

## The Faith of Abraham

### Lesson 3

#### Walking In A Hoping Growing Faith

## The Faith of Abraham

1. An obedient faith
2. Justified by a believing trusting working faith
3. Walking in a hoping growing faith
4. "if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants,"

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## Justified By A Believing Trusting Working Faith

1. No one including Abraham can be justified by perfect law keeping
2. Abraham believed and trusted in the only just merciful God enough to obey Him
3. Abraham offered Isaac showing his trusting working faith in God
4. We must believe and trust in the only just merciful God enough to obey Him

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## Walking In A Hoping Growing Faith

- Abraham hoped in a faithful God to fulfill all of His promises despite visible evidence all was hopeless
- His faith, at times imperfect, grew stronger over time
- He hoped in God's power to bring him a son, give his descendants Canaan, make him a father of many nations, save his soul and bring him to heaven and bless all nations through his seed

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## Walking In A Hoping Growing Faith

1. The promised son and connected promises
2. At times Abraham relied on human wisdom and power
3. Over time his faith grew stronger hoping against hope
4. His faith became more patient trusting in God's faithfulness and power
5. We must walk in a hoping growing faith in Christ today

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## The Promised Son And Connected Promises

Gen 12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you;

Gen 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing;

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## The Promised Son And Connected Promises

Gen 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Gen 12:4 So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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## The Promised Son And Connected Promises

Gen 12:7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.

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## The Promise Was By Grace Through Faith

Rom 4:13 For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Rom 4:14 For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified;

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## The Promise Was By Grace Through Faith

Rom 4:15 for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation.

Rom 4:16 For this reason *it is* by faith, in order that *it may be* in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all,

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## The Promise Was By Grace Through Faith

Rom 4:17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, *even* God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.

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## At Times Abraham Relied On Human Wisdom And Power

Gen 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

Gen 15:2 Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

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## At Times Abraham Relied On Human Wisdom And Power

Gen 15:3 And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir."

Gen 15:4 Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir."

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## At Times Abraham Relied On Human Wisdom And Power

Gen 16:1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no *children*, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.

Gen 16:2 So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing *children*. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

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## At Times Abraham Relied On Human Wisdom And Power

Gen 16:3 After Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife.

Gen 16:4 He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight.

Gen 16:16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to him.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Rom 4:18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE."

Rom 4:19 Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Rom 4:20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

Rom 4:21 and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.

Rom 4:22 Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:1 Now 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.

Gen 17:5 "No longer shall your name be called Abram, But your name shall be Abraham; For I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:10 "This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised.

Gen 17:11 "And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:12 "And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations, a *servant* who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

Gen 17:15 Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah *shall be* her name.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:16 "I will bless her, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be a *mother of* nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a man one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a *child*?"

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:18 And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before You!"

Gen 17:19 But God said, "No, but Sarah your wife will bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 17:23 Then Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all *the servants* who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's household, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him.

Gen 17:24 Now Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 21:1 Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised.

Gen 21:2 So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.

Gen 21:3 Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

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## Over Time His Faith Grew Stronger Hoping Against Hope

Gen 21:4 Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.

Gen 21:5 Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

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## His Faith Became More Patient Trusting In God's Faithfulness And Power

Gen 22:15 Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven,

Gen 22:16 and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

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## His Faith Became More Patient Trusting In God's Faithfulness And Power

Gen 22:17 indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Gen 22:18 "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

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## His Faith Became More Patient Trusting In God's Faithfulness And Power

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son;

Heb 11:18 *it was he* to whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED."

Heb 11:19 He considered that God is able to raise *people* even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.<sup>28</sup>

## Walking In A Hoping Growing Faith

1. The promised son and connected promises
2. At times Abraham relied on human wisdom and power
3. Over time his faith grew stronger hoping against hope
4. His faith became more patient trusting in God's faithfulness and power
5. We must walk in a hoping growing faith in Christ today

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## Walking In A Hoping Growing Faith

- Unlike Abraham, we have even more evidence of God's faithful powerful Word
- Like Abraham, we are to have a hoping faith based on the unfailing promises of God who cannot lie
- Because of our faith in God, we hope to be forgiven of our sins, be more like Jesus, patiently endure trials, be raised from the dead and spend eternity in heaven
- Sadly the world only hopes in this life

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## Hope An Essential Part of Faith That Is Based On God's Word

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Rom 10:17 So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

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## Hope An Essential Part of Faith That Is Based On God's Word

1Co 15:1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

1Co 15:2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

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## Hope An Essential Part of Faith That Is Based On God's Word

1Co 15:3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 1Co 15:4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

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## We Hope To Be Saved By The Blood of Christ

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Mat 26:32 "But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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## We Hope To Be Saved By The Blood of Christ

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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## We Hope To Be Saved By The Blood of Christ

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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## We Hope To Be Saved By The Blood of Christ

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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## We Hope To Become More Like Jesus

Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

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## We Hope To Become More Like Jesus

Eph 3:19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

Eph 3:21 to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

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## We Hope To Become More Like Jesus

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Rom 8:24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees?

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom 5:2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

Rom 5:3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Rom 5:4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;  
Rom 5:5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

2Co 1:8 For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came *to us* in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life;  
2Co 1:9 indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

2Co 1:10 who delivered us from so great a *peril of death*, and will deliver *us*, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,  
2Co 1:11 you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through *the prayers of many*.

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Heb 6:13 For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,  
Heb 6:14 saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."  
Heb 6:15 And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Heb 6:16 For men swear by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *given* as confirmation is an end of every dispute.  
Heb 6:17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.  
Heb 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

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## We Hope To Become More Patient Enduring All Trials

Heb 6:20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

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## Abraham's Faith Like Ours Hoped For Heaven

Heb 11:13 All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

Heb 11:14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.

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## Abraham's Faith Like Ours Hoped For Heaven

Heb 11:15 And indeed if they had been thinking of that *country* from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.

Heb 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better *country*, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Th 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Th 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

1Th 4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

1Pe 1:4 to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Pe 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1Pe 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Pe 1:7 so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1Pe 1:8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

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## We Hope To Be Raised From The Dead and Receive Eternal Life

1Pe 1:9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

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## Like Abraham's Faith Our Faith Must Also Grow

Rom 4:12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

2Th 1:3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is *only* fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows *ever* greater;

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