

BRIDERTH

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INTRODUCTION

Hebrews 11 is an amazing insight into the faith of many Old Testament characters. Abraham, however, is given more verses than any other.

READING

Hebrews 11:8-19

Verse 1 of chapter 11 in The Passion Translation says "Faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen."

As we look at the story of Abraham this week, we will see a man who had his ups and downs in his faith journey but, like verse 8 said: *"faith motivated Abraham to obey."*

As we begin this new week let us allow our faith to be stretched to obey and believe for the impossible.

PRAYER

Lord, help my faith to be stretched this week to obey you and believe for the impossible.

READING

Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:8

Key verse: "God said to Abraham, 'Leave it all behind... so that you will be a tremendous source of blessing for others." Genesis 12:1,2 (TPT)

"Faith motivated Abraham to obey." Hebrews 11:8

A life of faith is a life of obedience. As we will see with Abraham's life, he wasn't perfect, but he did know how to take giant leaps of faith along with his family which would ultimately bless the world. Through his seed Jesus would come!

Today, let us take steps of faith, maybe with our families to see others blessed through our obedience.

PRAYER

Lord, help my obedience to bring blessings to others.

READING

Hebrews 11:8; Genesis 13:14-18

Key phrase: "So he left with only a promise."

Bold faith requires us to live daily by the promises God has spoken over our lives. We may all feel like Abraham that we are walking into the unknown at the moment, let me encourage you to review the promises God has made over your life and boldly walk forward even if the way seems scary.

Perhaps at the beginning of this new year you may want to ask God for a specific promise to hold onto. Mine is: *"The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will trust in Him."* Lamentations 3:24 and it is on my fridge so that I look at it several times a day!

PRAYER

Lord, help me today to recall your promises over my life and hold onto them as I walk forward.

READING

Genesis 15:4-6; 17:1-8

Key verses: 15:1(TPT) "Abraham, don't yield to fear, for I am your Faithful Shield and your Abundant Reward."

17:1(TPT) "I am the Lord who is more than enough."

Abraham's faith was tested over many years and he clearly, at times, failed to see how God could possibly come through for him. BUT as we learn from him, even in the midst of our most challenging times, when we cannot see a way ahead, God has a new word for us to give us strength and courage to continue.

Today, "don't yield to fear" but be assured that our God is "more than enough."

PRAYER

Lord, forgive me when I yield to fear, give me faith to hold onto the promise that you are "more than enough."

READING:

Genesis 18

Key verse 14 (TPT) "Do you think there is anything too marvellous, (wonderful, extraordinary) for God?"

Abraham is still believing for his miracle and his wife Sarah is clearly struggling to accept the promise, so God reminds them again. Today, come back to when you started believing for your miracle and hold on!

What is interesting in Abraham's story is that in the middle of his own challenges he is faced with his nephew's challenge and in the rest of chapter 18 he has to plead with God persistently. God always challenges our bold faith to be diverted from ourselves to believe for others and when we do God hears! Genesis 19:20 (TPT) *"God... remembered his affection for Abraham and spared Lot."*

Let us be people who pray bold prayers over our nation, our neighbours, our church and our families this week.

PRAYER

Lord today I pray boldly for our nation, my neighbours, my church family and my own family that you will do miracles that are marvellous, wonderful and extraordinary!