

# even if...

faith in the midst of life's "what if" moments

WHAT IF...?



Faith is rooted in our WHO,  
not our WHAT.

**Hebrews 11:1-2 [NIRV]**

<sup>1</sup>Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>That is what the people of long ago were praised for.

**Genesis 12:1-4 (NLT)**

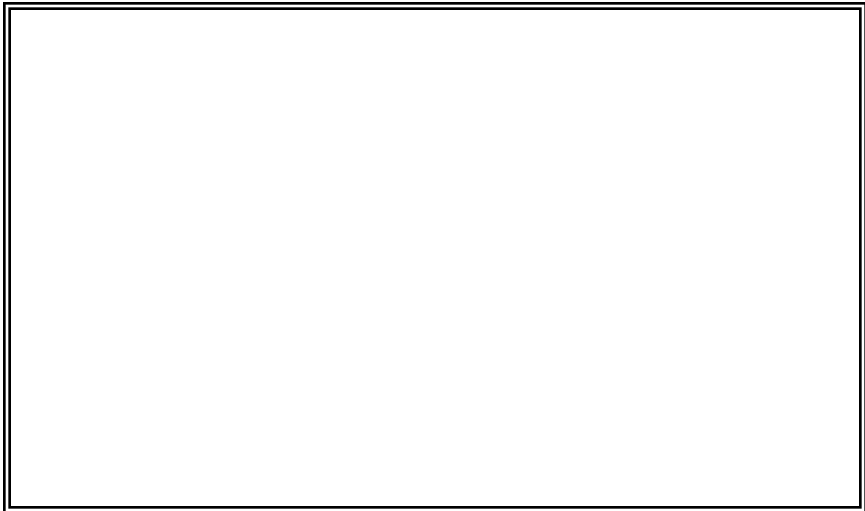
<sup>1</sup>The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

Faith is demonstrated in MOMENTS,  
but it is defined over TIME.

**Genesis 15:6 (NLT)**

And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith.



**Hebrews 11:6 [NIRV]**

*Without faith it is impossible to please God. Those who come to God must believe that he exists. And they must believe that he rewards those who look to him.*

**Where God is involved,  
He will make a WAY.**

## SO WHAT?

:: Even if we can't, HE CAN.

:: Even if we don't, HE DOES.

:: Even if we won't, HE WILL.

**Jeremiah 32:27 (ESV)**

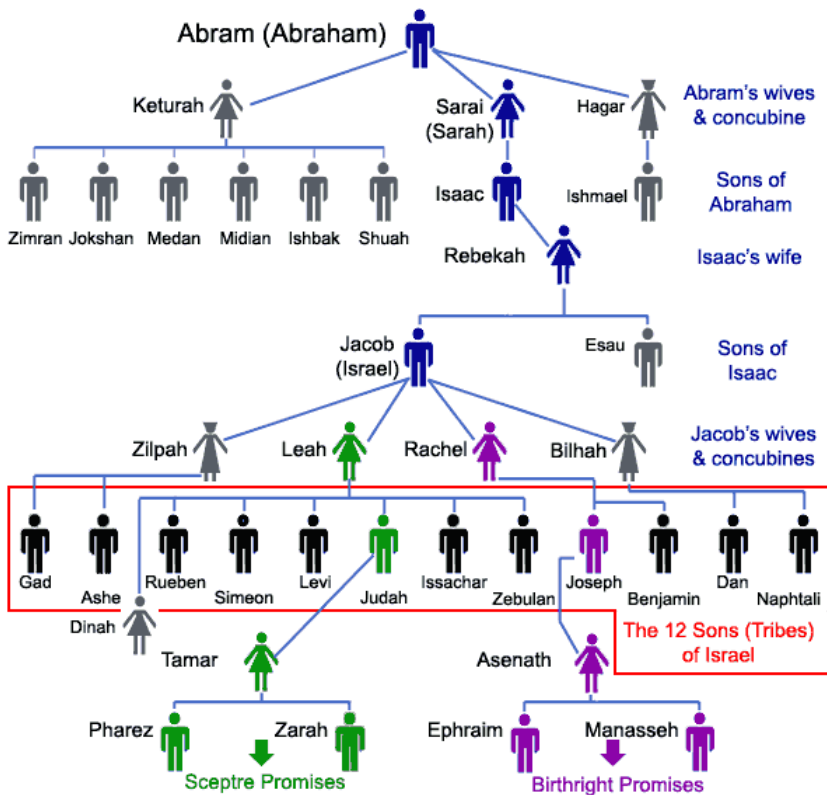
*Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?*

**Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV)**

*Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.*

***"If God put you there, He is amply sufficient."***

*- Oswald Chambers*



## NOTES:



## How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) Admitting that you, like everyone else, are in need of rescue.
- 2) Asking God to forgive your sins.
- 3) Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

**Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life.  
In Your name, Amen.**

---

## **For Further Reflection:**

- :: Discuss the Biblical definition of faith. [ref. Hebrews 11:1-2]
  - :: What do you find most helpful/challenging about that definition?
  - :: What are practical ways we demonstrate having faith?
  - :: Share a time you struggled to embrace faith. Why? What happened?
- :: Review Abraham's journey & family tree. [ref. Genesis 12-37]
  - :: What initially stands out to you? Why?
  - :: Discuss the ways Abraham demonstrated faith.
  - :: What were some "what if..." situations that did/didn't become "even if..." opportunities?
  - :: What do you think made either choice easy or hard for him?
  - :: What were factors that led Abraham to step on his own?
- :: Pastor Shawn said, "Faith is demonstrated in moments, but it is defined over time."
  - :: Discuss what that means and some implication of that reality.
  - :: Share a time you saw faith demonstrated. [you/others]
  - :: As you reflect on your life, what has defined your faith most?
- :: What current situations in your life are you most tempted to focus on "what if..." rather than "even if..."?
- :: What is one thing you need to do to shift from "what if..." to "even if..."?
- :: Identify 1 person you can ask to pray for you as you start to do that.

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].  
Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – January 5 & 6, 2019

Watch this message and other recent messages online at [heritageqc.com/watch](http://heritageqc.com/watch).