

From Deadend to Deliverance

God's Dream for Your Life - Part 6

Abraham's Example of Faith

Phase 1: A DREAM (Age 75) Gen. 12:1-3
(God) "I will make you into a great nation..."

Phase 2: A DECISION Gen. 12:4
"So Abraham left as the Lord had told him to..."

Phase 3: DELAY (Age 86) Gen. 16:1
"But Sarah still had not borne any children..."

Phase 4: DIFFICULTY (Age 99) Gen. 17:18
"How can a son be born to a man my age?"

Phase 5: DEADEND Gen. 21:1-6, 22:1-12
"Take your only son, whom you love, and sacrifice him..."

Phase 6: DELIVERANCE! Gen. 22:12-14
(God) "Don't hurt the boy...I've provided a lamb..."

What To Do When You Reach "Deadend"

Romans 4:17-20

I. REMEMBER

"Abraham believed in God who gives life to the dead and who creates something out of nothing."

(vs. 17 LB)

“What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

Luke 18:27

II. RELY ON _____

“When hope was dead within him, Abraham went on hoping in faith... He relied on the word of God...”

vs. 18 (Ph)

“While God was testing him, Abraham still trusted in God and his promises, so he offered his son Isaac...”

Heb. 11:17 (LB)

“Though it seemed Abraham’s hope could not be fulfilled... he did become the father of many nations, exactly as God had promised.”

vs. 18 (JB)

III. FACE THE FACTS _____

“Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead... and Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he didn’t waver with unbelief...”

vs. 19-20a

“We fix our eyes ... on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

2 Cor. 4:8

IV. EXPECT _____

“But Abraham never doubted... he praised God for this blessing even before it happened. He was completely sure that God was able to do anything He promised.”

vs. 20-21 (LB)

(Paul) “But this happened so we might not rely on ourselves but on God who raises the dead! He has delivered us ... He will deliver us ... (and) we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us ...”

2 Cor 1:9-10

3 Kinds of Deliverance

(1) Circumstantial (2) Personal (3) Ultimate (Heaven)

