

- Introduction**
1. *Hebrews 11* is called the faith chapter of the Bible...
  2. The purpose of the letter is to encourage God's people to press on in faith...
  3. In *chapter 11* a number of Old Testament saints are commended as examples of faith...
  4. Faith is defined in *Hebrews 11:1* as...
  5. *Hebrews 11* focuses upon the "conscious activity of faith..."

**Observation:** No one lives perfectly in faith... *II Thessalonians 1:3*

### **I. The Importance of Sarah's Personal Faith Illustrated**

#### **A. A Textual Controversy clarified...**

1. The promise is centered in Abraham's faith... *Genesis 12:1ff*
2. However he must have a believing wife...

**Lesson:** The joy and blessing of a husband and wife being one in faith... *Luke 1:6*

#### **B. Sarah has the Same Faith as Abraham...**

1. It is faith in Christ...
2. Stress is given to the individual nature of true saving faith...

**Lesson:** You must personally come to know Christ... *II Timothy 1:5; Galatians 2:20*

### **II. The Obstacles to Sarah's Faith Identified...**

#### **A. We Must read all the Bible...**

1. Consider Lot (*II Peter 2:6-8*)
2. The same is true of Sarah and her faith... *Hebrews 11:11-12 cf. Genesis 18:9-12*

**Lesson:**

#### **B. She was Barren... Genesis 12:30**

#### **C. She was Old... Genesis 17:17**

#### **D. She Didn't Believe... Genesis 18:10-12**

1. She laughed...
2. She lied...
3. The Lord Challenged her unbelief...

**Lesson:** The Lord knows everything...

4. She was full of unbelief despite the promises given...
5. She took matters into her own hands... *Genesis 16:1ff*

**Lesson:** \*\*at is always a big mistake!

\*\*Is anything too hard for the Lord? *Luke 1:37; 18:27*

6. Her unbelief not only doubted God's power but His purpose... *Genesis 22:17 cf. Galatians 3:16*

**Lesson:** Unbelief is an obstacle to the work of God *Matthew 13:58; Mark 6:5; Matthew 9:20-24*

### **III. The Receiving of Sarah's Faith Realized...**

#### **A. The Lord Changed her heart... Genesis 21:6**

***B. What Happened to bring about This Change?***

1. The Effective Operation of God's Word...*Genesis 21:1 cf. 18:4*

**Lesson:**

2. The Mercy of the Lord's Visitation...

**Lesson:**

3. The Overcoming Power of The Lord's Strength...

**Lesson:**

**Application:**