

# WHEN LIFE HAPPENS

SERMON SERIES

## SERMON NOTES

Week 2 September 7, 2025

**“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”**

Luke 18:18, 22:20; Hebrews 4:16, 9:15, 11:32–40; 12:1–3

### I. Introduction

- A. Preachers have a habit of forging God's signature to promises that God \_\_\_\_\_ made.
- B. We all want to believe that faith comes with real-world \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. We are all tempted to jump to conclusions about God based on our \_\_\_\_\_.

### II. The Covenants

- A. The Old Covenant is a conditional covenant relationship between God and ancient \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. When preachers \_\_\_\_\_ up the new covenant and old covenant, Christians have a tendency to begin doing what Israel was supposed to do.
- C. Those old covenant promises are not our promises. Our promises are \_\_\_\_\_ promises.

### III. Application from the Book of Hebrews

- A. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ in our Old Testament that does apply to us: God's promise to Abraham.
- B. The author of Hebrews is saying “absolutely, God is with you. But you don't look to circumstances to determine if God is with you, you look to \_\_\_\_\_.”
- C. God promises us mercy and grace in our time of \_\_\_\_\_.

***Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message***

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *September 8-13, 2025*

## INTRODUCTION

The question that we're exploring in this sermon series is 'what do we do when our circumstances seem to point to a God that's not there?' When times get turbulent, where do you turn? In an ever-changing world it's essential to find somewhere consistent to go; and not just *somewhere*, but toward *someone*.

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### Monday: Exodus 19:1-6

God's covenant with Moses was a legal and conditional agreement. In exchange for their obedience to the Ten Commandments and the laws given through Moses, God promised blessings, and in return, they pledged to worship and serve Him alone. Growing up, were you taught to believe in an "if we do, God will" type of faith? That is, were you led to believe your circumstances were connected to God's promises? That if you were faithful, your circumstances would be better? If so, how was it taught to you?

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### Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul did not blame God for his ailment but he did ask God three times to heal him. What good "case" can you imagine Paul, who often traveled on foot, making for God to give him full health? Did his constant physical struggle mean God didn't care about him? Have you ever doubted God because of an unanswered prayer? Did your faith survive? If so, how?

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### Wednesday: Psalm 46:1-3

Have you ever watched a Christian experience sustaining grace in the midst of suffering? How did it impact you?

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### Thursday: Hebrews 12:1-3

In this passage, the writer of Hebrews shares with us how we should respond to circumstances that seem to say 'God is far' and 'God is absent' and 'God's not paying attention'. Are you currently in a season in which you are "weary" and potentially "losing heart"? What would it look like to receive God's grace?

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### Friday: Psalm 23

The psalmist reminds us that God walks with us through the difficult times in life. Where have you felt the most pressure during this season? Financially? Relationally? Spiritually? Something else? Does it feel as if God has abandoned you?

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## MOVING FORWARD

No matter if our current season of life is easy or difficult, we strive to fix our eyes on Jesus instead of our circumstances. According to the author of the Book of Hebrews, we can approach the throne of grace in those difficult seasons, because God has promised us mercy and grace in our time of need.

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) never, B) guarantees, C) circumstances. IIA) Israel, B) mix, IIC) better. IIIA) promise, B) Jesus, C) need.*