

St. Paul's Notes

HOW TO KEEP ON BELIEVING

50 Days of Faith
November 15, 2009

"God has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men: yet they cannot fathom what God has done from the beginning to end." Ecclesiastes 3:11

HOW TO KEEP ON BELIEVING WHILE YOU'RE WAITING ON GOD

Romans 4:17-20

1. UNDERSTAND THE SIX PHASES OF FAITH

PHASE 1: A DREAM (Age 75)

(God) *"I will make you into a great nation..."* Genesis 12:1-3

PHASE 2: DECISION

"So Abram left as the Lord had told him to..." Genesis 12:4

PHASE 3: DELAY (Age 86)

"But Sarai had not borne him any children..." Genesis 16:1

PHASE 4: DIFFICULTY (Age 99)

"How can a son be born to a man my age?" Genesis 17:17

PHASE 5: DEAD END

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

PHASE 6: DELIVERANCE!

(God) *"Don't hurt the boy...I've provided a lamb..."*
Genesis 22:12-14

2. REMEMBER _____

"Abraham believed in God who gives life to the dead and who creates something out of nothing." Romans 4:17 (NCV)

"What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Luke 18:27

3. RELY ON _____

"When hope was dead within him, Abraham went on hoping in faith...He relied on the word of God..." Romans 4:18 (Ph)

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

Hebrews 11:17(LB)

4. RECOGNIZE _____

"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..." Romans 4:19-20a

5. REJOICE _____

"Abraham never doubted. He believed God, for his faith and trust grew ever stronger, and he praised God for this blessing even before it happened. He was completely sure that God was well able to do anything He promised."

Romans 4:20-21 (LB)

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer."

Romans 12:12

3 Kinds of Deliverance

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

"We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God."

Romans 5:2

"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith..."

Philemon 1:6