

STRONG FAITH NOVEMBER 25, 2018

ROMANS 4:17-21, EPHESIANS 6:10

Naturally speaking, people have different strengths that enable them to do what others can't. This is true physically, academically, musically, vocally or artistically. Our text says Abraham was strong in faith. His strong faith enabled him to receive what God promised. God has promised us many things in Christ. It takes strong faith in order to receive the promises, why? There are giants in the promised land that strive to keep us out of our inheritance.

A REVIEW ON FAITH'S IMPORTANCE

Sanctified (**ACTS 26:18**), please God (**HEBREWS 11:6**), receive the Spirit (**GALATIANS 3:14**), live (**ROMANS 1:17**), walk (**2 CORINTHIANS 5:7**), justified (**ROMANS 5:1**), saved (**EPHESIANS 2:8**), quench darts (**EPHESIANS 6:16**), stand (**2 CORINTHIANS 1:24**), Paul preached (**ROMANS 10:8**), established (**COLOSSIANS 2:7**), fight (**1 TIMOTHY 6:12**), end of (**1 PETER 1:9**), resist (**1 PETER 5:9**), what's not faith is sin (**ROMANS 14:23**), according to our faith (**MATTHEW 9:29**), inherit promises (**HEBREWS 6:12**), receive (**JAMES 1:6-7**), we all have faith (**ROMANS 12:3**), faith can grow (**2 THESSALONIANS 1:3**), gospel doesn't profit us (**HEBREWS 4:2**), miracles (**GALATIANS 3:5**).

ABRAHAM DIDN'T START WITH STRONG FAITH

His faith grew from not believing Sarah could have a child, to believing Sarah would have a child, to believing God would have to raise the child from the dead if he killed him.

FAITH CAN INCREASE – LUKE 17:5-6

How strong can our faith get? A mountain and a tree will obey our faith. A fig tree, storm, fish, even the dead body of Lazarus obeyed the faith of Jesus.

LITTLE FAITH ISN'T ENOUGH – MATTHEW 14:31

Little faith got the miracle started but couldn't consummate the miracle, we must start in faith, stay in faith and finish in faith. Satan bombards the mind with images of defeat in order to get us off our faith course.

INCREASING OUR FAITH

1. The right diet. **1 PETER 2:2**
 - A. Emotionalism doesn't increase faith.
 - B. Twinkies and cupcakes don't produce washboard abs.
 - C. **MATTHEW 4:4** – We must have a steady diet of the Word.
 - **MATTHEW 11:12** – Strong faith takes it by force.
 - **MATTHEW 16:19** – We refuse to allow defeat.
 - **1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-3 (ESV)** – We protect the heart from bad seeds.
 - D. God has a seed for our every need.

2. Exercise. **HEBREWS 5:12-14**
 - A. Abraham's faith grew from laughing at God's promise to being fully persuaded that nothing is impossible.
 - B. Our senses need trained to respond to God's Word.
 - C. **JAMES 1:22-25** – We start small and work our way up. George Mueller went from believing God for a dollar to believing for a million dollars to fund his orphanage.