

# THE LIFE OF ABARAHAM



## 7. Abraham Receives the Promise

### Introduction

God had given Abraham many wonderful promises. He said he would bless Abraham and make him into a great nation. Yet Abraham had no children! Finally Abraham followed his wife's suggestion and tried to fulfill God's promise in his own way – as a result Ishmael was born. However God had promised that Abraham would have a son through his wife Sarah. Once again God appeared to Abraham to assure him that he had not forgotten his promise. By this time Abraham was 99 years old!

Scripture Reading: Genesis 17:1-11, 15-24

### A. THE PROMISE RENEWED

- ✧ God reminded Abraham of the promises he had already given, and explained them in more detail. What new things did God say? V4-5, 15-16
- ✧ When God gives a promise there are often commands and conditions for us to fulfil. What were the commands and conditions that God gave to Abraham? V1, 10

Circumcision was an outward sign of the relationship between God and Abraham, and it was a mark of ownership that God would be his God. Since the time of Jesus Christ we no longer need to have that sign to show we are God's children. Now the Holy Spirit is the sign that we belong to God and have a relationship with him. See Romans 2:29

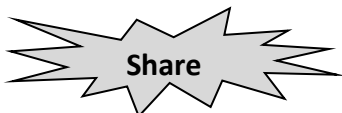
Scripture Reading: Genesis 21:1-7

### B. THE PROMISE RECEIVED

- ✧ Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born! Why do you think God chose to keep Abraham and Sarah waiting so long?



What can we learn about God's promises and faith from Abraham's life? Also see Hebrews 10:35-36, 11:11-12



Has God given you promises in the past that have already been fulfilled? Share with us what God promised and how it came to pass.

### Conclusion

God is faithful! We need to learn to trust him and hold onto his promises. He will fulfill them in the right time and in his way. Although we don't always understand the way God does things, we know that his ways are higher than ours.