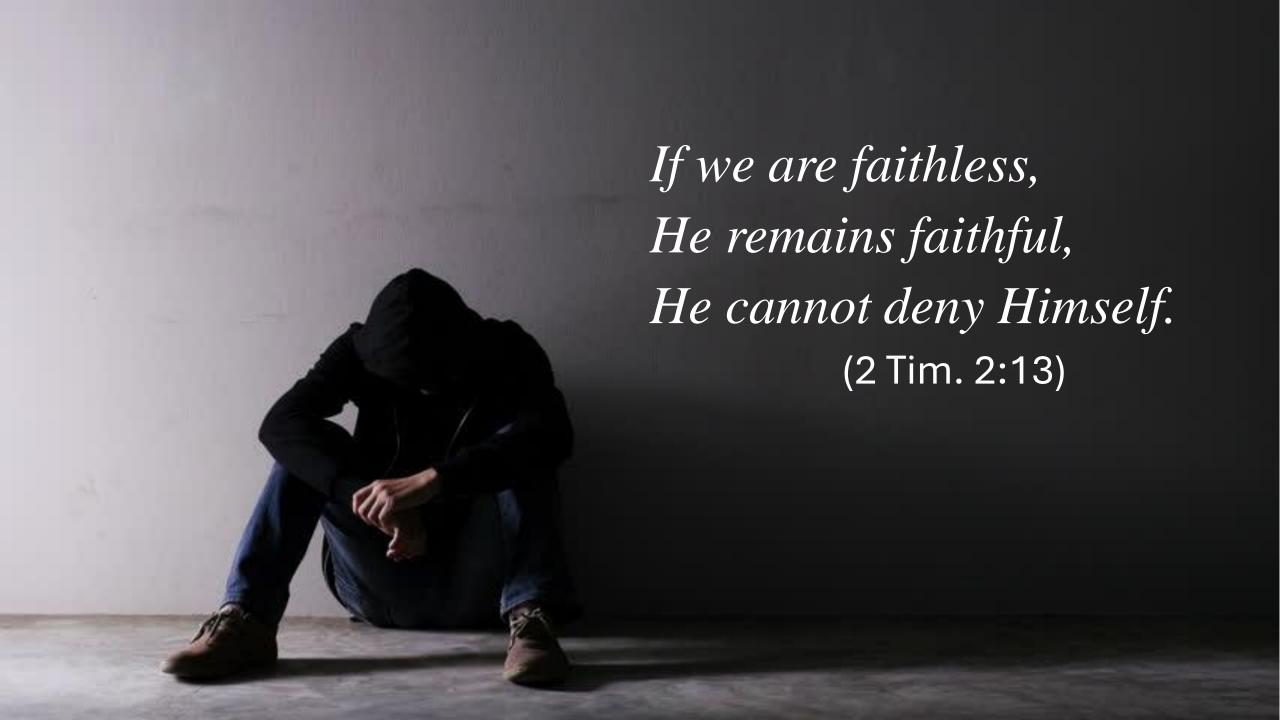


Faithfulness comes at a price...

- Willingness to sacrifice!
- Matt. 16:24 (NKJV) "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."
- God shows us the way... in the example of Jesus!



"He cannot DENY Himself"

- Faithfulness is a fundamental part of God's nature.
- **Deuteronomy 7:9** (NIV) "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the **faithful** God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

- **Psalms 25:10** (NASB) All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth (<u>faithfulness</u>) To those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- **Psalms 26:2-3** (NIV) Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; 3 for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.

• **Psalms 33:4-5** (NIV) For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is **faithful** in all he does. 5 The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

• Psalms 36:5-9 (NIV) Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. 6 Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals. 7 How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. 8 They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

• Psalms 92:1-2 (NIV) It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, 2 proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,

Exodus 34:4-7 (NIV) So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. 5 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. 6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

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New Testament

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (NASB) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Two Promises

- 1. God will not allow you to be tempted beyond your ability to endure it.
- 2. God will provide a way of escape.

New Testament

1 John 1:7-10 (NIV) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:7-10

- Will there be times when Christians sin?
- When that happens, what are we to do about it?
- •See 1 John 1:1-2

- **Psalms 32:1-5** (NIV) Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
- 2 Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.
- 3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- 4 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.