

# THE AMAZING AMARYLLIS – Part 4

Waiting on an amaryllis to grow is like ... waiting and depending on God's Promises (and not other people or circumstances). How appropriate for the world that we are living in today right?

## I. THE AMARYLLIS can teach us about WAITING on God

A – Waiting is depending on God's promises (not other people or circumstances)

"The LORD is trustworthy in all He promises and faithful in all He does."  
**Psalm 145:13b (NIV)**

**God makes promises.** Who are we that God would promise us anything? Yet, out of His love for us, He established many promises that are *not* hidden or secret. We can easily find them in Scripture. "*God is not a human that He would lie ...*" (Numbers 23:19a, NIV). When God makes a promise to us, it will be accomplished through His sovereignty.

**God is trustworthy.** We can count on God to fulfill His promises. He is dependable, reliable and worthy of our trust. God has already kept His greatest promise, by sending Jesus to die on our behalf so we can have eternal life in Him (John 3:16). If God fulfilled this sacred promise out of love for us, how can we doubt He will keep the other promises He has made?

**God is faithful.** Not just sometimes or when He wants to be. God is faithful in all He does (Deuteronomy 7:9). God is loyal to those He loves. He is 100% devoted to His children and nothing will ever change that. The vow He made to you is eternal.

Life *is* challenging. People *will* disappoint us. And, yes, as much as we try, we may even fall short in keeping some of our promises to others. But no matter what happens in life, we can hold on to this profound truth: God will never break His promises. Never. He is trustworthy and faithful (2 Timothy 2:13). God *will* do what He says He will do. And that, dear friend, is something we can confidently rely on forever!

## God hears your cries

Although it may sometimes feel as though you're talking to the ceiling, if you are God's child, He hears. God cares about our lives more than we do. He wants to us obtain His promises more than we do and has given us all we need to receive it.

Cast all your cares on Him because He cares for you. **1 Peter 5:7**

## God's promises are never for us alone

God's promises are never for us alone. God wants to use your life to benefit others. His promises are often meant to be passed down and shared with others within our community.

The hardships and waiting that Joseph endured were not only for his sake but so that thousands of people in Egypt, including his own family, would survive.

"You have saved our lives," they said. **Gen 47:25**

## God's promise to Mary, the mother of Jesus

Mary held onto a promise from God for 30 years that her child would be the Messiah (*Luke 1:31-33*). That's a long time to wait patiently for a promise to be fulfilled. So how did she do it? By keeping an account. We don't know if she just made a point to remember a treasured memory or if she actually wrote it down diary-style.

Either way, Luke received it and recorded it for us to read even thousands of years later.

*"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."* **Luke 2:19**

*“Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.  
But His mother treasured all these things in her heart.” Luke 2:51 (NIV)*

Mary teaches us all a way of making it easier when waiting. We should hold onto God’s promises. One way of doing this is by keeping a written account - to look upon for encouragement as we wait.

**Take Some Practical Steps to Learn about Waiting from Mary:**

- Consider this...What do you think it meant that Mary “treasured all these things”, and what might have been the importance of that?
- Consider...What promises has God given you to hold onto as you wait? What can you “treasure in your heart”?
- Write down what God tells you or talks to you about, record important verses, and make notes.
- Remind yourself frequently of God’s promises to you. This may require you to post them somewhere where you will see them often (on a bathroom mirror, on a nightstand, on your car console, as a wallpaper on your phone or tablet, etc.)

How many times has Brother Ron reminded us that the Bible addresses every concern that we may have?

**Waiting is ... NOT depending on other people or circumstances**

There may be people that try to dissuade you as you wait. Remember Job and his “friends”? It’s easy to listen to the loud voices around you rather than the quiet whisper of the Holy Spirit.

**"It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man." Psalm 118:8**

This does not mean that we will be saved from all the difficulties and dangers of life... indeed the Lord Jesus Himself told us that in this world we would have trials and tribulation but He has overcome the world and we have also been promised that His grace is sufficient and that He will be with us in every problem and pain we may face in life. God has promised that no adversary can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



**PRAYER:** *Lord, thank You for always keeping Your promises and loving me even in those moments when I haven't been faithful to You. Grow my faith and help me see You working in my life, so I can come to know You more. Let my trust in You increase as I learn to rely on Your faithfulness. Help me keep the promises I make to others. And when others have broken promises to me, let me never forget that Your promises and devotion extend for all of eternity. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

This photo was taken Jan 3 2021 after one week ... the amaryllis has nearly reached the top of the vase!

Next weeks' lesson ... **God is with you while you wait.**

- <https://proverbs31.org/read/devotions/full-post/2014/11/04/the-ultimate-promise-keeper>
- <https://www.wordsoffaihopelove.com/waiting-on-god-how-to-do-it-well/>
- <https://herstyleoftea.com/practical-things-waiting-on-god/>
- <https://www.happyhealthyandprosperous.com/biblical-examples-of-waiting/>
- <https://redemptionstouch.com/waiting-god/>
- <https://www.kathyhoward.org/4-truths-about-waiting-on-god/>