

WEEK 6: NEXT LEVEL TRUST

The first half of Genesis 18 tells us the story of how God told Abraham the good news that he and his wife, Sarah will become parents. This interesting story teaches us how God can defy the laws of human biology which He Himself made, to fulfill His plan and grow our trust in Him.

SCRIPTURE Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

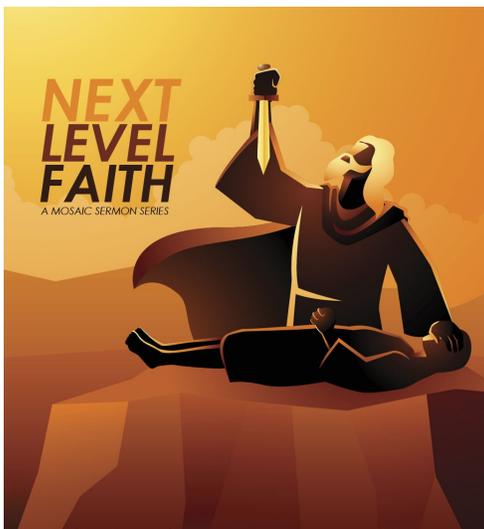
OBSERVATION

- The chapter begins by telling us that the Lord appeared to Abraham in the form of three men. This is called a theophany (human-like appearance of God). Do you think the Lord appears to individuals these days as He did to Abram? If yes how? If no why not? Has He appeared to you?
- Have you ever wondered why the Bible says Abraham saw 3 men, yet when he addressed them he said "My Lord" and not My Lords? Genesis 18:2-3. Also see verses 9-10 and verse 13.
- There is a saying that when you entertain strangers you entertain angels. How does this saying apply to this passage?
- What was the news the Lord gave to Abraham?
- Sarah laughed within herself saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? If you were Sarah, would you have laughed at what God said? If yes, why? If no why not?"
- What is the difference between the responses to the question in Luke 1:34 and Luke 1:1?
- What does Genesis chapter 17:16-17 and 18:12-13 have in common?

APPLICATION

- What has God told you He will do for you and you said to yourself, "I do not think so because of what you know?"
- What circumstances have you encountered in your life that you doubted God would handle because of what you know, and yet, He took care of it to demonstrate that there is nothing too hard for the Lord?
- What promises of God to every believer do you find difficult to believe sometimes?
- Pastor said, "when we are faithful in the small things, we will be entrusted with bigger things." At this point in your life, would you say you are trusting God and faithful in the little things?
- Is anything too hard for the LORD? What difference should the answer to this question make in your prayer life? What difference should the answer to this question make as it pertains to your trust in the promises of God?
- What areas in your life are you asking God to intervene in?
- How can you grow in your trust in the Lord?

PRAYER



GENESIS 18

1 The Lord appeared again to Abraham near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. One day Abraham was sitting at the entrance to his tent during the hottest part of the day. 2 He looked up and noticed three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he ran to meet them and welcomed them, bowing low to the ground. 3 "My lord," he said, "if it pleases you, stop here for a while. 4 Rest in the shade of this tree while water is brought to wash your feet. 5 And since you've honored your servant with this visit, let me prepare some food to refresh you before you continue on your journey." "All right," they said. "Do as you have said." 6 So Abraham ran back to the tent and said to Sarah, "Hurry! Get three large measures of your best flour, knead it into dough, and bake some bread." 7 Then Abraham ran out to the herd and chose a tender calf and gave it to his servant, who quickly prepared it. 8 When the food was ready, Abraham took some yogurt and milk and the roasted meat, and he served it to the men. As they ate, Abraham waited on them in the shade of the trees. 9 "Where is Sarah, your wife?" the visitors asked. "She's inside the tent," Abraham replied. 10 Then one of them said, "I will return to you about this time next year, and your wife, Sarah, will have a son!" Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent. 11 Abraham and Sarah were both very old by this time, and Sarah was long past the age of having children. 12 So she laughed silently to herself and said, "How could a worn-out woman like me enjoy such pleasure, especially when my master—my husband—is also so old?" 13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?'" 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son." 15 Sarah was afraid, so she denied it, saying, "I didn't laugh."