

Faith triumphing over physical incapacity

Over the course of the last few months we have been working our way through the ‘Heroes of the faith’ in Hebrews 11. Each character has given great insight to different aspects of faith. The Bible is rich in the teachings that challenge us in our daily lives. Even though these individuals had their own stories and unique challenges, they all had two things in common when it came to their faith. Each story pictured faith grasping the impossible and the invisible.

In our story today, we want to talk about the life of Sarah and how God chose her for an unbelievable task. This story begins with God telling Sarah she was going to have a child. Sarah did what most would do – she laughed. However, at the age of 90, she conceived just like the Lord said she would.

We probably need to understand some basic truths about this story because there are difficulties of faith in this case. First, nature speaks to this story. I realize that in early Bible times people lived longer, but that had drastically changed at this point, and Sarah died at age 127. At 90 her productive organs wouldn’t work anymore, so nature says that it is impossible. Secondly, experience testifies that no one 90 years old is having a baby. We must admit that



JUST A THOUGHT
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experience is a great source to all of us. Thirdly, she had personal feelings of being unworthy of the task she was called to do. Why would the Lord choose her? Needless to say, Sarah did conceive, and had a son that would be the chosen seed just as the Lord had said.

As this story unfolds, we must see the results of her faith. When the Lord works it is always special. The result of faith shows a Source (God) of victorious power. What took place is nothing less than miraculous, but that is how the Lord works. She was also rewarded by God with victorious power in the child God gave her.

We must also study Sarah’s faith because she became a person believ-

ing. Here is a picture of one weak by gender, but strong in faith. The story of Sarah in Hebrews eleven is special because not much attention was given to women of the day, but God didn’t see it that way. God has always been a proponent of women. In Sarah’s story there was quite a lapse of time between God’s revelation to her and the conception. This teaches us that the Word does not always work presently, but it happens in God’s time. We also see before the settling of faith there is usually conflict. Sarah’s response was, “shall I have a child when I am old?”

Sarah wasn’t a perfect individual, just like the other heroes. They all had flaws just as we do. We must understand that “where sin abounded, grace did much more abound” (Romans 5:20). By faith, Sarah received strength to conceive the seed. Means can do nothing without God, and God will do nothing without faith.

What can we learn from this story? We are never too old to be a part of the working and will of the Lord. We must go back to Hebrews 11:6 where He says, “Without faith it is impossible to please God.” My prayer today is that God will strengthen our faith and give us the faith that we will accept the invisible and the impossible.

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Keep healthy.
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The News Herald!

Crossword and Sudoku answers, page 10

1	2	3	4					5	6	7	8	9	10			
11								12						13	14	15
16								17					18			
19				20	21				22	23					24	
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49					50							51	52			
53				54						55						
56		57						58					59			
60						61	62						63			
			64										65			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Corrode
5. Jean Paul __, author
11. Hebrew unit of dry measure
12. A type of scientist
16. Greek goddess of discord
17. For Red Sox MVP
18. It checks your speed
19. Made dirty
24. The First State
25. Lodgings
26. Spiritual leader
27. Bradley Int’l Airport code
28. Native American people
29. Sharp pain
30. Touch
31. Slowly disappears
33. Indigenous Russian people
34. Narrative poem
38. Some are bad

39. Small quill feathers
40. Tattles
43. Popular Easter entree
44. Beneficiary
45. Clothed
49. Payroll firm
50. Lower Normandy’s largest city
51. Binary compound of halogen
53. The Fighting Irish
54. Skilled, paid worker
56. Eyelashes
58. The 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
59. Large, stocky lizard
60. Made poisonous
63. Former US Secretary of State
64. Sticky substances
65. A type of gin

CLUES DOWN

1. To return an echo
2. Displace
3. Japanese religion
4. Predilections
5. Partial
6. Poisonous plant
7. Road open
8. Atomic #81
9. Accomplished American composer
10. Oh, God!
13. Potato state
14. Most melancholic
15. Supportive framework
20. Hollywood’s Pacino
21. A title for women
22. Popular Grammys alternative
23. Check
27. Bolivian river
29. South Dakota
30. Wonderful
31. Supervises flying
32. Commercial

33. More (Spanish)
34. Even distribution of weight
35. “Arabian Nights” hero
36. Compact mass of a substance
37. Bachelor of Laws
38. Halfback
40. Some of it is ground
41. They play in the trenches
42. Atomic #18
44. Chinese Prefecture
45. Fabrics
46. Being in a direct line of descent from an ancestor
47. In slow tempo
48. Flood
50. Long-necked bird
51. Secondary school
52. Artificial intelligence
54. Structure by the water
55. Lather
57. What happens there stays there
61. A bone
62. The Great Lakes State

SUDOKU

						2	4	
					3			
	7		9	4	2		8	
4	1			3				
		3				7		2
7	8	2						5
				5		1		
								9
		1			8		2	7

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!