



## **#7: From Failing to Growing** **Genesis 12, 15-16, 18, 21-22**

- I. The Promise:** God called Abram to leave his home and travel to a new home where he would experience the Lord's blessings – Genesis 12:1-4, 15:2-6.
  - A. The Lord called Abram to leave his home so that he could be led to a new home that would include the provision of land, seed, and blessing – Gen. 12:1-3.
  - B. At 75 years old, Abram obeyed the Lord's call and left his home – Gen. 12:4.
  - C. God reiterated His promise of a lineage to Abram – Gen. 15:2-6.
  
- II. The Failure:** When Sarai grew impatient with the Lord's timing, she took matters into her own hands – Genesis 16:1-6.
  - A. When Sarai grew impatient waiting for the promised child, she offered Abram her servant with the hope that the servant would bear a child – Gen. 16:1-3.
  - B. Ironically, after Sarai's plan worked as she had hoped, she became angry with both Hagar and Abram – Gen. 16:4-5.
  - C. In her anger, Sarai treated Hagar harshly until she left – Gen. 16:6.
  
- III. The Promise Reconfirmed:** The Lord, again, told Abraham and Sarah that they would give birth to a child regardless of circumstances – Genesis 18:10-15, 21:1-3.
  - A. When the Lord confirmed the promised child again, Sarah laughed at the prospect of having a child at her old age – Gen. 18:10-13.
  - B. As Sarah laughed to herself about becoming pregnant, the Lord questioned her disbelief because nothing is "too hard for the Lord" – Gen. 18:14-15.
  - C. Just as the Lord had said, Isaac was born to Abraham and Sarah as part of the fulfillment of the covenant stated in both Genesis 12 and 15 – Gen. 21:1-3.
  
- IV. The Growth:** After his personal faith journey, Abraham learned both that he could trust God and that God provides – Genesis 22:1-8.
  - A. God instructed Abraham to go and sacrifice Isaac, his only son, as a burnt offering – Gen. 22:1-2.
  - B. In obedience, Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac – Gen. 22:3-7.
  - C. Through everything that happened, Abraham learned that God will provide (Yahweh Yireh) for those who trust Him – Gen. 22:8.