

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

Theme: CONFIDENCE

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7 (NRSV)

“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. ²And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.” ³Then 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. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. “



Have you ever had to wait for something you really wanted? Maybe for your birthday or other special occasion? It's really hard to wait for something isn't it? And the more you want something, the harder it is to wait! But, when you finally get it, it's really great, isn't it? Yes, none of us likes to wait, but we love it when the wait is over and the wait makes the gift even greater!

A long time ago God promised Abraham that He would give him and Sarah a child. But both Abraham and Sarah were very old and well past the age of having children. The Bible says that Abraham trusted God, and was **confident** that He will keep His promise, but that didn't make waiting any easier. It's hard to wait for something even when we know it's coming. It's like when you know you're going to get something great for your birthday, but it's still hard to wait!

Well, eventually, God give Abraham and Sarah the baby they had waited for over many years. The baby's name was Isaac and even though they were very old, Isaac was perfect and worth the wait! Baby Isaac surely was a miracle from God. It's always hard to wait for things we really want, but God's miracles are always worth the wait and they always come at just the right time. When God promises He is going to do something, we can be certain and **confident** that He will fulfill His promise.

God wants us to trust Him and believe that He is a powerful God who loves us and ALWAYS fulfills His promises to us. Sometimes we have to wait for His promises to be fulfilled, just like Abraham and Sarah had to wait, but that just makes the gift that much more wonderful! I hope we will each learn to be **confident** in God and wait patiently for Him to do what He promised He would do.

Prayer: *Dear Heavenly Father, help us, like Abraham, to put our trust in you and have the **confidence** that you will keep your promises. Amen*