



April 13, 2008

Weird Families Work When Promises are Kept

(Why nothing is more important than keeping your promises)

(SERIES: **7 Ways Weird Families Work: 04 of 08**)
by Dr. David Foster

"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? **Does he promise and not fulfill?**" (Num 23:19)

3 Generational Promises

"I am writing these things to all of you, my little **children**, because your sins have been forgiven in the name of Jesus our Savior. I am saying these things to you **older men** because you really know Christ, the one who has been alive from the beginning. And you **young men**, I am talking to you because you have won your battle with Satan. And I am writing to you younger boys and girls because you, too, have learned to know God our Father. And so I say to you **fathers** who know the eternal God, and to you **young men** who are strong with God's Word in your hearts, and have won your struggle against Satan." (1 John 2:12-14)

The promise of the mature is **wisdom**.

"For **wisdom and truth** will enter the very center of your being, filling your life with joy." (Prov 2:10)

The promise of youth is **strength**.

The promise of children is **potential**.

The Promise of a 4-H Family

The promise of a **helping hand**.

"'Haven't you read,' he replied, 'that at the beginning the Creator "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh"? So they are no longer two, but one. **Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.**'" (Mat 19:4-6)

The promise of a **home base**.

". . . 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired man.' So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long distance away, his father saw him coming, and was filled with loving pity and ran and embraced him and kissed him." (Luke 15:13-20)

The promise of a **healing word**.

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." (Ephesians 4:29-30 NIV)

The promise of a **hope-filled faith**.

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." (Deu 6:5-9)

"**for I can do everything** God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power." (Phil 4:13)