



Portrait of Sarah

SARAH is mentioned more times in Scripture than any other woman, even Mary the mother of Jesus. She is the first woman mentioned in Hebrews 11, what is often called "The Faith Hall of Fame."

SARAH'S STORY

SCENE 1 GOD'S PROMISES -GENESIS 12:1-3 & 15:1-6

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life. -PROVERBS 13:12

SCENE 2 SARAH'S PLAN B -GENESIS 12:1-3 & 15:1-6

Historical Insight: In ancient times, a man who had no son could adopt a favored servant as heir to his possessions. Or, a man who had no son could take a second wife to produce an heir. Some marriage contracts even spelled out this provision. A wife was obligated to have children. If she could not, she was required to find her husband another wife who could. (This was normal to the culture, but not normal to God.)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. -PROVERBS 3:5-6

SCENE 3 GOD'S FAITHFULNESS -GENESIS 17:15-19; 18:9-15; 21:1-7

WHAT TO DO IN THE WAITING ROOM:

Those who wait upon the Lord will get new strength. They will rise up with wings like eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not become weak. -ISAIAH 40:31

1. _____

"Most believers are permitted to go through emotional and spiritual valleys that are designed to test their faith in the crucible of fire. Why? Because faith ranks at the top of God's system of priorities. Without it, He said, it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). And what is faith? It is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). The determination to believe when the proof is not provided and when the questions are not answered is central to our relationship with the Lord." -JAMES DOBSON WHEN GOD DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

2. _____

3. _____

WHAT SARAH TEACHES US ABOUT THE LORD:

1. _____

For we walk by faith, not by sight. -2 CORINTHIANS 5:7

2. _____

Now faith is the assurance of what we hope for and the certainty of what we do not see. -HEBREWS 11:1

3. _____

*Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, **being fully persuaded** that God had power to do what he had promised. -ROMANS 4:18-21*

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob. -MATTHEW 1:1

