

## God is Faithful Session 6 – Faith for the Long Haul

**Hebrews 11:11 (KJV)** – *Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.*

### I. Review/Intro

- A. Sarah's summary – She judged God and His promise faithful and true
- B. It is the Word/Promise that you judge faithful that works for you  
*Who has believed our report – To whom it the arm of the Lord revealed?*
- C. Resting in the Promises of God – There is an unusual rest that comes from judging the promises of God faithful and true.
- D. The Power of Covenant Promises – Covenant Faithfulness

### II. Faith for the Long Haul

#### A. Meaning

1. As long as it takes for something to be accomplished
2. **Hebrews 2:1 (KJV)** – *Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.*
3. **Hebrews 10:23 (KJV)** – *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

#### B. Sarah had to have LONG DISTANCE faith –

1. She did not immediately conceive and bring forth Isaac
2. Isaac did not come until approximately 25 years later
3. Imagine the pressure to give up on the promise
  - a. Watching her body get older every year
  - b. Listening to the negative talk of her friends and family
4. Sarah not only judged God faithful – but she held on to her promise – long distance running faith

#### C. The example of Peter

1. **Matthew 14:22-31 (KJV)** – <sup>22</sup>*And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. <sup>23</sup>And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and*

when the evening was come, he was there alone. <sup>24</sup>But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. <sup>25</sup>And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup>And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. <sup>27</sup>But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. <sup>28</sup>And Peter answered him and said, LORD, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. <sup>29</sup>And he said, **Come**. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. <sup>30</sup>**But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, LORD, save me.** <sup>31</sup>And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, **O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?**

- a. Peter began his water walk by Judging the Word of Jesus (COME) to be faithful and true
- b. Peter's faith walk was hindered suddenly by what he saw (Storm)
  - 1) When you judge the Word of God faithful and begin to move forward along faith's journey – there will be many things you will see, hear and experience that have the potential to stall/stop your faith!
  - 2) If we do not respond accordingly to the things we see, we can lose our miracle that we are believing for.
- c. O Ye of Little faith
  - 1) Did peter really have little faith?  
*Note: If peter were able to walk on the water with this little faith – I haven't been able to walk on the water yet.*
  - 2) Little Faith – Short distance faith
    - a) Faith that cannot hold out
    - b) Faith that is moved by circumstances
    - c) Faith that did not see things through so the outcome is lost

**NOTE: When the outside forces show up and begin to attack your faith, how much ENDURANCE will your faith have?**  
*Will you lose it? Will you stand strong and be like Sarah who held out for 25 years?*

3) Peter began to sink – *Slowly as faith drained out like a dead battery*

## 2. Keep your faith on the field

**Luke 17:6-8 (NLT)** – <sup>6</sup>The Lord answered, “If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘May you be uprooted and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you! <sup>7</sup>“When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, ‘Come in and eat with me’? <sup>8</sup>No, he says, ‘Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat.’

- a. Faith is your servant
- b. You do not allow your faith to sit down on the job
- c. You keep your faith at work
- d. Keep your faith on the field

## 3. Personal

*When Satan attempted to bring sickness back on my body, I didn't call my faith off the field – I reinforced faith and made sure it was at work on the field to bring me the FULL manifestation of healing*

*Many are taking their faith from the field to quickly. Keep your faith at work – no matter how fierce the battle! No matter what the circumstances are saying – Be like Sarah – Not Peter!*

## III. Closing

- Stay in the fight
- Be determined to Win
- Never quit
- Never give up