



**I. Introduction/Review**

- A. Session 1 – The Measure of Faith**
- B. Session 2 – Increasing Your Measure of Faith**
- C. Session 3 – Single-Minded Faith**
- D. Session 4 – Faith Knows**
- E. Session 5 – Faith Speaks**
- F. Session 6 – Faith Acts**
- G. Session 7 – Faith Meditates**
- H. Session 8 – What is Lacking in Your Faith?**
- I. Session 9 – Faith and Joy**

**II. What Are You Considering?**

- A. Romans 4:16-21 (NKJV) – <sup>16</sup>Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all <sup>17</sup>(as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; <sup>18</sup>who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>And not being weak in faith, **he did not consider** his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, <sup>21</sup>and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform**



**In Abraham’s example of how faith works, he gives us an important example of what faith considers and what faith does not consider.**  
*Verse 19 “He did not consider.”*

1. There were specific things that Abraham refused to consider:
  - a. His own body – the age and condition of his own body
  - b. Sarah’s body – life-long history of being barren – age
  
2. What did Abraham consider?
  - a. The promises of God.
  - b. He did not waver at the promise.
  - c. He was fully convinced that what God had promised, He was able to perform.
  
3. **Consider** = observe – attentively fix one’s eyes or mind upon something. *To give consideration – careful thought, attention*

**B. Faith requires us to discipline ourselves regarding what we will consider.**

1. **Faith must consider the Word of God.**
  
2. **Faith must refuse to consider the circumstances.**
  
3. **It is possible to acknowledge the facts but not allow the facts to become the focus of your consideration.**
  - a. Abraham did not deny that Sarah had been barren.
  - b. Abraham did not deny the age and condition of his or Sarah’s body.
  - c. Abraham simply refused to allow those things to be what he considered.
  
4. **This form of consideration is – what you put your eyes and attention upon.**
  - a. What has my attention?
  - b. What has my eyes?

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- c. Am I keeping my eyes on the promise or am I keeping my eyes on the problems? *What am I looking at the most?*
- d. As I direct my eyes – so goes my attention.

**C. Scriptures regarding the direction of our eyes.**

*My focus matters!*

**1. Psalm 25:15 (NKJV) – *My eyes are ever toward the LORD, For He shall pluck my feet out of the net.***

- a. The Psalmist set the direction of his eyes toward the Lord.
- b. Faith always sets its focus/gaze upon the Lord.
- c. Remember, Peter took his eyes from the Lord, and began to sink immediately. *Faith begins to sink when the focus is shifted to other things.*
- d. When we are engaged in a ‘Fight of Faith,’ we must be watchful for the enemy’s distractions that are designed to shift my eyes from the Lord to my problem.

**2. The eyes of faith must become stronger than our natural eyes.**

**Elijah**

**2 Kings 6:17 (NKJV) – *And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, **open his eyes** that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha***

- a. Prior to the Lord opening his eyes, he saw things differently.
- b. Previously, what he saw was connected only to the natural world.
- c. Previously, what he saw promoted fear and anxiety.
- d. Once his eyes were opened – He saw the provision of the Lord clearly.
- e. The provision of angels was already there, he just had a vision problem. (His vision was limited to the natural vs the spirit world).

**3. Examples in scripture**

**a. Eve**

**Genesis 3:6 (NKJV) – *So when the woman saw that the tree was***

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*good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate*

**Note:** Eve allowed her natural eyes to override spiritual things.

b. **Lot**

**Genesis 13:10 (NKJV)** – *And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar.*

**Note:** Lot was moved by what he saw in the natural rather than considering spiritual things.

- c. **Numbers 33:55 (NKJV)** – *But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain shall be irritants in your eyes and thorns in your sides, and they shall harass you in the land where you dwell.*
- Irritants in your eyes – (KJV) – pricks  
*briers – to shut in – to block – to cover over – to overshadow – shut off – to screen*
  - By leaving these inhabitants in the land, they will affect your eyes (your attention and consideration) – Rather than focusing faith on God, you will focus consideration on how powerful the inhabitants of the land are. *This is exactly what occurred when Israel considered the Giants and refused to possess the promised land.*
  - They will be a harassment to you – they will cause you trouble.
- d. **Psalm 121:1 (NKJV)** – *I will lift up my eyes to the hills—From whence comes my help? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.*
- e. **Psalm 123:1-2 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup>*Unto You I lift up my eyes, O you who dwell in the heavens.* <sup>2</sup>*Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, until He has mercy on us.*
- f. **Psalm 141:8 (NKJV)** – *But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the Lord; in You I take refuge;*



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- III. **Closing Thoughts:** Abraham was victorious in his faith because he put his eyes on God and His promises. He refused to consider anything else. Our faith works when we can put our eyes and attention on God’s promises for our need and refuse to shift our attention and consideration to the problem.