

# God's Promise Is for You

When God makes a promise you can count on it being kept.

## Scripture Words

I, the Lord, forgive you.  
—Doctrine and Covenants 81:1a

## Here We Come!

As the children arrive, hand each a small card or folded square of construction paper, saying, "This promise is for you." Inside the card should be the message, "I promise to tell you a story about Jesus." Make it interesting by adding stickers. Let the children tell you what they understand about promises. What does it mean to "keep" a promise? What happens if you make a promise and don't keep it?

## Scripture Words and Worship

Print the words "I, the Lord" on a picture or cut out of Jesus. Write "forgive" as interestingly as possible. Use hollow letters that have been colored in, or attach the letters in a string. For the word "you," have a small mirror handy. Talk about what it means to be sorry for something. When you say the words "I'm sorry," how does the other person respond?

## Sense-ations

Experiment with different kinds of flat and round bread. Children may be familiar with taco or burrito wraps. Tear one in pieces and taste it. What would go well with the bread?

## Story Talking

Children this age have trouble distinguishing between right and wrong, so teaching about forgiveness is a challenge. Use simple examples based on the "I'm sorry—I forgive you" experiences they are familiar with.

- Have you ever done something and been scolded for it?
- What did you do?
- Who scolded you?
- Why were you scolded?
- How did you feel?
- What did you say?
- What did the other person say?
- How do you feel now?
- What do you mean when you say, "I'm sorry"?
- What does it mean when someone says, "I forgive you"?

Sometimes we do things that make God sad. We hurt someone or say something unkind. When we hurt another person it's like hurting God. We don't want to hurt God. We can tell God we are sorry. God will always say, "I forgive you." That's God's promise. God means it.

## Up and at 'Em

Go for a walk with the children to the place where you worship with the congregation. Talk about the trip as it is usually made with family when they come to pick up the child. How far is it back to the classroom? Should they stay here and wait until it's time for worship so they don't have to make the trip again? Is there something exciting waiting back in the classroom that will make the return trip worth the effort? Connect the experience to how the disciples felt when they had exciting news to share.

## Moving Music

- "This Is the Way" with verses such as walk to church, sing a song, clap our hands

## Live and Learn

The scripture story, "On the Road to Emmaus," can be found in Luke 24:13–35. Present the story in an interesting way, reinforcing your promise at the beginning of the class to tell the children a story about Jesus.

### On the Road to Emmaus

by Marge Nelson

*(Adapted from Jesus and Me! Jamboree! p. 167)*

The road leading out of Jerusalem was crowded. Cleopas and his friend Simon walked slowly with their heads down. Some bad people had killed Jesus, and they missed him. They were very sad.

"We might as well go back to our hometown, Emmaus," Simon said.

"I guess so," Cleopas answered. "There's nothing we can do now."

But little did they know, Jesus was no longer dead! He was alive again and had been up and moving since early morning.

Jesus stood beside the road and watched his disciples go by. He followed behind and caught up with them. But Cleopas and Simon didn't look up. They were too sad. They had no idea it was really Jesus walking with them.

"What are you talking about?" the stranger asked.

"What do you mean, what are we talking about?" Cleopas was surprised. "We are talking about what everybody else in Jerusalem is talking about. Where did you come from that you don't know what's happened?"

Jesus just smiled to himself and walked along with the two men. "Jesus was put to death by the chief priests and leaders of our people," Simon said. "We thought he was the special Messiah we had been expecting. He taught us things about God we never knew before. We loved to listen to him."

Jesus was glad to hear them tell stories. He was glad they remembered him.

The three men walked on down the road. Jesus talked about things in the scriptures. Cleopas and Simon listened carefully.

Finally they came to the place where the road turned off to the village. It was almost dark now. Simon and Cleo-

pas headed for the inn to get some supper. But Jesus kept walking on down the road.

"Wait," Cleopas called to him. "Come in and eat with us. You are welcome to share our food."

Jesus came back and joined them and the three entered the inn. They washed their hands and the dust off their feet. Then they sat at the table. The innkeeper brought a plate of flat bread and placed it in front of them.

Jesus reached out and picked up a circle of bread. The disciples stopped talking and watched him. Jesus said a prayer of blessing on the bread. Then he tore the bread in half and offered each man a piece. Simon and Cleopas looked at the bread as they reached for it. Somewhere they had seen someone break bread apart like this. They thought for a minute and then Simon remembered. "It was Jesus!"

"Yes," agreed Cleopas. "It was Jesus then—and it's Jesus now!" The two men were so excited they could hardly believe their eyes. They now knew this stranger who had been walking on the road with them. It was Jesus!

Jesus smiled at them. He handed each man a piece of bread. And then suddenly he was gone—vanished from sight.

Cleopas and Simon stared at each other. "We should have known! Why didn't we know?" asked Simon.

"You're right," said Cleopas. "We should have. Remember how we felt when he was talking about things in the scriptures?"

Cleopas took his bread and stood up. "We'd better get back and tell the others."

"Back? You mean clear back to Jerusalem? We walked all this way to get home!"

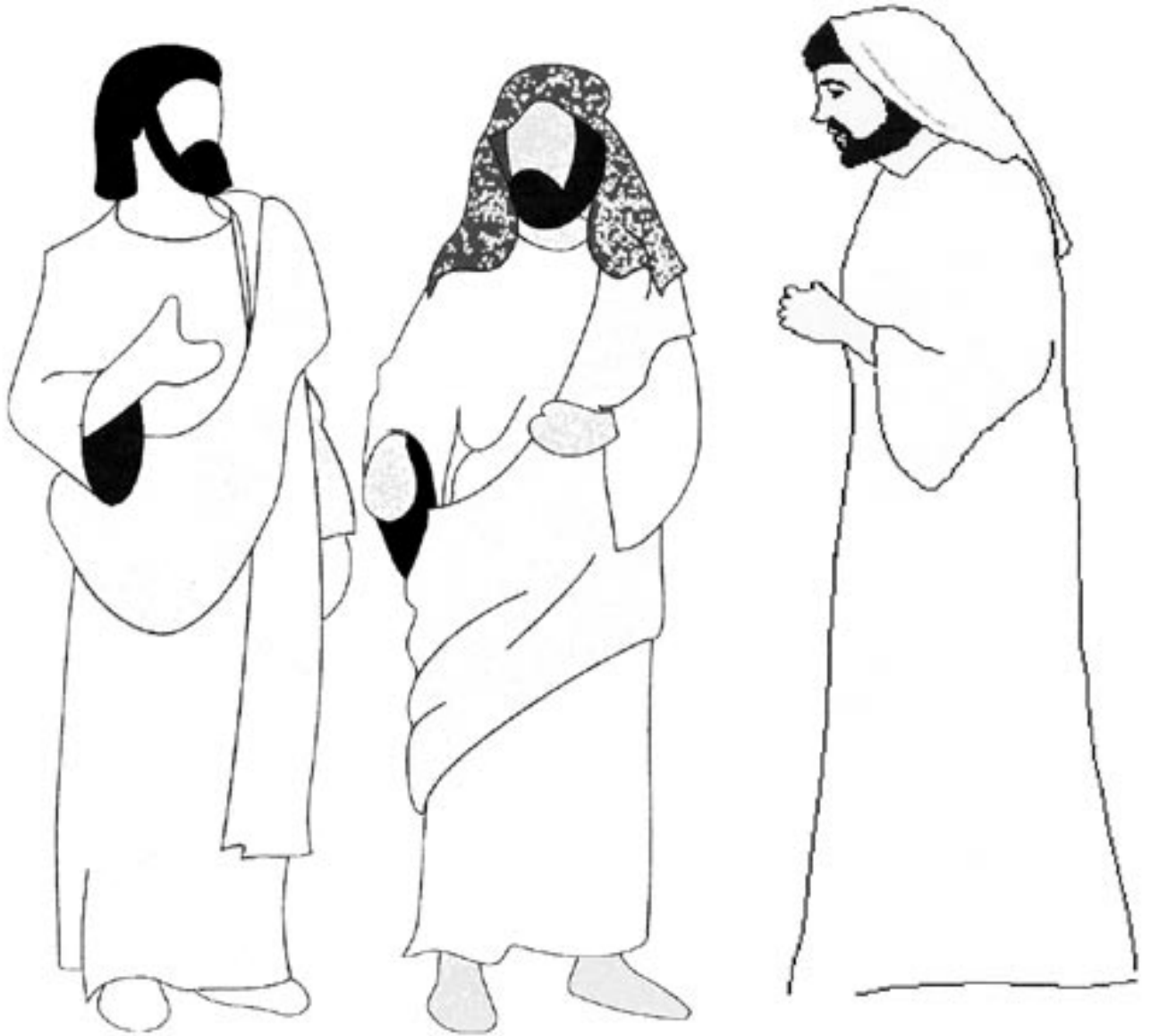
"Home is where Jesus is. I don't think it's over yet. If there's more to come, I don't want to miss a minute of it. You coming,

### There We Go

Give each child a picture of Jesus, Simon, and Cleopas from the pattern section, page 55. Add faces and a road. Encourage children to share the story with family.



Draw a look of surprise on the faces of the disciples when they realize they have been walking with Jesus.



**We have seen the  
Lord!—John 20:25**