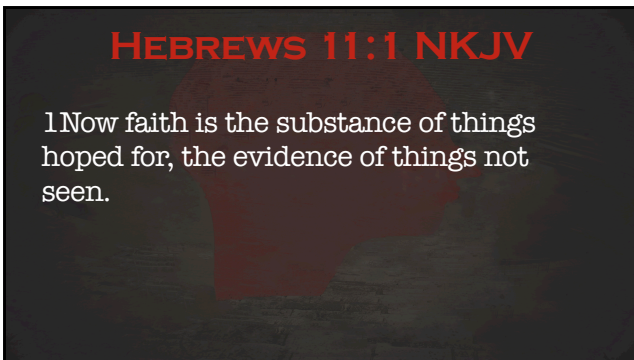




1



2



3

FEAR WE'RE NOT ENOUGH

Every man fears that the world is asking him to be something he doubts very much he has it in him to be.

John Eldredge

4

HEBREWS 11:11-12

11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

5

ISAIAH 10:27

In that day their burden will be lifted from your shoulders, their yoke from your neck; the yoke will be broken because you have grown so fat.

6

STRENGTHEN FAITH

God strengthens faith by confronting our greatest fears

7

GENESIS 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

8

GENESIS 18:1-15

2 Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

9

GENESIS 18:1-15

3 He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. 4 Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree.

10

GENESIS 18:1-15

5 Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

11

GENESIS 18:1-15

6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of fine flour and knead it and bake some bread."

12

GENESIS 18:1-15

7 Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.

13

GENESIS 18:1-15

8 He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

14

GENESIS 18:1-15

9 “Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him. “There, in the tent,” he said.

15

GENESIS 18:1-15

10 Then the Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.

16

GENESIS 18:1-15

11 Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

17

GENESIS 18:1-15

12 So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

18

GENESIS 18:1-15

13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?'"

19

GENESIS 18:1-15

14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son." 15 Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

20

FAITH STRENGTHEN

- 1. Sarah transitions from passive to active in serving the Lord

21

PREPARED FOR SERVICE

- 1. Abraham offers, God accepts
- 2. Abraham invites Sarah to help prepare the offering
- 3. The offering is hospitality where Sarah would likely excel
- 4. First Biblical account of Sarah participating in an offering.

22

WE ARE BEING PREPARED

“It is remarkable that God would take time to prepare us for our ultimate work”

RT Kendall

23

HEBREWS 11:11-12 NKJV

11 By faith Sarah herself also **received** strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

24

RECEIVED

Greek word *Lambanō* :
take hold of, grab, grasp, acquire,
obtain possession, collect taxes or
interest, select, choose, prefer, come
to believe, accept and behave as true,
experience, put on (clothes)

25

STRENGTHEN FAITH

God strengthens faith by
confronting our greatest fears

26

JUDGED FAITHFUL

1. Sarah transitions from passive to active in serving the Lord
2. Faith in the God of hard things

27

THE GOD WHO KNOWS ME

13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

28

ISAIAH 9:6

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

29

GOD OF HARD THINGS

He revealed Himself to Sarah as the faithful God of the hard things too difficult for her to handle. He truly is the wonderful counselor who strengthens and guides into our divine calling.

30

STRENGTHEN FAITH

God strengthens faith by confronting our greatest fears

31

JUDGED FAITHFUL

1. Sarah transitions from passive to active in serving the Lord
2. He is the God of the hard things
3. From laughter to fear of the Lord

32

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Gen 18:12 So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"

33

GENESIS 18:1-15

13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?'" 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son." 15 Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

34

1 PETER 3:6

6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

35

HEBREWS 4:12

12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

36

STRENGTHEN FAITH

God strengthens faith by
confronting our greatest fears

37

FACE 2 FAITH

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

Faith Strengthened



38