



Covenants

(The secret to flourishing relationships)

Lesson 2: A Better Covenant

March 7 & 8

New Covenant vs. Old Covenant

Deuteronomy 28:1 “If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the world. **2 You will experience all these blessings** if you obey the Lord your God: *New Living Translation*

Mark 11:22 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God. **23** I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. **24** I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you’ve received it, it will be yours. *New Living Translation*

New Covenant vs. Old Covenant

OC: Living obediently brought blessings

NC: Living obediently won’t bring blessings

NC: Only believing promises will bring blessings

New Covenant vs. Old Covenant

Deuteronomy 28:15 “But if you refuse to listen to the Lord your God and do not obey all the commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come and overwhelm you: *New Living Translation*

Galatians 3:13 But Christ **has rescued us from the curse** pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, “**Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.**” *New Living Translation*

New Covenant vs. Old Covenant

OC: Living disobediently brought a curse

NC: Living disobediently won't bring a curse

The New Covenant enables us to experience heaven on earth

Hebrews 8:6 But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as **the covenant** of which he is mediator **is superior to the old one**, since the new covenant is **established on better promises.** *New International Version*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

1. A better high priest

Hebrews 7:23 There were many priests under the old system, for death prevented them from remaining in office. **24** But because Jesus lives forever, **his priesthood lasts forever.** **25** Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. **He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.** *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

2. A better sacrifice

Hebrews 10:11 Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. **12** But our High Priest offered himself to God as **a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time.** Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand... **14** For by that one offering **he forever made perfect those who are being made holy.** *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

3. You know God from day one

Hebrews 8:11 And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the Lord.' **For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already.** *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

4. Internal conversion

Colossians 2:11 When you came to Christ, you were “circumcised,” but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision - **the cutting away of your sinful nature.** *New Living Translation*

Ezekiel 36:26 And I will give you **a new heart**, and I will **put a new spirit in you**. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

5. Internal growth

Hebrews 8:10 But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day, says the Lord: I will **put my laws in their minds**, and I will **write them on their hearts**. I will be their God, and they will be my people. *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

6. No guilt

Hebrews 8:12 And I will forgive their wickedness, and **I will never again remember their sins.** *New Living Translation*

Romans 8:1 So now there is **no condemnation** for those who belong to Christ Jesus. *New Living Translation*

What makes the New Covenant Better?

7. New desires

Jeremiah 32:40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them: **I will never stop doing good** for them. **I will put a desire in their hearts to worship me**, and they will never leave me. *New Living Translation*

Psalms 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. *New King James Version*