



#homedevos 17.2

THE NEW COVENANT

God Gives, We Respond

In preparation:

In this homedevo we are going to explain to our children the difference between a wage and a gift.

The idea is that they will experience it themselves, therefore

- Please give your children special tasks to do in the next two days before the #homedevo17.2. and decide on what you are going to pay them.
(Use a "Star card" for the little ones where they get stars for the tasks done and at the end you pay them for it.)
Make sure they clearly understand what is expected of them and that they will get paid for the tasks completed properly.
Stick to your agreement.
Have the money ready for each one.
They will only get paid when you do #homedevo 17.2.
 - Buy a special little gift/treat for each child – each one's "tailor made". Wrap it up with the child's name on it. Also ready for #homedevo 17.2
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I have asked you to do some things for me, which you did. Here is the money I promised you. You worked and I pay. You first took action (you did what I asked) and now I respond (I pay you what I have promised.)

This is how it worked under the Law (Old Covenant) – if man did what God said, He responded with blessings, if they did not, God responded with curses. Man first did/didn't do and then God responded.

You did what I asked you to do, here is your money, your wage. (Give them their money.)

But now, I have something else for you: a gift, because I love you. (Hand out the gifts while you are talking.) Don't open yet, first listen. I give, and you receive. I first took action (gave the gift) and you responded (received it.)

Under the New Covenant God gave His Son – He moved first. We read in the Bible *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* God first gave mankind the gift of eternal life through Jesus. He gives it to you and me too. It is now up to us to respond, to receive it in faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9: *“For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*

It is important to understand that we can only be saved and live in the abundance of life that Jesus gives (John 10:10b), because God gives it to us, and we receive it by believing Him.



Let's first listen to the Word of God, Romans 8:3-4 (ESV):

“For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

(Paraphrase in easier words for the little ones.)

We have learned last time that man could not do what God required. But God so loved the world that He sent His Son, Jesus, to do what man could not do as required under the Old Covenant. He fulfilled all the law perfectly.

He did more than that, we read *“By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh.”* Jesus took all the sins of mankind upon Him when He was crucified on the cross. There God poured out in His righteousness all the condemnation, punishment, wrath, and curses for the sins of man upon Jesus, He did it for you and me too.

The following story is a picture of what Jesus did for us when He offered Himself for our sins on the cross.

The Scar by Lih Yuh Kuo from Chicken Soup For The Soul

A little boy invited his mother to attend his elementary school's first teacher-parent conference. To the little boy's dismay, she said she would go. This would be the first time his classmates and teacher met his mother and he was embarrassed by her appearance. Although she was a beautiful woman, there was

a severe scar that covered nearly the entire right side of her face. The boy never wanted to talk about why or how she got the scar.

At the conference, the people were impressed by the kindness and natural beauty of his mother despite the scar, but the little boy was still embarrassed and hid himself from everyone. He did, however, get within earshot of a conversation between his mother and his teacher, and heard them speaking.

“How did you get the scar on your face?” the teacher asked.

The mother replied, “When my son was a baby, he was caught up in a room that caught on fire. Everyone was too afraid to go in because the fire was out of control, so I went in. As I was running toward his crib, I saw a beam coming down and I placed myself over him trying to shield him. I was knocked unconscious but fortunately a fireman came in and saved both of us.” She touched the burned side of her face. “This scar is permanent, but to this day, I never regretted doing what I did.”

At this point the little boy came running towards his mother with tears in his eyes. He hugged her and felt an overwhelming sense of the sacrifice that his mother made for him. He held her hand tightly the rest of the day.

As this mother covered and shielded her baby with her body from the falling beam. She took the full impact on her body to save her son that he could live. Jesus took the full impact of God’s condemnation upon Him on the cross for us so that we can be saved, forgiven and live in the fullness of life in Him.

God gave, we now need to respond. We respond through faith. Believing Him, believing His Word, believing in Jesus, receiving His gift.



Prayer

Invite Holy Spirit to come and speak to each one of you.

Be quiet and listen to Him.

Give time to share and pray.

Be sensitive to Holy Spirit.



Memory Verse:

Don't forget to together memorize it every day of the week. Filling our minds and hearts with it.