

The Faith Challenge

Then the LORD told Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. I will cause you to become the father of a great nation...All the families of the earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:1-3 (NLT)

And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD declared him righteous because of his faith.

Genesis 15:6 (NLT)

But God replied, "Sarah, your wife, will bear you a son. You will name him Isaac, and I will confirm my everlasting covenant with him and his descendants."

Genesis 17:19 (NLT)

What is true faith?

1. **A spiritual power forged in challenging times.**

Later on God tested Abraham's faith and obedience.

Genesis 22:1 (TLB)

- **Faith demonstrates my trust in God.**

Without faith no one can please God. Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real and that he rewards those who truly want to find him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NCV)

- **Faith is purified in the fire.**

The purpose of these troubles is to test your faith as fire tests how genuine gold is. Your faith is more precious than gold, and by passing the test, it gives praise, glory, and honor to God...

1 Peter 1:7 (GWT)

2. **It is believing before seeing.**

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son Isaac... Genesis 22:3 (NLT)

Isaac said, "Father?" "Yes, my son," Abraham replied. "We have the wood and the fire," said the boy, "but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" "God will provide a lamb, my son," Abraham answered. And they both went on together.

Genesis 22:7-8 (NLT)

What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see.

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

3. **It is always rewarded.**

This is what the LORD says: "Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your beloved son, I swear by my own self that I will bless you richly. I will multiply your descendants into countless millions, like the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. They will conquer their enemies, and through your descendants, all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me."

Genesis 22:16-18 (NLT)

Then the LORD did exactly what he had promised. Sarah became pregnant, and she gave a son to Abraham in his old age. It all happened at the time God had said it would. And Abraham named his son Isaac.

Genesis 21:1-3 (NLT)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16 (NLT)

In my daily life...

I will mature my faith through obedience.

I will appreciate times of testing.

I will believe that my faith will be rewarded.