



Overview: Faithfulness (Abraham)



Story:

God called Abraham to leave his family and country to be the father of a nation from which the world's salvation would come. Abraham left his homeland of Ur with his family, even though he didn't know where he was going, because he had faith in God. Abraham's wife, Sarah, could not have children, so having a family through Sarah was impossible, but by God's power, Abraham and Sarah had a son named Issac, the "promised seed." God made an everlasting covenant with Abraham that all children after Issac who put their faith in God would inherit the promise of Abraham. So, all who have faith in God (Jews and non-Jews) are children of God through Abraham's family line.

Key Bible Verses:

- God calls Abraham to leave everything familiar to him and promises to bless him and all the nations of the earth through him. (Gen. 12:1-3)
- Abraham was 100, and Sarah was 90 when Issac was born. (Gen. 21:5)
- God calls Abraham to sacrifice his son. (Gen. 22:1-2)

Lessons from Abraham

What made Abraham great was God's calling and testing of his life and Abraham's faith in God. God promised Abraham he would be the father of many and all nations would receive blessings through him. God continually tested Abraham by calling him from comfortable places to uncertain situations. Abraham repeatedly failed the tests when he didn't trust God. Abraham saw God's promise going one way and the blessing going another. Abraham lied and said his wife was his sister because he didn't trust God would protect him, and when he thought Sarah was too old to have a child, he had a son with Hager. Every time Abraham put his wisdom against God's, he failed. Though Abraham did not always act perfectly, his obedience showed his faith in God. In the last test to sacrifice his son, Isaac, Abraham finally learned to trust God. ***It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)***



Lesson: Faithfulness (Abraham)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)

What is faithfulness?

- Faithfulness means you are steadfast, loyal, trustworthy, reliable, and true to your word.
- God always does what He says He will do and He keeps all His promises; we are to be faithful to God because God is faithful to us.

Testing, Trusting, Obeying

- Tests show you where you're at in an area, and then challenges you to grow and improve—a test shows you and grows you.
- God sometimes tests us so we can trust Him and know He is our security because our identity must be in Him above all else.

How can I have faithfulness?

- Study, pray, and obey: study God's Word and pray about what God has done for you until you feel it, then, act as if it is true.
- Know God's blessing in Abraham, trust God's promise to bless those who bless Abraham, and pray for faithfulness like Abraham.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Who or what gets first place in your life?
Thought Challenge: What does putting God first in your life mean?
- Conversation Starter: Share a time when you were disobedient.
Thought Challenge: Was that a test to trust God's plan not yours?

Lessons

- Abraham learned that God was more important than his culture, home, family, and the things he owned.
- God tests us to grow our faith so we can let go of our false "gods" and look to the one true God for our security and identity.

Scripture: Faithfulness (Abraham)



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When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." (Gen. 17:1-2)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. (Gen. 22:1-3)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)

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. (Heb, 11:8)

By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. (Heb. 11:9-19)

Take-away: Faithfulness (Abraham)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)



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