

## Heroes – Abraham – 2

### Hebrews 11:1-3

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. NKJV

### Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside every weight**, and the **sin** which so easily ensnares us, **and let us run with endurance** the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. NKJV

- Faith strips off every weight
- Faith says no to sin
  - once God convicts you of something you choose to turn or continue
  - He will not convict you of something you already know
  - Well I don't feel convicted
- Faith runs with endurance
- Faith focuses on Jesus
- Faith focuses on the lives of others who have lived by it
- Seek those things where Christ is – **Colossians 3:1**

### Genesis 12:1-3

1 Now the LORD had said to Abram:

"Get out of your country, from your family

And from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you

And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." NKJV

- The first step in trusting God is to leave the ordinary
- Stop trusting the things we're accustomed to
- Get out of your past identity
- His desire is to bless us – so we can bless others
- His desire is for us to trust His protection and provision
- When we act on what God shows us He will show us more
- Use what you know

God's Covenant with Abraham – He rescues Lot, receives the blessings from the victory, builds an altar and worships

### Genesis 15:1-6 NKJV

1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

2 But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!"

4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6 And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

- The word of the Lord comes through times of worship and surrender
- God is calling us to dream with Him
- Beyond your natural circumstance
  - Eliezer of Damascus (Given no offspring) Vs 3
  - What's in your hand?
- Will I release what I've been trusting?
- Will I trust the Lord?

### Genesis 15:7-11

7 Then He said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." 8 And he said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" 9 So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. NKJV

- Will I draw near? – What will I bring?
- Will I make the Covenant personal?
- Don't allow vultures of discouragement to come in
- Drive them away

### Genesis 15:17-18

17 And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. 18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram. NKJV

- Don't let the sun go down on your dreams
- God places great value on His word
- Sooner or later you need to know what it says for you
- God is a God of covenant
- His covenant can not be broken
- He will always honor His word
  - Burning torch (Holy Spirit)
  - does it burn inside you?

### Hebrews 7:20-22

20 And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an oath 21 (for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him:

"The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

'You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek'), 22 by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. NKJV

- We have a guarantee
- The covenant we have is a sure foundation
  - Better than Melchizedek – Genesis 14:18-20
- Do not give up
- Do not quit
- Do not become disappointed
- Stir yourself up – that's faith

## Genesis 16:1-2

1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. 2 So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. NKJV

- It is never good to help God out in His plan for us
- Remember He is working in us
- Stay committed to the process – He is
- Am I tired of waiting?
- Trying to make it work on my own?
- There are things God wants to take us through
  - God wants us to see **He** will do it
- God remains faithful even in our weaknesses
- God didn't give up on Abram
- He won't give up on you

## Genesis 17:1-4

1 When Abram was **ninety-nine** years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. 2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." 3 Then **Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him**, saying: 4 "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. NKJV

The blessings of God come through faithfulness and obedience

### Genesis 17:5-6 NKJV

5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

- Abram – Father
- Abraham – Father of multitudes

### Genesis 17:15-16

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

16 And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her." NKJV

- Sarai – Captain, keeper
- Sarah – Princess or Lady
- Has God changed your name?
- Has your life taken a change?
- Are you aware of His plan?
- Are you pursuing His Plan?

At 100 years old God blesses Abraham with a son

### Genesis 22:1

1 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!"

And he said, "Here I am." NKJV

- When you allow your faith to develop God will test it
- Am I ready for a test?
- Can I say, “Bring it on” “Here I am”

## Genesis 22:2

2 Then He said, "Take now 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." NKJV

- Am I willing to lay down that one thing?
- Have I counted all things loss to gain Christ?
- Would I surrender based solely on His word?
- Would I follow without a multi point plan?
- Moriah – To look or stare, **with joy** into the face of Jah
- Is He my desire?

## Genesis 22:4-5

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." NKJV

- Will I leave everything behind for the mountain?
- Am I living a sacrificial life?
- Do I expect provision and increase beyond what I have in my hands now?
- What you do with what you have answers that question

### Genesis 22:6-8

6 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. 7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!"

And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. NKJV

- Do those closest to me follow my example?
- Without question?
- Does my faith speak to others?
- Am I confident of the Lord's provision?

### Genesis 22:9-11

9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" NKJV

- The Lord speaks at the point of surrender
- It's not enough to say I will
- Our faith is proven by our actions
- Can God trust me?



### Genesis 22:12-14

12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." NKJV

- Our love for God is shown by what we are willing to give
- It is shown by our willing obedience
- Does God know you love Him?

I believe so many times that people say they love God but the truth is we're in love with the concept that God loves us – Grace

We can sense God's love – He is always reaching out to us

The question is how do I respond to that love?

My response is the proof of my love for God

### Luke 6:46

46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? NKJV

- Love's response is obedience
- God's response to obedience is blessing

### Genesis 22:15-18

15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." NKJV

- Because you have obeyed
- Because you have not withheld
- God will provide more than you give
- Because Abraham did what most men will not do  
God did what no man could do

### John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. NKJV

### Galatians 3:29

29 And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and now all the promises God gave to him belong to you. NLT