

EXPECTATION W2

Expectation, it's something that every single one of us have in our life. Expectations on our friends, expectations on our family, expectations on ourselves... But did you know that it's important to have an expectation in our faith? Over the next few weeks leading up to Student Conference we will be looking at what it means to have a healthy expectation in our faith!

TENSION

How can we have faith for the impossible?

SCRIPTURE

(Background: Abraham was given a promise by God that he will be the father of many nations but he and his wife are very old in age. To them, having children is impossible.)

Genesis 15:10-14

10 The Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" 13 The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'" 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.

ILLUSTRATION

Tell a story of when you were really focused on something. (Maybe a hobby, a sport, a project, etc)

MAIN POINT // FAITH FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE DEPENDS ON YOUR FOCUS: THE WHAT OR THE WHO?

P1 // WHAT'S YOUR WHAT?

We see fairly quick in this passage that God give great news to Sarah and Abraham... the birth of a son! The promise of Abraham being the father of many nations will be reality in a one year timeline. But Sarah laughs at God because she was focused on the circumstance. She was focused on the WHAT and now WHO was giving the promise.

Just like Sarah we all have moments of doubt, fear, and uncertainty because we focus so much on our circumstance that it seems too big, even bigger than God. Our family drama, our unsaved friends, our problems, strongholds. We all have focused on the WHAT. We have all perceived our circumstance bigger than the one who is willing and able to fix the circumstance.

Key: Perspective is everything

Like we highlighted last week, what are you closest to? The closer you are to something the bigger it will appear. Are you so close to your problems and circumstances that they seem bigger than even God? Shift your perspective on what really matters.

P2 // WHO'S YOUR WHO?

We also see earlier in the story of Abraham and Sarah that God gave them a promise and they were in the waiting period of seeing that promise become reality. We see in this story that Abraham and Sarah got impatient and looked for other ways to have children (even as far as to have Abraham lay down with his servant to have children) They couldn't see what God was doing so they took it upon themselves to make it happen.

If we are honest we do this as well. Maybe we are not waiting to have a child but we all have waited for God to do something in our lives and tried to take it upon ourselves to make it happen the way we want it and in our timing. We sometimes get impatient. We sometimes don't like God's timing and approach to a matter but we must understand His timing and approach is perfect.

Key: Who is your Who?

The question we have to ask is who is our who? Who is the one that we go to, to do the impossible? Is it a family member? Is it a pastor? Is it even looking at ourselves? Do we go to others to handle the job that is only meant for God?

Jesus is able and willing to do the impossible, but in His way and His approach. Our job is to believe He can do the impossible, His job is to do the impossible.

ILLUSTRATION

(Optional story to tie everything together)

RESPONSE

- Salvation
- Write a situation you know only God can fix + pray for it this week.
- Worship (reminder of who can do the impossible)
- Prayer Station