

COVENANT

YHWH desires to reconcile his family into relationship with him. This relationship between God and his people is called covenant. In covenant, God makes a promise to his people and his people give loyalty in return.

REDEMPTION

God's people were once captive to sin and death, but have now been redeemed through the death and resurrection of Christ. This rescue results in freedom from sin, reconciliation to God and each other, and the hope of our future resurrection.

What is it like to be enslaved to sin? How does it feel to be free from those chains?

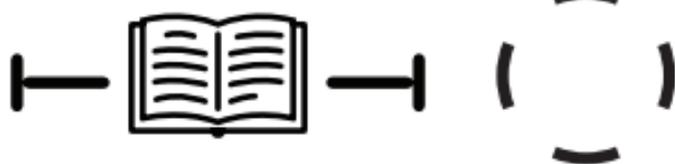
*(Hebrews 9:11-28)

COVENANT

God has always entered into covenant with his people. Throughout history, he has initiated renewals of that covenant, expanding its reach to include more and more of his human family in order to reconcile all willing people into relationship with him. Jesus brought the covenant between God and humanity to its highest expression, opening the invitation to anyone and everyone to enter into relationship with God through his death on the cross. Now, anyone who demonstrates loyalty to Jesus the Messiah can inherit a place in God's family.

What do the covenants of God reveal about the heart of God toward his people?

*(Hebrews 13:20-21)



PEACE

The redeeming work of Christ has restored unity between God and his family. Now, citizens of the Kingdom of God can experience true wholeness, right standing, and the anticipation of complete shalom upon the return of Jesus.

In what aspects of life do you long for peace?
In your family? In your community?

*(Numbers 6:22-27 / John 14:27)

EARTHLY FAMILY

Despite their rebellion, God created his earthly family to live in harmony with him. In covenantal relationship, the Father has restored his family through Christ as his bride - the ecclesia or "church." Now, the church awaits the return of Christ to usher in an eternity that will be lived in harmony once again.

What does it mean to be a part of a family?
How do these characteristics show themselves
in the family of God?

*(Hebrews 6:13-20 / Revelation 19:6-9)