

Rainbows and Promises

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Read Genesis chapters 6, 7 8, and 9, about Noah and God's promise with the sign of the rainbow.

We sometimes forget the promises that God has made to us in the Old and New Testaments. Some of the promises are:

- ♦ Abide in me, and I will abide with you;
- ♦ I will send the Holy Spirit to be with you;
- ♦ I will be with you until the end of time.

In our busy daily lives, we forget the support that God has made available to us. As we see the rainbow making an ark in the sky, do we really understand the significance of the promise? Do we really believe that God is with us every day?

On June 20th and 21st of 1998, my wife and I were with friends on a trip to Alaska. While there, we decided to take an evening flight across the Arctic Circle, so we could say that we crossed the Arctic Circle on the longest day of the year.

While returning to Anchorage after midnight, we could see several rain showers in the sky because the sun was still shining. As we passed through one of these showers, we saw a rainbow that amazed us. When we looked out the window, we could not see the end of the rainbow – because it encircled the plane! What a thrilling experience this was.

This experience showed me that God sends us signs that God is with us at all times, and God's love surrounds us whether we recognize it or not. These signs support my belief that God abides with us, and we need to acknowledge that God is with us every day. God is with us as we tell the story that Jesus is the son of God and that he gave his life for our sins. He accepts us as we are, no matter who we are or where we have been in our lives.

I believe we need to spread God's message through action and word. Remember that rainbows come and go, but God's love surrounds us always.