

FORGED / HEART OF A WARRIOR / August 8, 2025

SESSION ONE / THE LORD WANTS TO CHANGE YOUR NAME

The Story of Abram and Sarai

- **Genesis 12** – Abram is 75 years old.
 - He is told to leave his country to follow God.
 - God promises to Abram that he will make of him a great nation.
- **Genesis 15** – The Lord promises Abram a son.
 - God makes a covenant with him concerning the Promised Land.
- **Genesis 16** – There is a crisis of faith.
 - Sarai is still barren.
 - She feels the weight of God's promise to her husband.
 - God spoke to Abram, but Sarai knew the importance of her role.
 - Her barrenness had become her _____.
 - She was unable to _____ the promise of God.
 - It had been 10 years since the Lord initially spoke to Abram.
 - But they still had no children. What had come of God's promise?
 - At this point it seemed as if everything had come to a halt.

Where is the Proof of the Promise? 2 Peter 3:4

- We believe the _____ of Christianity, but we fail to see the reality and victory of its _____.
- We _____ in real change. We've heard it _____. But it has been so long since you've _____ it for yourself.

A Dry Season of Doubt

- Sarai devises a plan... to help God out.
- She desperately wanted to fulfill the plan of God for their lives.
 - She believed in God's _____, but she didn't believe in God's _____.
- Sarai gives Hagar (her Egyptian maid) to Abram.
- Sarai hopes the promised seed would come out of Egypt (the world).
- When Abram is 86 years old, Hagar gives birth to Ishmael.

Genesis 17 – Abram is now 99 years old

- 24 years have passed since Abram began following the Lord.
- 13 years have passed since Ishmael's birth.
 - "13" is the number of _____.

Thirteen Years in the Flesh – Galatians 4:23

- Abram had lived 13 years doing the work of God by his own means and strength.
- 13 years of _____ in his flesh.
- 13 years _____ his flesh.
- 13 years of falling in _____ with his flesh.
- 13 years of pursuing a _____ hope.
- 13 years of going down a _____ the Lord was not on.
- Abram had become a godly man... without _____ which is a recipe for carnality and disaster.
- Instead of leaning into the power of God, he leaned into his own _____. **Proverbs 3:5-6**

God's Mercy was on Full Display

- Even though they had gone down a wrong path and struggled in their faith, God wasn't done with Abram. **Genesis 17:1, 5**
- At 99 years old, God _____ Abram's name.
- Abram and Sarai had convinced themselves they were following God.
- They had created (by their own doing) a showing of spirituality.
2 Timothy 3:5
- They had given up all hope that they would experience new birth.
- They had passed on the expectation that God wanted to move on their behalf.
- They wanted to follow God, but it was too much to assume that God really wanted to produce new life through them.
- And it's at this point, the Lord spoke to Abram in a new fresh way.

What Would it Look Like for God to Change your Name?

- God is not interested in your performance (what you can do).
- But God is interested in moving miraculously through flawed individuals.

Abraham's Death – Genesis 25:7-8

- Abraham died at 175 years old.
- He lived 99 of those years as _____.
- He only lived 76 years as _____.
- He pursued his own way longer than he did God's way.

***God wants his man to be _____ of himself so he can finally be
_____ used of God.***

What are you going to do with the years you have left?

- It's time to reengage in the mission.
- God changed Abram's name.
- He can change your name as well.
- He can change your identity.
- Just like Abraham, you can be known as a father of faith.

Joel 2:25-26