



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

CALLED & CHOSEN Volume 2

#3 Learning to Trust God (Ishmael is Born)

Genesis 15:1 – Genesis 18:15



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

(Repeat 2x with Congregation)

PROVERBS 3:6

*"In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths."*

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

IF I CHOOSE TO LEAVE GOD AND GO MY OWN WAY
THERE WILL BE SAD CONSEQUENCES I HAVE TO PAY
BUT ALL OF THOSE SORROWS I CAN LEAVE BEHIND IF
I CHOOSE TO TRUST JESUS SO HIS BLESSINGS ARE MINE

INTRODUCTION: Last week we saw that there are always consequences to every choice we make, either to receive blessing or cursing. God chose Abraham to be the father of a nation of people who would be holy for God to prepare the way for our Savior to be born. God promised to make a great nation from Abraham's descendants, and Abraham believed God, but Abraham's wife Sarah was already 90 years old so that would not even be possible. How was God going to bring them a son?

ORDER OF SERVICE:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 2. Children's Songs & Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | |

OBJECTS TO BRING: Blessing Heart and Flashlight, Pages of Stars for Gospel Craft

2. LIFE PARABLE: Keep Your Eyes On The Light Ahead!

Jane and Donald were on vacation with their mom and dad in the mountains. Mom found a giant cave that was having a tour, so they got tickets and waited until the tour guide came. Jane and Donald were nervous when he held up a big lantern, and they saw how dark it was inside that cave! Dad told them, "As long as you keep your eyes on the light ahead you won't have to worry about getting lost." They thought about that as they followed the park ranger into the cave but they were so excited!

Inside the cave, it was so dark, they had to stay very close together and follow the person in front of them. Sometimes they could not see the light themselves, but could hear the voice of Ranger Bob and they followed the line of people following the light of the lantern.



They saw interesting rock formations, pools of water, bats, and drawings on the walls where some people had lived a long time ago! The trip through the cave was soon over and they didn't have to worry about losing their way, because they followed the light like their dad said, and they came out safely. But there were three kids who went off their own way, and didn't make it out with the group. More park rangers came to find those kids who had gone their own way. The kids were wet and scraped up from falling off a ledge, but they sure were glad they had been found!

Jane and Donald thought about what their dad said, "As long as you keep your eyes on the light ahead you won't have to worry about getting lost." Donald remembered their pastor had told them that Jesus is the light of the world. Donald thought about how **that winding path in the cave is like our life, where we never know what's ahead, but if we trust in Jesus and follow His light, we never to worry about losing our way because Jesus will bring us through our life safely,** just like Jane and Donald came out safely because they followed the light of Ranger Bob's lantern!

In our Bible story today, Abraham makes a mistake when he follows his wife instead of following the light of God. God promises Abraham that he will have a son when he is 99 years old and his wife is too old to have a baby! Abraham and Sarah believed God at first, but when a baby did not come, Sarah trusted her own understanding and they made a huge mistake. Then Abraham and Sarah learned to trust God, and God kept His promise.

3. WHEN ABRAHAM ASKS FOR A SON, GOD REVEALS TO HIM SO MUCH MORE THAN HE CAN ASK OR THINK.

Abraham had just from a round of fierce battles to save his wayward nephew Lot. He must have been exhausted with everything going so wrong when he was trying so hard to please God, and so discouraged about his future when he went to the Lord in prayer. God was faithful to comfort Abraham and show him a vision of what He was about to do. Oh, that when we are weary and ready to give up, if we will remember to just go to Jesus and tell Him about it. God will give you a vision of His plan for you so that you may follow, and He will be faithful to you, just as He was faithful to Abraham.

1 Thessalonians 5:24 "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."



Genesis 15:1-5 "After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. ² And Abram said, LORD God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? ³ And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. ⁴ And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. ⁵ And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. ⁶ And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness"

Wow, what an amazing night for Abraham, to look up at all those stars, and see the promise of his future family...Abraham believed God! And here we are by faith in the seed of Abraham who is Jesus Christ alive in our hearts, so that we are the living seed of Abraham, just as numerous as all the stars - just as God promised!

Galatians 3:29 "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

God wants your heart, He wants you to believe that He is able!

4. GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM BUT SHOWS COMING JUDGMENT FOLLOWED BY PROMISE.

Genesis 15:7-10 “And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. ⁸ And he said, **LORD God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?** ⁹ And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. ¹⁰ **And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.** ¹⁰ **And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.**”

God’s promises have always been inextricably tied to His blood covenant, because it is He would come as Savior and LORD to shed His own blood for our sins, that we might live with Him forever. Abraham laid out the sacrifice looking forward to the coming Savior.



Genesis 15:12-16 “And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ And he said unto Abram, **Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;** ¹⁴ And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and **afterward shall they come out with great substance.** ¹⁵ And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ But **in the fourth generation they shall come hither again...** ¹⁸ **In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates...**”



Abraham was one amazing man to shoulder the heaviness of such a big vision. After the sadness of having no hope for a child for nearly 100 years, and now to know that his wife would have a son the very next year! Knowing that his descendants would be so many, but they would suffer such harsh judgment, would be a huge burden and a huge responsibility!

5. ABRAHAM & SARAH CAUSE A DISASTER BY MAKING THEIR OWN PLAN INSTEAD OF TRUSTING THE LORD.

***Proverbs 3:5-6** "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."*

We must always wait on the Lord, but after God gave the visions to Abraham, and months went by with still no child, Sarah decided to trust her own understanding of their circumstances. She did not believe God like Abraham, and figured since she was the one who couldn't give Abraham the promised blessing, she told Abraham to take her maid, Hagar, and have a son with her – so he did!

***Genesis 16:1-4** "Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. ² And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. ³ And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, **and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.** ⁴ **And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived:** and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes."*



Sarah forced her maid Hagar to allow Abraham to make her pregnant with a baby who would belong to Sarah, so of course Hagar hated Sarah! To make matters worse, instead of being sorry, Sarah blamed her sin on poor Abraham!

***Genesis 16:5-6** "And Sarai said unto Abram, **My wrong be upon thee:** I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee. ⁶ But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid is in thine hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face."*

How often when disastrous results reveal their sins, do God's people look for someone else to blame? But God sees and He cares.

6. GOD SEES YOUR PAIN - HE KNOWS AND HE CARES

Sometimes you may suffer because of your own sin, or sometimes because another has sinned against you like Sarah & Abraham sinned against Hagar. Jesus cares because He loves you, and wants you to trust His way.



Genesis 16:7-12 “*And **the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness**, by the fountain in the way to Shur. ⁸ And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. ⁹ And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and **submit thyself under her hands**. ¹⁰ And **the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly**, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. ¹¹ And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, **thou art with child and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction**. ¹² And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.*”

God blessed Hagar in her grief, but she had to go back and face those who hurt her. Sometimes the Lord will ask you to endure a painful situation at the mercy of those who are mean to you while He is working out His plan. You may not see Him but He is with you.

Genesis 16:13-16 “*And **she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?** ¹⁴ Wherefore the well was called Beerlahairoi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered. ¹⁵ And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael. ¹⁶ **And Abram was fourscore and six years old (86), when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.***”

God appeared to O.T. saints, speaking through various angels so His people could see Him. After God became flesh in His son, He now speaks to us through His word, and through His indwelling Spirit.

Hebrews 1:1-2 “*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ² hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son....*”

7. GOD KNOWS HOW YOU FEEL, AND GOD HEARS YOU.

Isaiah 53:2-4 "... he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."



God heard Hagar when she was so mistreated. Her son's name, Ishmael, means "God Hears". As a man, Jesus was rejected too. Jesus understood how Hagar felt, and He hears you when you grieve. God sent an angel to comfort Hagar and told her to go back, to be Sarah's maid, and promised that though her son would be a wild man he would be blessed! Ishmael was not the baby God had promised to Abraham, but Hagar went back, and baby Ishmael was born.

OBJECT LESSON: White Heart & Flashlight

Directions: Cut out 2 hearts from white paper.

Write "Jesus Blesses Me" on only one heart, then place behind the plain white heart & staple the edges.



Sometimes we pray and we want to trust God, but when we do not yet see His blessing, and we do not feel an answer in our heart, we may start to doubt. *(Hold up the heart that appears to be blank.)*

God loved Abraham and promised him many blessings but Abraham did not see any answer, and he could he feel an answer in his heart. When Abraham could not see the blessings of God, he began to doubt God. Has that ever happened to you? It happens to all of us. **We are no different than God's people in the Bible. It is hard for us too, when we believe God but we don't see His blessing!**

It is more difficult to feel blessed when our world seems to be falling apart, but that does not mean the blessings are not there.

That's all the more reason to speak and stand on the word of God. When you pray God's word into your life and believe His word, His light shines through and blessing comes, *(turn on flashlight)*

SEE?! THOSE BLESSINGS WERE THERE ALL THE TIME!

8. GOD TOLD ABRAHAM TO WALK PERFECTLY WITH HIM AS HIS PART OF GOD’S COVENANT PROMISE.



Genesis 17:1-2 “And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. ² And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.”

What does it mean when God says to walk before Him and be perfect?

Colossians 4:12 “...always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God”

The message of the New Testament is the same as the Old: Being perfect before God does not mean that we will not make mistakes, but the New Testament reflects and confirms God’s word in the Old Testament, that we will become perfect and complete by following God’s way the best we can with our whole heart, like Abraham.

Genesis 18:19 “For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”

God ties us to Himself to us by a covenant that He will not break, though we can. God cannot lead us into the blessing place of His covenant promise, if we let go of our end of the rope! The Bible does not teach that His promises are unconditional for anyone who chooses to let go of God’s way to follow their own way! God’s promises are always for those who believe. We see that consistent pattern from Adam and Eve, to Israel, to today.

Psalms 37:45 “Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. ⁵ Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.”

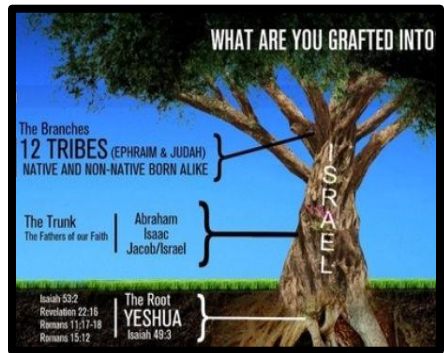
God made His covenant with Abraham because God knew Abraham would commit his whole heart to serving God and follow to the end. Hang on to God’s promise, follow Him, and don’t let go of the rope!

9. GOD MADE HIS COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM AND WITH HIS ‘SEED’ BASED UPON HIS FOREKNOWLEDGE.

1 Peter 1:2 “*Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*”

Galatians 3:28-29 “*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*”

Ishmael was Abraham’s son by birth but he was not counted as Abraham’s seed according to faith. The seed of Abraham have always been recognized by God, not by birth, but those who belong to God’s covenant by faith; unbelieving branches are cut off when they let go of God’ to follow their own way.



John 15:5-6 “*I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ⁶ If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.*”

Romans 11:20-21 “*Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: ²¹ For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.*”

God’s covenant has always been only with believing Israel, who became the family of God by faith: Only by faith has anyone ever been called Israel; many in Israel were broken off for unbelief. **Romans 9:6** “*...For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel.*” We are grafted into the vine of (Yeshua) Jesus Christ by faith, but if anyone was broken off for unbelief, they can be grafted in again, by faith!

Romans 11:23 “*And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.*”

10. GOD WILL KEEP HIS COVENANT TO ABRAHAM'S SEED TO LIVE IN THE PROMISED LAND FOREVER!

God kept His promise to make many nations of Abraham and He blessed Ishmael who became the father of the Arab nations, but God's covenant was with Abraham's 'seed' that is born by faith.

Genesis 17:3-8 "And Abram fell on his face: and **God talked with him, saying,** ***4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.*** ***6*** And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. ***7*** And **I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.** ***8*** And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, **the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession;** and I will be their God."

God's promise of eternal life given to believers today, is the same promise given to believing Israel who died in faith, and shall be fulfilled at the resurrection! Abraham's seed who are the elect for salvation, are raised to life by the breath of God, transformed in the twinkling of an eye, and placed in the promised land together!

MATTHEW 24:30-31 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and **they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.** ***31*** And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."



God's covenant with Abraham is to His seed of the promise by faith. Everlasting is not a promise for this life, that passes away when all things are burned, but is a promise for all eternity! Jesus will come to gather His seed to the promised Land in the earth made new!

Ezekiel 37:13-14 "And **ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,** ***14*** **And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land:** then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD."

11. GOD GAVE PROMISE THAT SARAH WOULD BIRTH A SON WHEN ABRAHAM WAS 100 AND SARAH WAS 90, IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO RECEIVE GOD'S PROMISE!

Can this impossible thing really happen? Yes, our God is able!

Genesis 17:15-19 “*And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. ¹⁶ And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. ¹⁷ Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? ¹⁸ And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee! ¹⁹ And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.*”



We have made and will continue to make many mistakes in our lives, and may feel that the opportunity has passed, but God wants us to know that he forgives mistakes, and He still wants to bless us!

Genesis 17:20-22 “*And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. ²¹ But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year. ²² And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.*”

Genesis 17:23-27 “*And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶ In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son. ²⁷ And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.*”

Just as God knew Abraham would do, Abraham was faithful to make his family and servants obey God. Can we do any less for our Lord?

Romans 12:1-2 “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*”

12. THE OLD TESTAMENT SIGN OF CIRCUMCISION AND NEW TESTAMENT BAPTISM ARE THE TOKEN OR SIGN OF GOD'S COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE.

Romans 4:11-13 “*And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised; that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also... who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.* ¹³ **For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.**”



The Bible tells us that baptism is the New Testament circumcision that is made without hands, which replaces Old Testament circumcision as the token or sign of God's covenant with his people.

Colossians 2:10-12 “*And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: ¹¹ In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: ¹² **Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.**”*

Genesis 17:9-14 “*And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.* ¹⁰ *This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised....* ¹² *And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.* ¹³ *He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.* ¹⁴ *And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.*”

Is it judgmental to cut people off for believing differently than you? We are keep the way of the Lord, and keep ourselves pure and unspotted from the world that believes differently. Those who do not keep God's way have made their choice not to be His people.

13. BY FAITH, ABRAHAM CHOSE LIFE AND BLESSING!



Genesis 18:1-14 “And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; ² And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground.... ⁹ And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. ¹⁰ And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. ¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? ¹³ And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? ¹⁴ Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return to thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son...”

Is anything too hard for the Lord? No! Everything God says He will do, He will do. When God said the word, Abraham looked at the impossibility of having a son when he and Sarah were far beyond the ability to have a child of their own, and he chose to believe God. We have God’s word to us in our Bibles, and His promises are still true. Let’s stop trusting in our circumstances more than we trust in God, and believe His word that He will do what He says He will do!

Romans 4:18-20 “(Abraham) Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. ¹⁹ And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah’s womb: ²⁰ He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God.”

Believe God **ESPECIALLY** when you face the impossible! Our faith becomes perfect when our actions show that we fully trust God.

14. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME

1. When we do not wait for God, but leave the light of God's word to find a better way, we will find nothing but trouble!
2. God promise of blessing is us more than we can ask or think.
3. I can trust Jesus who always keeps His promises to me.
4. God sees my pain, He knows, and He cares for me.
5. God chose Abraham because He could trust him to rule the ways of his household, the church, and God expects the same from us.
6. God expects me to be perfect by following His perfect way.
7. God knew who would choose to follow Him before creation, because He lives in eternity where there is no beginning or end.
8. God will keep His covenant to Abraham's seed who are those who believe in Him, and He will keep His promise at the resurrection, to place them to live in the promised land forever!
9. Even when your life is spoiled by sins or mistakes committed by others, God will still bless you.
10. All the promises in God's word given to Abraham, are for you today when Jesus lives in your heart and you believe His word.

John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, you may be also."

Galatians 3:29 "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

2 Corinthians 1:20 "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

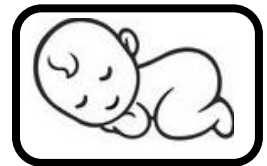
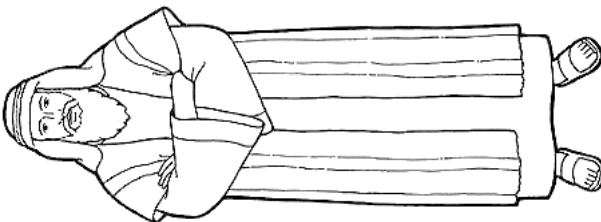
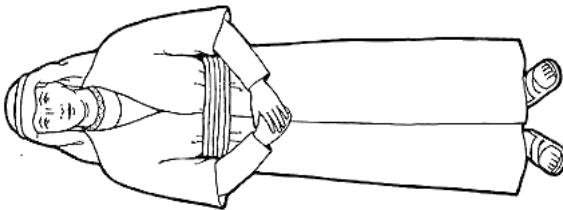
PRAY TOGETHER:

Our Father in Christ,** I'm sorry that I have not followed You in all my ways, and I ask you to forgive me. I surrender all of myself to you and commit my way to trust you and your plan for me with all my heart. Help me not to trust my own reasoning to figure out what to do, but may I always trust only in you and wait for your blessing. Thank you, Jesus, that You came to die on the cross for my sins and heal all my sicknesses. Lord Jesus, thank you for being my Lord and Savior. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and help me to live my life for You until you come, **In Jesus name, Amen.

15. GOSPEL CRAFT

Directions:

1. Enlarge to 8 ½ x 11, color tent, Abraham, Sarah & baby, and cut out.
2. Cut door of tent on dotted line, fold flaps up, glue tent to blue background.
3. Give each child a page of adhesive silver stars to stick to sky above the tent.
4. Glue baby Isaac inside tent, close flaps, glue Abraham & Sarah outside tent.
5. Open doors to surprise Abraham & Sarah!



ABRAHAM AND SARAH LEARNED TO TRUST IN GOD

1897 BC

When Abraham was 99 years old, God promised that his wife Sarah, would have a son even though she was too old to have a baby! The baby did not come right away, so they chose to have a son their own way by using Hagar, Sarah's maid! Hagar was very sad, but God heard Hagar when she cried out to Him, and God promised to bless Hagar and her son. In another year, when Abraham and Sarah trusted God, He blessed them with the son God had promised, Isaac.



PROVERBS 3:5-6 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."*