

ABRAHAM

JUNE 21, 2020

I. FAITH SAYS, I WILL!

James 2:24 You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

1. *Faith says, I will obey.*

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

A. Obedience to God might mean goodbye to the familiar.

- When God uses someone greatly, He rarely lets them stay where they started.

B. Obedience to God might mean hello to the unknown.

Proverbs 18:2 Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions.

2. *Faith says, I will thrive.*

Hebrews 11:9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Hebrews 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

A. Fear is thecrippler of faith.

B. Impatience is the enemy of faith.

C. Pride is the imposter of faith.

Matthew 4:5-7 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

D. Intimacy is the fuel of faith.

- Faith without friendship is foolish.

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God's friend.

3. Faith says, I will trust.

Hebrews 11:11-12 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

A. Guard your heart as you trust in God.

Proverbs 4:23-25 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you.

B. Believe that today's impossibilities are tomorrow's blessings.

4. Faith says, I will long for something better.

Hebrews 11:13-16 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

A. Are you willing to be a part of God's plan, or is God just a part of yours?

Genesis 12:1-3 The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

B. Life is not about you being blessed but about you living to be a blessing.