

A SERMON FROM GENESIS

Abraham

The Father of Faith

Genesis 12, 17, 22

August 2, 2026



1

GENESIS 12:1–9

The Morning of Faith

Trusting God's Promise Without All the Answers

“Go...to the land that I will show you.” (Genesis 12:1)

God did not give Abram a map—He gave him a promise.

Faith begins with hearing God's Word

Faith always starts when God speaks. We do not create faith by positive thinking; we respond to God's revelation.

“

Romans 10:17 (ESV)

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Faith begins to obey before it understands

Abram left home without knowing his destination because he trusted the One who was leading.

“

Hebrews 11:8 (ESV)

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Faith begins to worship while it waits

Abram built altars throughout Canaan before he ever possessed the land.

“

Psalm 37:3–5 (ESV)

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.



2

GENESIS 17

The Midday of Faith

Believing God's Impossible Promise

God changed Abram's name before Isaac was born.

The promise seemed impossible—yet God had already spoken.

God often transforms us before He changes our circumstances

God renamed Abram “Abraham” before the promise was fulfilled.

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2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Faith trusts in God's power rather than human ability

Abraham believed although both he and Sarah were beyond childbearing years.

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Romans 4:20–21 (ESV)

No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

Faith is tempered through times of waiting

Twenty-five years passed between God's promise and Isaac's birth.

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Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)

But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

3

GENESIS 22

The Midnight of Faith

Trusting God When You Cannot Understand

The greatest crisis of Abraham's faith.

How could a good God ask this?

Faith trusts through trials and tests because they refine us

Testing is not God's rejection—it is His refining.

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James 1:2–4 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Faith trusts God's character when circumstances make no sense

Abraham believed God would keep His promise, even if Isaac had to be raised from the dead. Trust God's heart when you cannot trace His hand.

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Hebrews 11:19 (ESV)

He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Faith trusts God with everything—even what we treasure most

Abraham withheld nothing from the Lord.

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Romans 8:32 (ESV)

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

4

HEBREWS 11; JAMES 2

The Marks of Faith

What Genuine Faith Looks Like

The New Testament points to Abraham as the supreme example of living faith.

Genuine faith always leaves a mark.

Faith delights in God's promises (and depends on them)

Hebrews repeatedly says, "By faith..."

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Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Faith determines to obey God's commands

James points to Abraham's willingness to offer Isaac.

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James 2:22 (ESV)

You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works.

Faith demonstrates itself by a changed life

Saving faith is never merely intellectual—it becomes visible in obedience.

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Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.