

# Journey of Faith

(Part 5 – When Faith Fails to Wait on God!)

**Text:** Genesis 16

**Main Idea:** True faith patiently waits on God!

## 1. When Faith fails to wait on God, \_\_\_\_\_ is usually the result! (v. 1-6)

- Faith fails when circumstances test our character causing us to \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word!
- Faith fails when our fleshly desires \_\_\_\_\_ us to take matters into our own hands! (Gal 4:23)
- Faith fails when we make decisions based on \_\_\_\_\_ rather than what is right.
- Faith fails when we allow the voice of \_\_\_\_\_ to be our sole guide.
- Faith fails when we don't \_\_\_\_\_ advice given against the sure Word of God.
- Faith fails when husbands are \_\_\_\_\_ and don't lead in love.
- Faith fails when we fail to \_\_\_\_\_ for God's wisdom & guidance! (James 1:5)

## 2. When faith fails to wait on God, God always \_\_\_\_\_ for His people! (v. 7-16)

- Our God is *always compassionate* \_\_\_\_\_ His people in their affliction: "You are a God of seeing."
- Our God is *always merciful* \_\_\_\_\_ His people to submit to His plan: "Return.... & submit."
- Our God is *always triumphant* \_\_\_\_\_ His people that He is powerful enough to override all their failures.

## Application Questions: (Family Devotions)

1. Why do you think waiting is linked to our faith? There are many times in Scripture we are commanded to wait by faith. Review a few of them: Ps 130:5, Prov 20:22, Is 64:4, Rom 8:23-25, 1 Cor 1:7, Gal 5:5, 1 Thess 1:10. From these verses what are some specific things God is requiring you to wait for?
2. Review the seven failures of faith listed. Pray through these and ask God to help you always make decisions by faith! Which ones are you most prone to commit? Why?
3. There are some people who always make decisions by common sense & reason. As a Christian is that always the best way to make decisions? What if God asks you to do something that seems unreasonable? Can you think of examples in Scripture where God asked His people to step out on faith rather than reason?
4. What drove Abram & Sarai to make the decision they did to involve Hagar? Are there any deep unfulfilled desires (may even be good) in your heart that might drive you to make a decision that is faithless or contrary to Gods Word?
5. Abram & Sarai's lack of faith led to far-reaching chaos in their family & had huge repercussions for generations to come (even for today!). In v. 1-7 can you identify the sinful fruit of this poor decision? (e.g. anger, bitterness, pride, etc.)
6. How was Abram's failure similar to Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden? What should Abram have said to his wife when confronted with a decision?
7. What glorious characteristics of God do you see in His response to Hagar in v. 7-15? How does this passage encourage you in light of your *past* faithlessness?