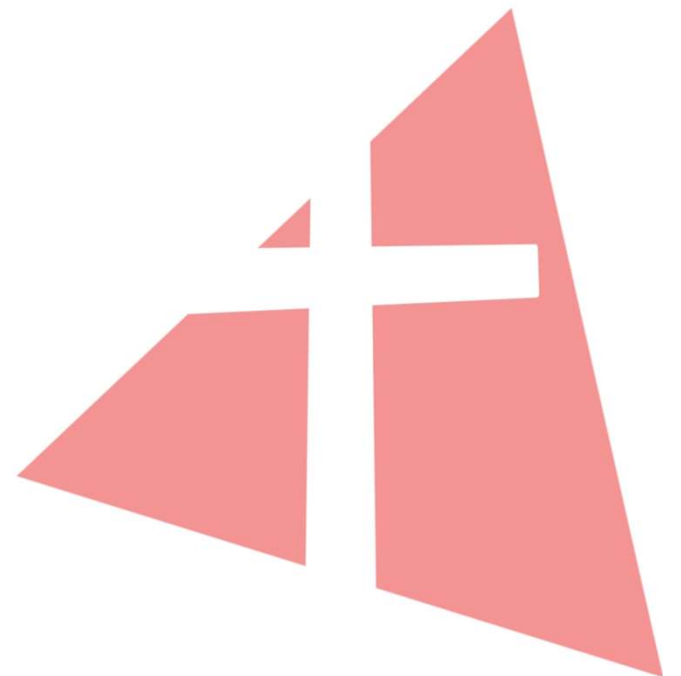


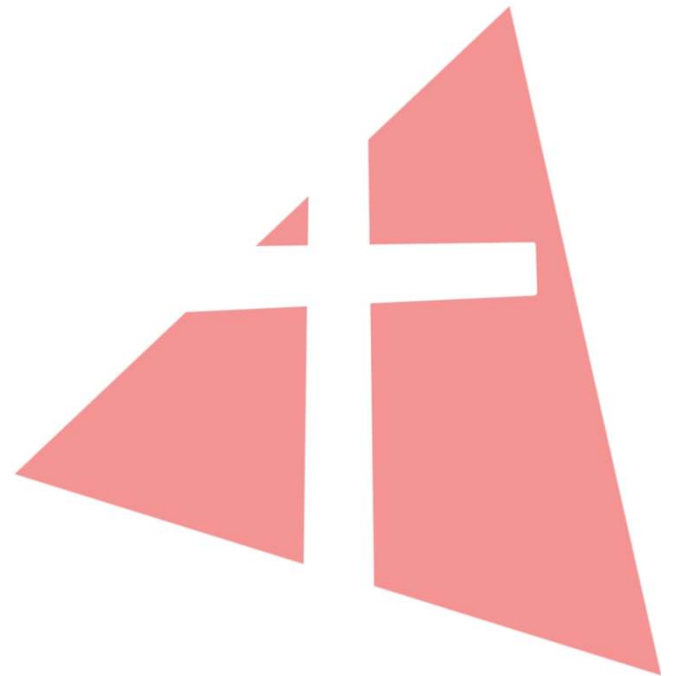
# WHO AM I?

January 07<sup>th</sup> 2018



# A SIMPLE QUESTION

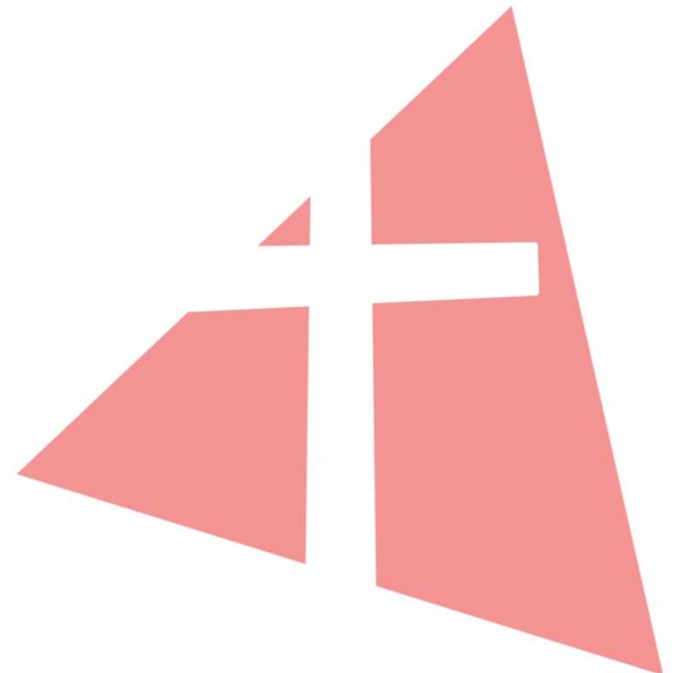
- Who are you?



# WHO WE ARE NOT

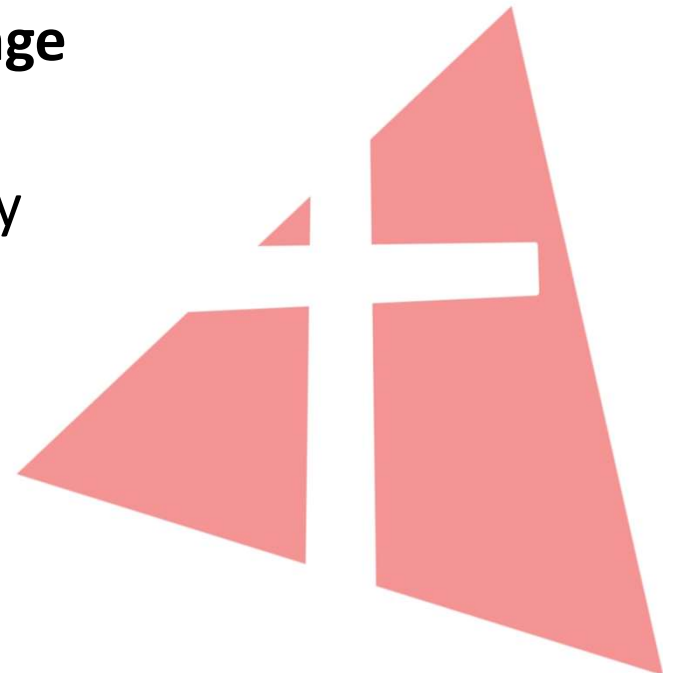
## ○ My identity is not

- Being Bernd
- Being a Pastor
- Being a husband/father
- Being a protestant
- ...



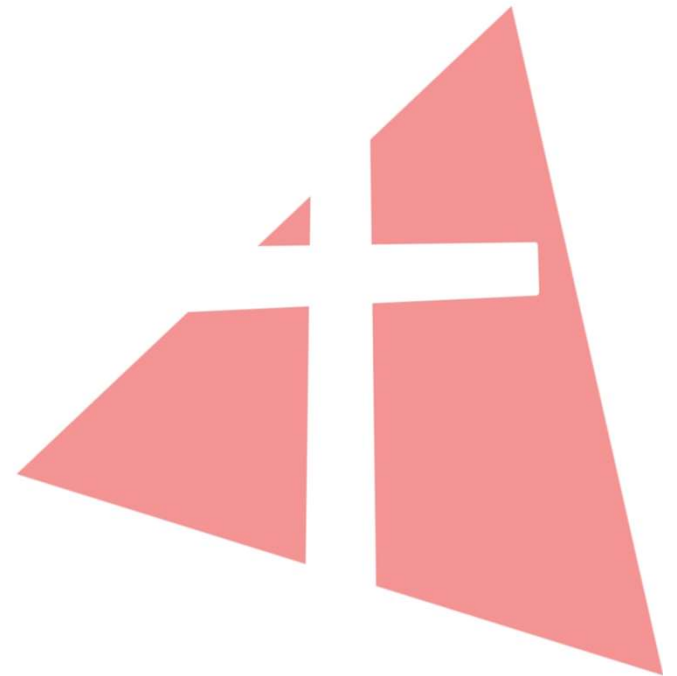
# WHO YOU ARE NOT

- **All these things are temporary**
- **An identity is something that will never change**
  - Time cannot change your identity
  - Circumstances cannot change your identity
  - Even death cannot change your identity



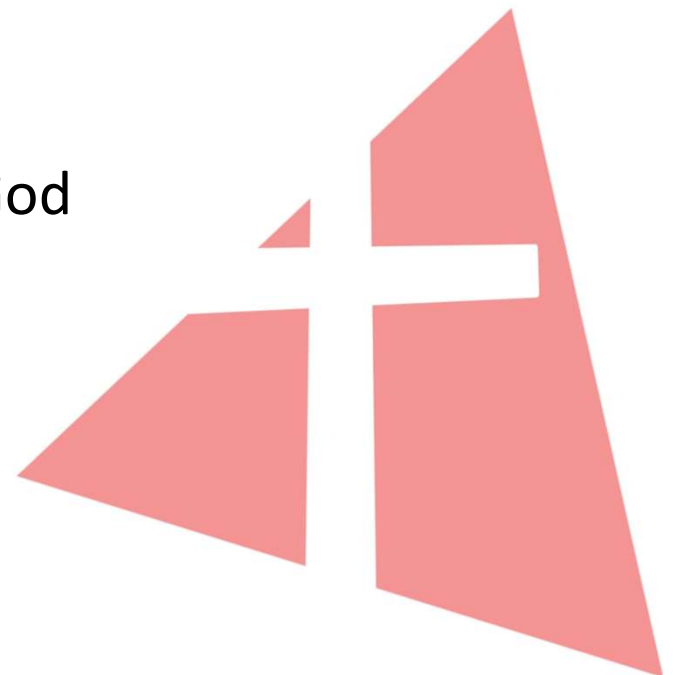
# WHO ARE YOU?

- **We are who God says we are!**



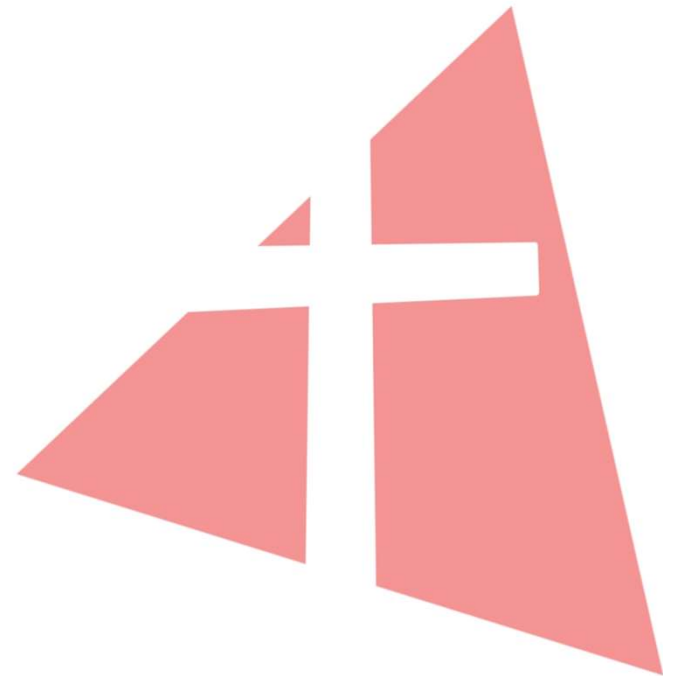
# 2 IDENTITIES

- **There are only 2 kinds of people**
  - Those who live eternally with God
  - Those who live eternally separated from God



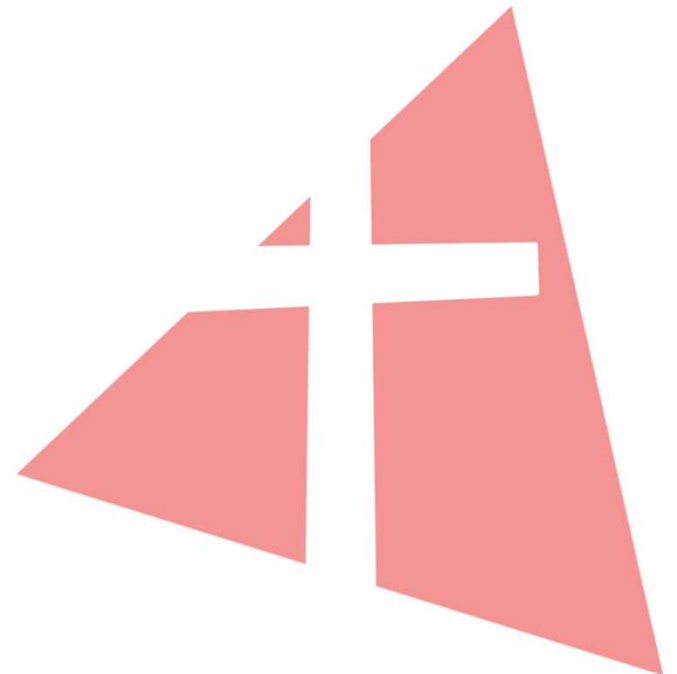
# SELF IMAGE

- **Who I think I am**



# SELF IMAGE

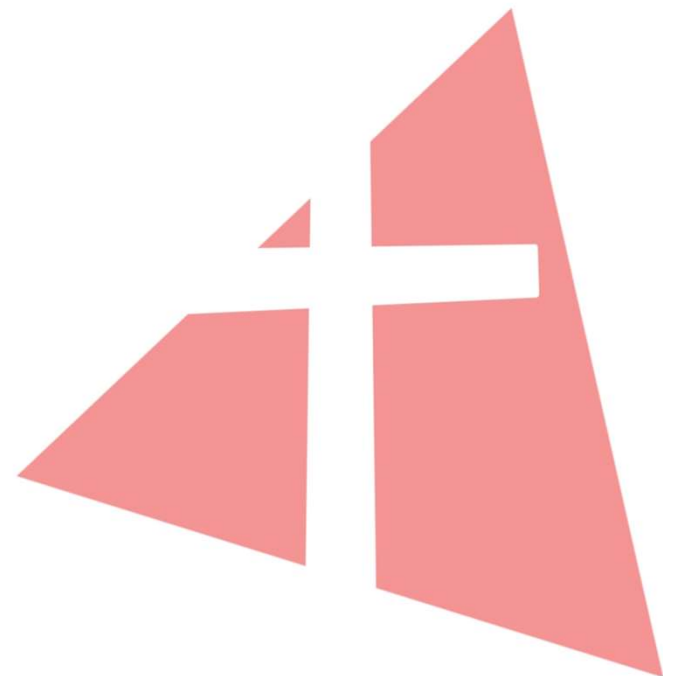
- **Our self-image often covers our identity**





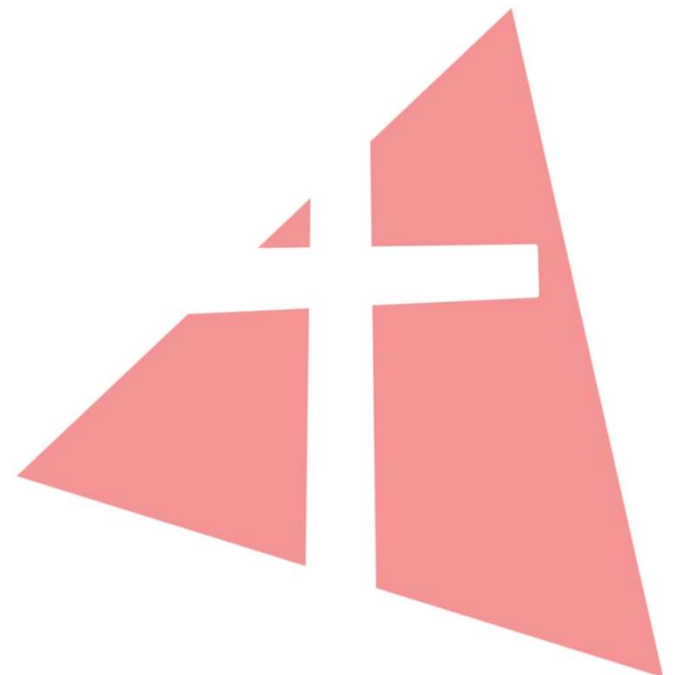
# PERSONAL EXAMPLE

- **My personal struggles: Feeling insignificant**



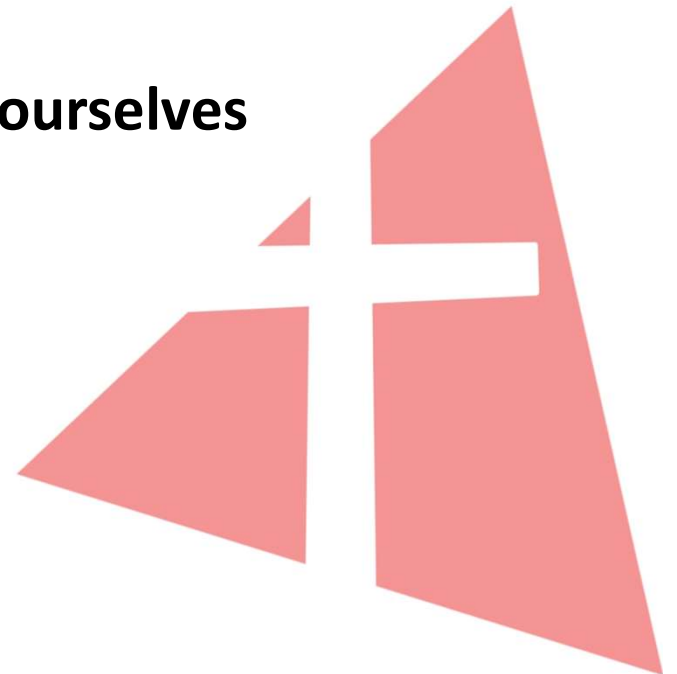
# HOW WE LIVE

- **Who I think God is (View of God)**
- **Who I think I am (Self Image)**



# WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- **We live our lives out of our view of God and ourselves**



# THE ISRAELITES

- Israel didn't have to wander through the wilderness for 40 years



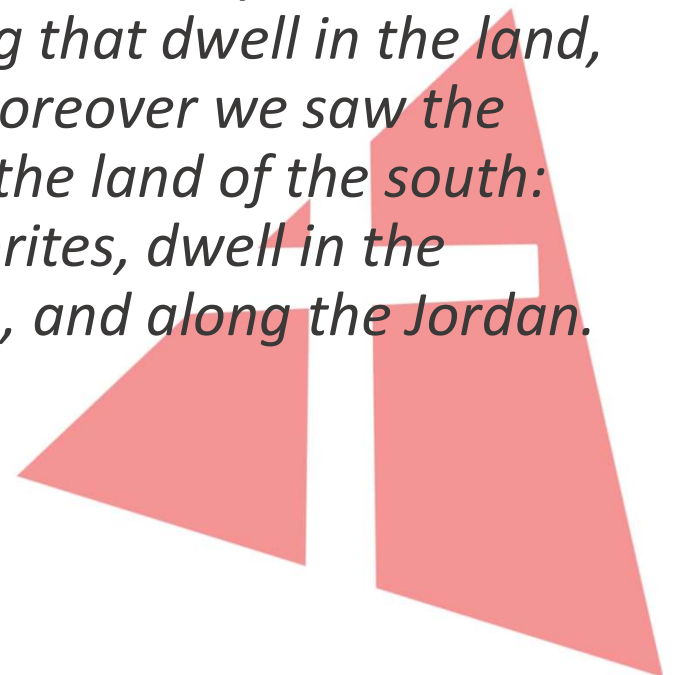
# THE ISRAELITES

*Numbers 13:2 Send men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall you send a man, every one a leader among them.*



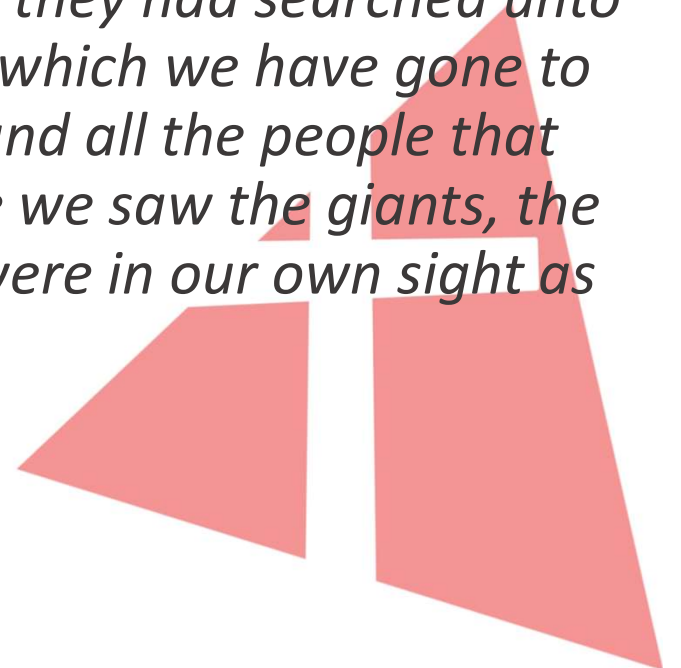
# THE ISRAELITES

*Numbers 13:27-29 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land where you sent us, and surely it flows with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people are strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan.*



# THE ISRAELITES

*Numbers 13:31-33 But the men that went up with him said, We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eats up its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, who come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.*



# THE ISRAELITES

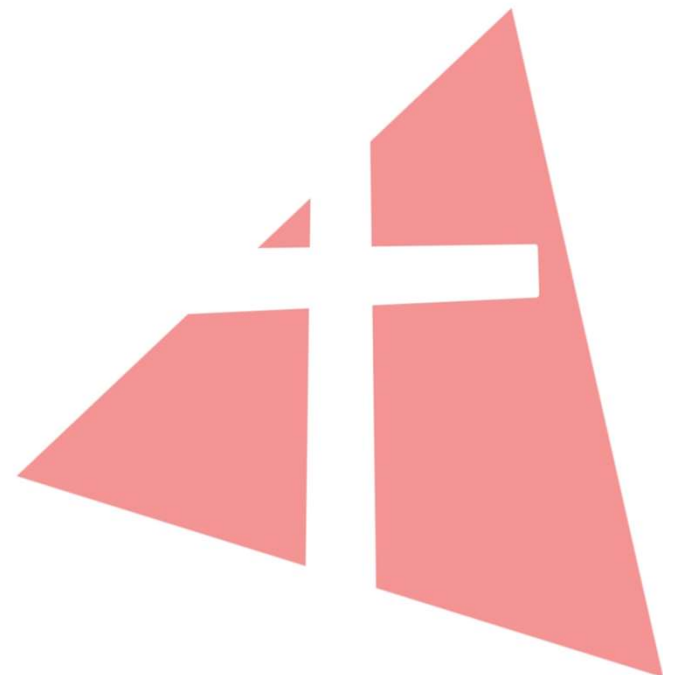
- **God gave them a promise**
- **But they didn't expect that they would have to move in Faith**
  - Step out into a dangerous situation BEFORE God performs the miracle





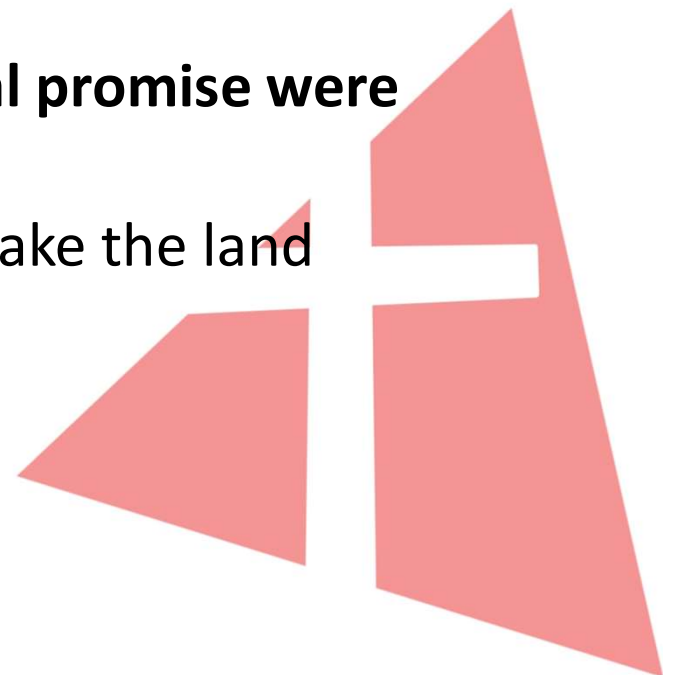
# THE ISRAELITES

- They saw God's miracles
- They knew God **COULD** do it again
- They didn't trust He **WOULD** do it again
  - Wrong image of themselves
  - Wrong image of God



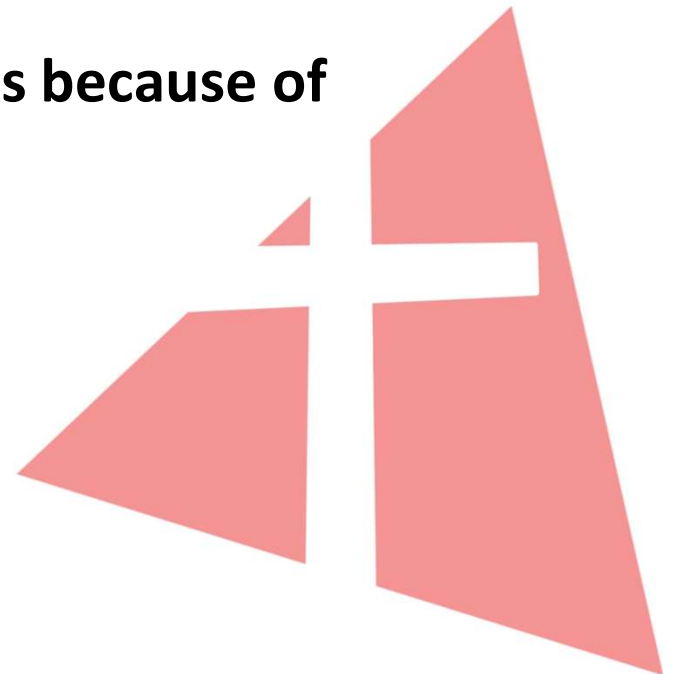
# THE RESULT

- **40 years in the wilderness**
- **None of the people who received the original promise were allowed to enter the land**
  - except Joshua and Caleb, who wanted to take the land



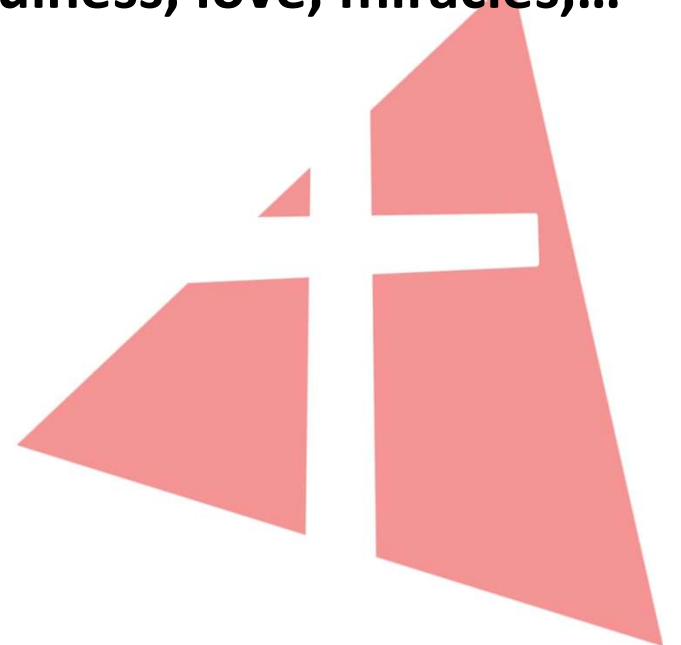
# THE LESSON

- **God keeps His promises**
- **We sometimes do not receive God's promises because of**
  - A wrong image of who God is
  - A wrong image of who we are



# LET'S MAKE IT PERSONAL

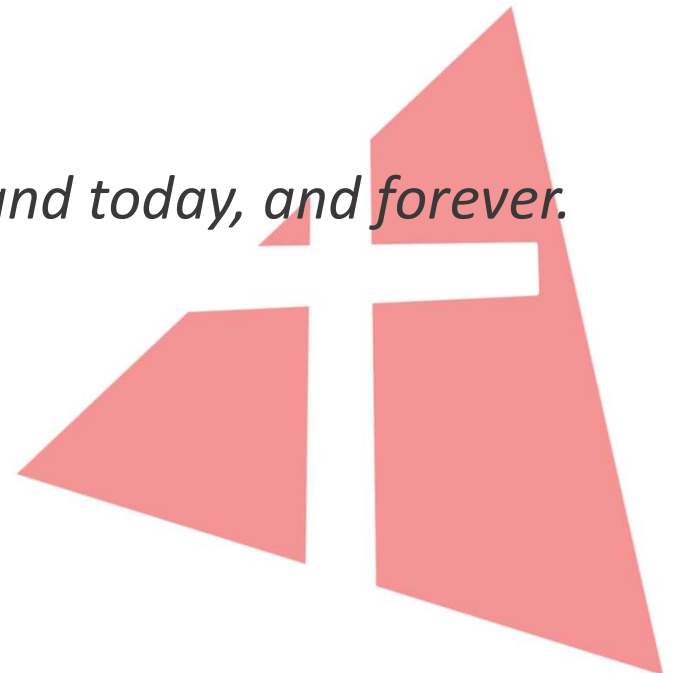
- Many of us have seen God's goodness, faithfulness, love, miracles,... in the past
- But we often have doubts about our future



# A NAGGING QUESTION

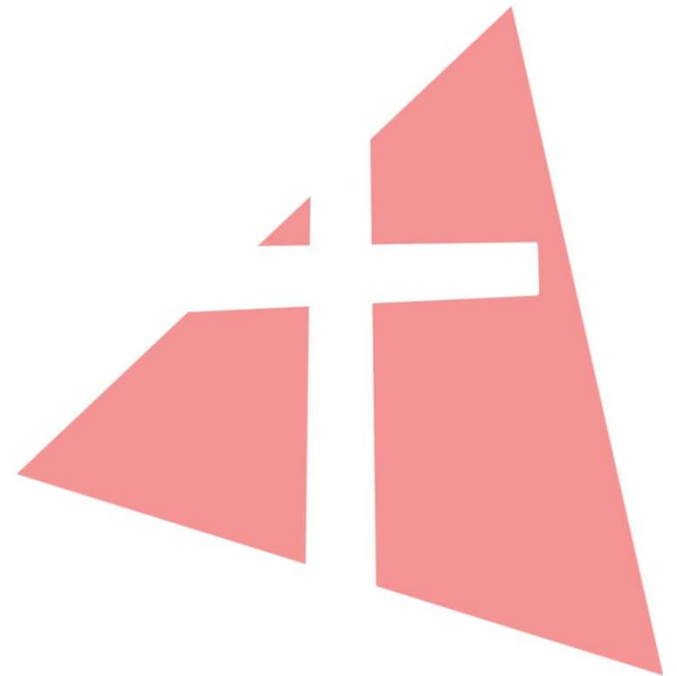
- **We wonder whether God will do it again**

*Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.*



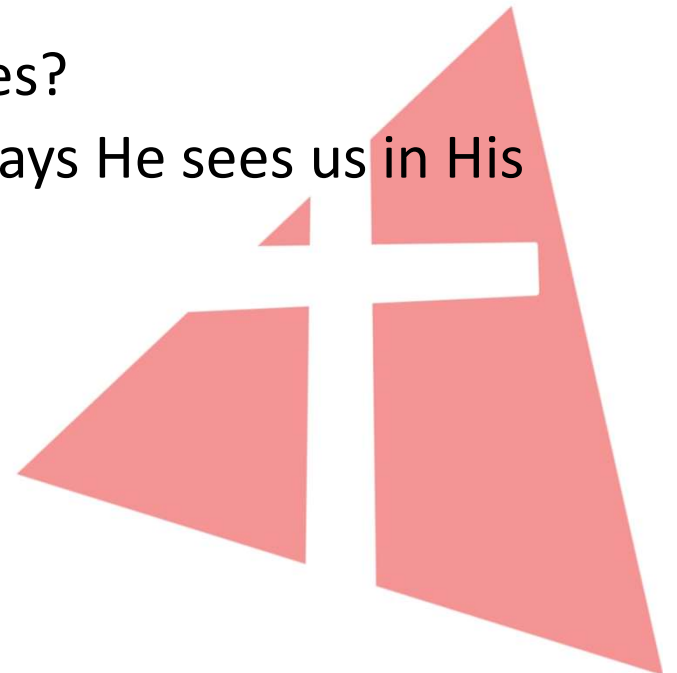
# WHAT ABOUT US?

- **God might have given you a promise too**



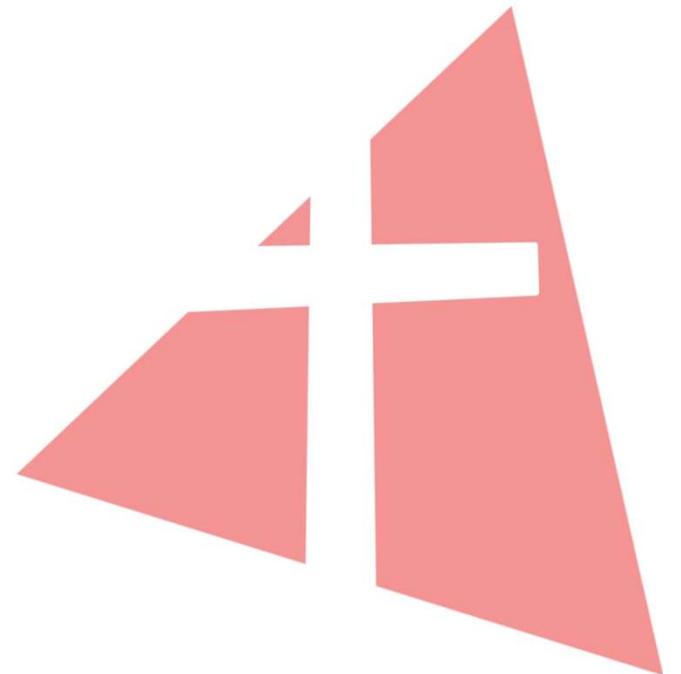
# WHAT ABOUT US?

- **The question is not: Will God do it?**
- **The questions are**
  - Do we trust that God will keep His promises?
  - Do we trust that God sees us the way He says He sees us in His Word?



# NEXT 2 SERMONS

- **Who is God?**
- **Who am I in Jesus?**





# CLOSING QUESTION FOR TODAY

- **Are you waiting for a promise from God to be fulfilled in your life?**
- **If yes: Could a wrong image of God or ourselves be the reason that the promise is not yet fulfilled?**

