

THE DELAYED PROMISE KEPT

Genesis 21:1-8

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Our universal craving for friendships: (*Ja. 4:4; Pro. 18:24*)

- B. "Faith-walking", the foundation for a friendship with God: (*Heb. 11:6; Pro. 3:5-6; 18:24; Ja. 2:23; 4:4*)

Faith that grows a friendship – "Trusting in God's Word and then acting upon it, even when you can't see the results": (*See Heb. 11:1; Ja. 1:6; 4:4*)

- C. Adding the "waiting game" to the bumpy road of adversity: (*Ja. 1:2-4; Rom.5:3-5; Gen. 12, 21*)
 - 1. The promise of his potential Friend: (*Gen. 12:1-4*)
 - 2. The grueling "waiting game" experienced: (*Gen. 21:5*)
 - 3. The dilemma of "limited information": (acting by faith when you can't see results)

- D. Three kinds of promises from your potential Friend:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

II. SEEING "DELAYS" THROUGH THE EYES OF MY TRUE FRIEND:

- A. The faithfulness of my Friend: **vv. 1-2**
 - 1. The promise "delayed": (*Gen. 18:9-14; Deut. 8:2*)
 - 2. Gleaning the benefits of delayed promises:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

- B. The one expectation from my Friend: **vv. 3-4**
 - 1.
 - 2.

- C. Reminders from my Friend: **vv. 5-7**
 - 1.
 - 2.

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.

- B.

- C.

- D.