SFAITH

Faith

Romans 4:17-20 (NIV)

"'I have made you a father of many nations.' He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. 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,"

I. The Journey of Faith

- The Promise (Age 75)

Genesis 12:2 (NIV) "I will make you into a great nation,..."

- The Choice

Genesis 12:4 (NIV) "So Abram went, as the Lord had told him;..."

- The Delay (Age 86)

Genesis 16:1 (NIV) "Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children…"

- The Challenge

Genesis 17:17 (NIV) "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old?"

- The Confusion

Genesis 22:2 (NIV) "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—....and Sacrifice him"

- The Provision

Genesis 22:12 (NIV) "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him...."

Maintaining a Faith that endures.

1. Anchor your Faith in God's ability not yours.

Romans 4:17 (NIV) "he [Abraham] believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not."

Luke 18:27 (NIV) "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

2. Rehearse the promises of God.

Romans 4:18 (NIV) "Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations,"

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)

"no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God."

Hebrews 11:17 (NIV) "By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice."

3. Approach the situation with Faith not denial.

Romans 4:19-20

"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. **20** Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,"

4. Remember obedience is our responsibility and the outcome is God's.

Romans 4:20-21 (NIV)

"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."