



Genesis

THE STORY BEGINS

Genesis 25:1-18

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16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

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Genesis 25:1, 5-6

1 Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. [...] 5 Abraham gave all he had to Isaac. 6 But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country.

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Genesis 25:7-11

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Genesis 15:3-4

3 And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." 4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."

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Heir: Fulfilled

Romans 4:19-22

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Heir: Fulfilled

Do we have faith when God's promises feel impossible?

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Genesis 15:5-6

5 And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

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Galatians 3:16

16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ



Offspring: Unfulfilled

Romans 4:20-25

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Offspring: Unfulfilled

Do we have faith in God's promises when we feel unworthy?



Genesis 15:7

7 And he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.”



Possess Canaan: ½ Fulfilled

Do we have faith in God's promises when they feel unobtainable?



Genesis 15:13-14, 16, 18-21

12 But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named. 13 And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring."

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Egypt & Exodus: Unfulfilled

Do we have faith in God's promises when they feel distant?



Genesis 15:15

15 As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. [...]



Genesis 25:8

8 Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people.



Good Old Age: Fulfilled

Do we have faith in God's promises when they feel worldly, or earthly focused?



Genesis 25:12-18

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Genesis 25:16

16 These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes.



Genesis 17:20

20 As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation



Twelve Princes: Fulfilled

Do we have faith in God's promises when we feel honored?

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Genesis 25:17-18

17 (These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.) 18 They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. He settled over against all his kinsmen.

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Genesis 16:11-12

11 And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has listened to your affliction. 12 He shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

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Over Against – Fulfilled

Do we have faith in God when His promise feels scary?

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Feels Impossible

The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 4:6-7

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Feel Unworthy

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. – 1 John 1:9



Feels Unobtainable

28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” – Matthew 11:28-29

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Feels Distant

13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. – 2 Peter 3:13



Feels Worldly

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

– Matthew 6:33



Feel Honored

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

– 1 John 3:1

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Feels Scary

For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” - Hebrews 12:6



Do we have faith when

- The promise feels impossible?
- We feel unworthy of the promise?
- The promise feels unobtainable?
- The promise feels distant?
- When we feel worldly about the promise?
- We feel honored by the promise?
- The promise feels scary?

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