GOD Keeps His PROMISES

Genesis 21:1-34
Introduction

The birth of a child is one of life’s greatest joys.
At the same time there can also be concerns or fears.
Life is a mixture of ups and downs, joys and sorrows, gains and losses.
Through it all, God is constant in his love for us. He does not change.
The birth of Isaac was a joyous occasion. It was by God’s grace. God kept his promise. They named their son Isaac which means “he laughs”.
A newborn baby is a gift from God.
The Best Day

Buddies

Time 2 Play!

Jack, Gma Holly, Luke, Gpa Jim
Three years have passed and what should have been one big happy family isn’t. Instead there is tension.
Ishmael mocks Isaac and Sarah sees it. Sarah is upset and said to Abraham, “Get rid of the slave woman and her son.” Abraham is torn between his love for his wife Sarah and his son Ishmael.
Then God spoke.
Abraham obeyed God and sent Hagar and Sarah away.
Sometimes the trials we face come because of past actions or choices.
“God was graciously addressing the self created mess of Abraham and Sarah because he was taking up the tangled threads of his servant’s life, weaving them into his own divine pattern and overruling everything for good.” Griffith Thomas
“We believe in God – such as it is, we have faith...We work and goof off, we love and dream, we have wonderful times and awful times, are cruelly hurt and hurt others cruelly, get mad and bored and scared stiff and ache with desire, do all such human things as these, and if our faith is not mainly just window dressing or a rabbit’s foot or fire insurance, it is because it grows out of precisely this kind of rich human compost.” Frederich Buechner
“Faith does not grow in a hothouse, but in the unpredictable climates of life.”
Kent Hughes
“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”
Isaiah 41:10
“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”
Matthew 6:31-33
Abimelech recognizes that God’s hand is on Abraham and he asks for his favor.
Abraham agrees but he does have one complaint. It is about a well. Abraham offers to buy the well he has dug.

Controversy, tensions and conflicts are part of life and believers should be peacemakers.
“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with all men.”
Romans 12:18
Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and there he called on the name of the Lord.

- It was an act of faith.
- To call on God’s name is to make him known or to declare his attributes.
- El Olam – the Eternal God, the Enduring God, the God who does not change.
“From everlasting to everlasting you are God.”
Psalm 90:2
“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.” Psalm 100:5
Conclusion

God keeps his promises.
God knows your needs.
God is constant in his love for you.