

*Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have!” And Abraham’s faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah’s womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God’s promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. Romans 4:18-21 (NLT)*

## **My Promises**

**I am glad that we have come to this topic. I am happy that we will now discuss my promises.** Your opening has me intrigued. I am wondering what direction we will head in our discussion. **Oh, I think you have a pretty good idea where will go with our discussion.** I’m not so sure about that. **Do you believe in my promises?** What kind of question is that? Of course, I believe in your promises. I have no doubts about your promises being true. Your word is good. You are faithful. Your promises are completely reliable. **Yes, that is exactly what I knew you would say.** Well, it’s the truth. **Yes, it is the truth. The question I want to get at is this, “Do you believe the promises I have made to you?”** It is obvious that you believe the promises I have made to all believers, everywhere, for all time. **Do you believe the promises I have made specifically to you? Can you read my word and say to yourself, “These promises are for all believers everywhere, for all time, and they are being made also to me, right here and right now?”** That is a different and more personal question, isn’t it? Yes, it is much more personal. **You don’t sound so sure and certain. You sound like you may be hesitant in your answer.** It is a very thought-provoking question. **Yes, it is.**

**What I want you to consider more deeply, is that the promises in my word are for you. Don’t think of my promises as being for everyone else, but you.** Have I been doing that? **Have you been apprehending the promises of my word, for your yourself?** That is a very good question. I would say, not nearly enough. **I want you to take my word deep into your heart and mind and life. I want you to put my word into practice. I want you to apprehend the promises of my word and make them your own. I want the power of my word working in your life. Will you take a hold of my word? Will live by my word?** Yes, Heavenly Father, I will. **That will be very good.**

*Heavenly Father, I know that your word is good. I know that you are faithful. I know that your promises are completely reliable. I know that I fully can count on you. I will patiently wait with hope and faith for your promises to be fulfilled in my life. Amen*

**Promises***The Promise Of God*

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

NIV

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***The Promise Of God*

In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

ESV

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***God's Promise*

Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises.

NLT

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***Promise Of God*

who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

NKJV

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***Promise Of God*

Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

NRSV

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***God's Promise*

When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he *couldn't* do but on what God said he *would* do. And so he was made father of a multitude of peoples. God himself said to him, "You're going to have a big family, Abraham!" Abraham didn't focus on his own impotence and say, "It's hopeless. This hundred-year-old body could never father a child." Nor did he survey Sarah's decades of infertility and give up. He didn't tiptoe around God's promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong, ready for God, sure that God would make good on what he had said.

MSG

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***Promise Of God*

[For Abraham, human reason for] hope being gone, hoped in faith that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been promised, So [numberless] shall your descendants be. He did not weaken in faith when he considered the [utter] impotence of his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or [when he considered] the barrenness of Sarah's [deadened] womb. No unbelief or distrust made him waver (doubtfully question) concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong *and* was empowered by faith as he gave praise *and* glory to God, Fully satisfied *and* assured that God was able *and* mighty to keep His word *and* to do what He had promised.

AMP

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***Anything He Promised*

So, when God told Abraham that he would give him a son who would have many descendants and become a great nation, Abraham believed God even though such a promise just couldn't come to pass! And because his faith was strong, he didn't worry about the fact that he was too old to be a father at the age of one hundred, and that Sarah his wife, at ninety, was also much too old to have a baby. But 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.

TLB

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***Promise Of God*

In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE." Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.

NASB

Romans 4:18-21

**Promises***His Promise*

There was no hope that Abraham would have children. But Abraham believed God and continued hoping, and so he became the father of many nations. As God told him, "Your descendants also will be too many to count." Abraham was almost a hundred years old, much past the age for having children, and Sarah could not have children. Abraham thought about all this, but his faith in God did not become weak. He never doubted that God would keep his promise, and he never stopped believing. He grew stronger in his faith and gave praise to God. Abraham felt sure that God was able to do what he had promised.

NCV

Romans 4:18-21

# God's Promise

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Promises** – Romans 4:18-21

**In Context:** *Read Romans 4*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. Romans 4:18-21 (NLT)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Even when | there was no reason for hope, | Abraham kept hoping | —believing that he would become | the father of many nations. | For God had said to him, | "That's how many descendants | you will have!" | And Abraham's faith | did not weaken, | even though, | at about 100 years of age, | he figured his body | was as good as dead |— | and so was Sarah's womb. | Abraham never wavered | in believing | God's promise. | In fact, | his faith grew stronger, | and in this | he brought glory to God. | He was fully convinced | that God | is able to do | whatever he promises. Romans 4:18-21 (NLT)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, I know that your word is good. I know that you are faithful. I know that your promises are completely reliable. I know that I fully can count on you. I will patiently wait with hope and faith for your promises to be fulfilled in my life. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When has it taken longer than you could have imagined for one of God's promises to be fulfilled?

When has God fulfilled His promises in ways that you could not have anticipated?

**When have you continued to believe in God's promises even when your situation seemed hopeless?**

**How has the hopelessness of a situation you were in caused you to rely on God's promises even more?**

**How has your faith in God grown even stronger as you have waited for His promises to be fulfilled?**

How has God been with you to help you so that you have not wavered in your faith in Him?

Why will you never regret patiently waiting with faith and hope for God's promises to be fulfilled?

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Wait with patience and hope and faith for God's promises to be fulfilled in your life.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God can and will fulfill all His promises to you.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God has fulfilled His promises to you.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you wait with patience, hope and faith for God to fulfill His promises to you.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Heavenly Father, I wait with patience, hope and faith for you to fulfill your promises to me.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, how will you will fulfill your promises to me as I patiently wait with hope and faith in you?*

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