 8. He forgives us.** “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Even though we are saved, we still sin in many ways—some that are very obvious and others that are not. But when we come to God in confession, He is always faithful to forgive us based on Christ's payment for our sins on the cross.
- 9. God loves us unconditionally.** His love flows from His nature not from our own worthiness. The proof of this is the cross. Christ died for us while we were still sinners, and once we believe in Him for salvation, His love can never be removed from us.
- 10. The Lord has secured eternity for us.** “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16). His blessings now are just a foretaste of what awaits us forever in heaven.

► RESPONSE

- What situations tempt you to think that God is not your faithful companion? Where should your focus be in order to base your responses on truth rather than emotions?
- As you evaluate your life and your home over the past year, what areas do you need to change so you can experience God's blessings? What can you do to assure that the Lord and His glory are the priority for you and your family?

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