

Great Faith – Father Abraham pt. 3

(Genesis 21:1-21 nlt)

21 The Lord kept his word and did for Sarah exactly what he had promised. ²She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would. ³And Abraham named their son Isaac. ⁴Eight days after Isaac was born, Abraham circumcised him as God had commanded. ⁵Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. ⁶And Sarah declared, “God has brought me laughter.^[a] All who hear about this will laugh with me.” ⁷Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse a baby? Yet I have given Abraham a son in his old age!” ⁸When Isaac grew up and was about to be weaned, Abraham prepared a huge feast to celebrate the occasion. ⁹But Sarah saw Ishmael—the son of Abraham and her Egyptian servant Hagar—making fun of her son, Isaac.^[b] ¹⁰So she turned to Abraham and demanded, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son. He is not going to share the inheritance with my son, Isaac. I won’t have it!” ¹¹This upset Abraham very much because Ishmael was his son. ¹²But God told Abraham, “Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tells you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted. ¹³But I will also make a nation of the descendants of Hagar’s son because he is your son, too.” ¹⁴So Abraham got up early the next morning, prepared food and a container of water, and strapped them on Hagar’s shoulders. Then he sent her away with their son, and she wandered aimlessly in the wilderness of Beersheba. ¹⁵When the water was gone, she put the boy in the shade of a bush. ¹⁶Then she went and sat down by herself about a hundred yards^[c] away. “I don’t want to watch the boy die,” she said, as she burst into tears. ¹⁷But God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, “Hagar, what’s wrong? Do not be afraid! God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. ¹⁸Go to him and comfort him, for I will make a great nation from his descendants.” ¹⁹Then God opened Hagar’s eyes, and she saw a well full of water. She quickly filled her water container and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰And God was with the boy as he grew up in the wilderness. He became a skillful archer, ²¹and he settled in the wilderness of Paran. His mother arranged for him to marry a woman from the land of Egypt.

- Finally, the promise child Issac was born. God promised him when he was 75 years old when he left his father house
- Abraham received the promise when he was 100 years old. 25 years later
- When Issac was about to be weaned. Transitioning from milk to solid food. Hagar and Ishmael was making fun of him causing sarah to be upset and her telling Abraham to get rid of them
- But that upset Abraham very much because Ishmael was his son
- Put yourself in Abraham shoes, by this time Ishmael is around 16 to 19 years old.
- Ishmael made him a father it was his first child. Think about all the memories and experience they had together.
- The bible made it very clear that both Abraham and Ishmael got circumcised the same day. they shared that pain and experience together
- That's a bond that Abraham and his son have that will never go away. They marked their bodies as a sign of the covenant
- So of course, Abraham was upset, any father would be especially when the idea to have a child with Hagar wasn't his but his wife to begin with
- I love that even though Abraham is upset, he can still hear Gods voice.
- And I love that God knows and cares about how Abraham feels that he doesn't allow Abraham to end the night upset but instead reassure him that everything is going to be ok
- As believers God already spoke to us and told us not to let the sun go down on our wrath.

(Ephesians 4:20-32 nkjv)

²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, “*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*” for we are members of one another. ²⁶ **“Be angry, and do not sin”:** **do not let the sun go down on your wrath,** ²⁷ **nor give [g] place to the devil.** ²⁸ Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. ²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary [h]edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ **Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, [i] clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.** ³² **And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.**

- The question I want to ask today. can you hear the word or his voice in the times you got upset to calm you down
- After hearing from the Lord and God reassuring the promise is through Issac. Early next morning Abraham prepared some food and water and sent Hagar and his son Ishmael away

- 2 things I want to point out.
 1. He never wavered believing in God that he didn't let nothing even when it was personal get in the way of the promise. He acted in obedience immediately
 2. Abraham prepared the food and water himself and made the hard decision to send Hagar and his son Ismael away himself.
- He had servants and could of told them to do it or he could have told Sarah to handle it like before. she the one who wanted her gone anyways
- Instead, Abraham took full responsibly of making those hard decisions.
- If you want to see great faith in your life, then you must take full responsibility of your decision even if their hard ones
- The bible says that Hagar wandered aimlessly in the wilderness of Beersheba and when the water was gone, she put Ishmael in the shade and went and sit down 100 yards away from him because she didn't want to see him die
- Hagar was to focus on her current situation and problem that she lost faith in the promise
- Remember God was the one who told her that she will have a son, and she should name him Ishmael and that he will make him a great nation

(Genesis 16:6-13 nlt)

⁶Abram replied, “Look, she is your servant, so deal with her as you see fit.” Then Sarai treated Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.

⁷The angel of the Lord found Hagar beside a spring of water in the wilderness, along the road to Shur.⁸The angel said to her, “Hagar, Sarai’s servant, where have you come from, and where are you going?”

“I’m running away from my mistress, Sarai,” she replied.

⁹The angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit to her authority.” ¹⁰Then he added, “I will give you more descendants than you can count.”

¹¹And the angel also said, “You are now pregnant and will give birth to a son. You are to name him Ishmael (which means ‘God hears’), for the Lord has heard your cry of distress. ¹²This son of yours will be a wild man, as untamed as a wild donkey! He will raise his fist against everyone, and everyone will be against him. Yes, he will live in open hostility against all his relatives.”

¹³Thereafter, Hagar used another name to refer to the Lord, who had spoken to her. She said, “You are the God who sees me.”^[a] She also said, “Have I truly seen the One who sees me?” ¹⁴So that well was named Beer-lahai-roi (which means “well of the Living One who sees me”). It can still be found between Kadesh and Bered.

- Hagar forgot that God sees her and that it was God who promise her that she will have more descendants than she can count
- That she will have a son and that she should name him Ishmael. Which means God hears
- God had a plan before Ishmael was born and his name came with a purpose. God hears
- So when Ishmael was crying God heard him
- Hagar forgot the promise, forgot the name, that she accepted death. She embraced defeat
- Fear and doubting will blind you from having faith to see what's in front of you
- The bible says that God opened her eyes and a well was there
- The well was always there but she couldn't see it

(2 Peter 1:3-11 nlt)

³By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. ⁴And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. ⁵In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, ⁷and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. ⁸The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹**But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins.** ¹⁰So, dear brothers and sisters,^[c] work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. ¹¹Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.