Four Important Christmas Words:

Promise

The promise begins way back in the book of Genesis:

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Genesis 3:15 (NIV)

"Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you. ⁹ You are a lion's cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him? ¹⁰ The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his. Genesis 49:8-10 (NIV)

Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever." 2 Samuel 7:16 (NIV)

> The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord— ³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. Isaiah 11:2-5 (NIV)

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." Luke 1: 32-33 (NIV) "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Micah 5:2 (NIV)

What does all of this mean?

That God keeps His _____!

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. 1 Corinthians 1:20 (ESV)

> The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. Psalm 145:13 (NIV)

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Hebrews 10:23 (NLT)

- In order to ______ His promises, you have to ______ His promises.
- Once you ______ His promise, trust the promise ______.