

INTRO

- Give an example of where compromise can be a good thing, and where it can be a bad thing.

In our Fall teaching series, we are looking at the way of life and values Jesus calls us to that cultivates deep Christlike character within us.

READ

Gal 5:22-25

REFLECT & RESPOND

Compromise (being untrue or inconsistent in character) is devastating because it destroys trust. We've felt the disappointment as we've seen political, business, sports or religious leaders "sell out" their core values and beliefs.

Qu: What does compromise look and feel like? Are there areas where you have felt yourself compromise in the last few months?

An expression of our love for God and others is to cultivate the fruit of **faithfulness**. What does biblical faithfulness mean and look like?

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

A core description of God's character is his faithfulness (Ex 34:6, Ps 86:15). It is a covenantal term that underscores God's integrity, trustworthiness and unwavering commitment to his promises and his people. The pinnacle of God's faithfulness is seen in Jesus who is the fulfillment of all God's promises (1 Cor 1:20, Acts 13:32-33).

God shows himself trustworthy through Jesus and then calls us to place our trust in Jesus. Trust/Faith in Jesus isn't blind faith—it rests on the track record of God and the person of Jesus. Faith in Jesus involves an ongoing whole-person response.

Qu: describe what an 'ongoing whole-person' response to Jesus looks like?

OUR FAITHFULNESS

To be faithful is to **be characterized by steadfast affection for and allegiance to Jesus, that manifests itself in faithful living towards others and the world.**

Qu: in your own life, what kind of things tend to rival your love for and trust in God and his Word?

Because of God's faithfulness to us and his Spirit's work through us, we can be expressions of God's faithfulness in this world. And when we fail to live up to that, we remember that God's faithfulness isn't negated by our unfaithfulness; his mercies are new every morning, and he who began a good work in you will see it to completion.

Yet this I call to mind

and therefore I have hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,

for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness. (Lam 3:21-23)

Qu: what are some ways we can strengthen and practice faithfulness in our daily lives?

RESPOND & PRAY

- As we confess our unfaithfulness, pray for one another to receive God's forgiveness and be strengthened by his faithfulness.
- Pray for ways to be a faithful presence in your daily life