

DAY 26

Romans 4:18-21

“In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No unbelief made him waiver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised.” Romans 4:18-21

In this passage the Apostle Paul is reminding the church in Rome about the life of Abraham (read Abraham’s story in Genesis 12-21). The life of Abraham is a remarkable example of tremendous faith in God in the face of a seemingly impossible situation. God promised to make Abraham the “father of many nations” even though he had no children and he and his wife were well past child-bearing years. Humanly impossible and yet we are told that “in hope he believed against hope” that what God promised, He would do. What was so special about Abraham that gave him the ability to exhibit such hope and faith in God? Did Abraham have something that you and I do not have? Absolutely not! If you read the account of Abraham’s life you see a man with weaknesses, flaws and fears like everyone else. The key to Abraham’s hope is found in verse 20 of this passage, “but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God.” Abraham glorified God by letting God do what only He could do. When God made a promise to Abraham, it was God’s name that was “on the line.” If God failed to fulfill the promise it wasn’t a reflection on Abraham. Abraham and Sarah already knew they were incapable of having children on their own. Because this promise was about God and not about Abraham, the pressure wasn’t on Abraham to do what only God could do. This reality freed Abraham to glorify God by hoping in Him and waiting on Him to do what He promised. As you reflect on this passage today pause and ask yourself if you are taking matters into your own hands and trying to do what only God can do in your life. Rather than crumble under the pressure of trying to go it alone, glorify God by waiting on Him and believing that He will do what He promises He will do.

How can you apply this passage to your life? Write your reflections in the space below.

**30
Days
Of
HOPE**

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