

## Heroes – Abraham – 3

### 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 makes a covenant with Abraham – He rescues Lot, receives the blessings from the victory, builds an altar and worships

Abram and Sarai try to help God – Ishmael

### Genesis 16:1-2 (Sarai and Hagar)

- It is never good to help God out in His plan for us
- Stay committed to the process – He is
- 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.

### 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 (increase)

### 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 (Kingdom)

- Has God changed your name?
- Has your life taken a change?
- Are you aware of His plan?
- Are you pursuing His Plan?

## 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"

## James 1:2-8

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. NKJV

Qualities needed in trials

## James 1:19-20, 22-24

19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. NKJV

## 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.

- **Hebrews 11:17-19 MSG** (raise from the dead)
- **1 Kings 19:19-21** Call of Elisha

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?
- Does my faith speak to others?
  - He may command – **Genesis 18:19**
- 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?
- What with?
- What's in your hand?

### **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

- The God who looks ahead and provides – **Isaiah 46:10**
- 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 freedom and 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

### Galatians 3:16-18

16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. 18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. NKJV

- The promises are based on Christ (the Seed)
- Our relationship is through the promise of grace
- Not the working of the law
- The promise is to the Seed
- If the Seed lives in you the promises are yours