



I. INTRO

A. Teach Me Review

B. Abraham and Sarah

- The consequences of not waiting are often more difficult than the waiting.

Genesis 15:5-6 (NKJV) 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.

- There’s a difference between desiring something and expecting something

II. EXPECTANCY AND PRAYER

A. Prayer and expectancy

Acts 12:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.

- Question – what do you suppose they were praying for

Acts 12:13-16 (NKJV) ¹³ And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴ When she recognized Peter’s voice, because of *her* gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate. ¹⁵ But they said to her, “You are beside yourself!” Yet she kept insisting that it was so. So they said, “It is his angel.” ¹⁶ Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened *the door* and saw him, they were astonished.

- Every door had opened to Peter except the door of the house where the believers were praying for the doors to open.

B. Jesus and expectation (Mark 11)

- Mark 11 - Jesus encounters a fig tree

Mark 11:23-24 (NKJV) ²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

- When you’re expecting everything changes

Romans 4:17-21 (TPT) ¹⁷ That’s what the Scripture means when it says: “I have made you the father of many nations.” He is our example and father, for in God’s presence he believed that God can raise the dead and call into being things that don’t even exist yet.



¹⁸ Against all odds, when it looked hopeless, Abraham believed the promise and expected God to fulfill it. He took God at his word, and as a result he became the father of many nations. God's declaration over him came to pass: "Your descendants will be so many that they will be impossible to count!" ¹⁹ In spite of being nearly one hundred years old when the promise of having a son was made, his faith was so strong that it could not be undermined by the fact that he and Sarah were incapable of conceiving a child. ²⁰⁻²¹ He never stopped believing God's promise, for he was made strong in his faith *to father a child*. And because he was mighty in faith and convinced that God had all the power needed to fulfill his promises, Abraham glorified God!

C. Strong faith gives glory to God

John 16:24 (TPT) ²⁴ Until now you've not been bold enough to ask the Father for a single thing in my name, but now you can ask, and keep on asking him! And you can be sure that you'll receive what you ask for, and your joy will have no limits!

The only thing worse than prayerlessness is prayer without expectation

III. WEEK OF PRAYER

- A. Abraham gave glory to God before the answer came
- Worship an important component to answered prayer

Prayer Focus: Today's focus is on God

Next Steps:

- Worship music is a powerful way to not only set the tone for prayer but also for your week
- Take time in the car or around the house to incorporate praise and worship into your life

Psalm 50:8-15 (NLT) ⁸ I have no complaint about your sacrifices or the burnt offerings you constantly offer. ⁹ But I do not need the bulls from your barns or the goats from your pens. ¹⁰ For all the animals of the forest are mine, and I own the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹ I know every bird on the mountains, and all the animals of the field are mine. ¹² If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for all the world is mine and everything in it. ¹³ Do I eat the meat of bulls? Do I drink the blood of goats? ¹⁴ Make thankfulness your sacrifice to God, and keep the vows you made to the Most High. ¹⁵ Then call on me when you are in trouble, and I will rescue you, and you will give me glory."

- B There are three things God wants
- I want you to express to gratitude to me
 - I want you to express commitment to me
 - I want you to express your dependence on me