

Message: *“Abraham Week 2: Trusting God Against the Odds”*

Scripture: Genesis 15-21

“The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield. Your reward shall be very great.’ But Abram said, ‘Oh, Lord God, what will you give me? For I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus.’ And Abram said, ‘You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.’” Genesis 15:1-3

“But the word of the Lord came to him, ‘This man shall not be your heir. No one but your very own issue shall be your heir.’ He brought him outside and said, ‘Look toward heaven and count the stars if you’re able to count them’; then he said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’” Genesis 15:4-5

“And he that is Abraham, and he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.” Genesis 15:6

“You see the Lord has prevented me from bearing children, so instead take my slave girl, Hagar, and have a child with her.” Genesis 16:2

“He went into Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.” Genesis 16:4

“When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, ‘I am God almighty. Walk before me and be blameless. I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous.’ Then Abram fell on his face.” Genesis 17:1-3

“Abram fell on his face and God said to him, ‘As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.’” Genesis 17:3-5

“God said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai, your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations. Kings of people shall come from her.’” Genesis 17:15-16

“Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself and said to himself, ‘Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?’ And Abraham said to God – ‘Oh, that Ishmael may live in your sight.’” Genesis 17:17-18

“And God said, ‘No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. As for Ishmael, I have heard you. I will bless him and make him fruitful. But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, the people of God.’” Genesis 17:19-20, 22

“The Lord said to Abraham, ‘Why did Sarah laugh and say: ‘Shall I indeed bear a child now that I am old? Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?’ At the set time I shall return to you in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.’ But Sarah denied it, saying, ‘I did not laugh,’ for she was afraid. He said, ‘Oh, yes, you did laugh!’” Genesis 18:13-15

“The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore.” Genesis 21:1-3

“Your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac.” Genesis 17:19

“Then Abraham took his son Ishmael and all the slaves born in this house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day as God had said to him. Abraham was ninety nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, and his son Ishmael was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised; and all the men in his house, slaves born in the house, and those bought with money from a foreigner were circumcised with him.” Genesis 17:23-27