



Wandering Toward Promise - Wk 2

Laughing at The Impossible

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

God's promises are often born in places where hope seems exhausted.

The Season of Pentecost & Summer Sermon Series

These stories aren't about perfect people. They teach us to trust God despite not seeing the path ahead.

Today we are going to read about how Abraham showed hospitality to some strange guests, and how they made him a promise that in turn made his wife burst out laughing.

GOD'S PROMISES ARE OFTEN BORN IN PLACES WHERE HOPE SEEMS EXHAUSTED

GENESIS 18:1-15; 21:1-7

- *A little recap: How did we get here beneath some more trees?*
- *All the places where Abraham encounters God—under oak trees*
- *The mysterious strangers are actually divine guests—Abraham gets this.*
- *There's so much comedic action—bowing, preparing food, and running.*
- *Then comes the message from God—a ridiculously hard thing to believe.*
- *Sarah laughs—what kind of laugh do we think it was?*
- *The messenger gets offended, Sarah lies about it, gets caught.*
- *There's something fascinating with the translation of what she says.*
- *The God of impossible things doesn't find it funny (ironic)*

The passage ends with the fulfillment of the promise—a ridiculous promise and a name that reminds Sarah of what it means to truly laugh.

Some Thoughts

1. *When I found myself in my first church meeting and actually felt God.*
2. *John Lewis and not being able to see into the future, but working anyway.*

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

Reading Genesis

Marilyn Robinson

Abraham: A Journey To The Heart of Three Faiths

Bruce Feiler

Walking The Bible

Bruce Feiler

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