

Drawing the Line of Faith

Conclusion to the series, "Hope Alive: In Us and For Others"

Saturday, March 28 & Sunday, March 29, 2020

Pastor Norman Nakanishi

"In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, 'So shall your offspring be.' ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was 'counted to him as righteousness.' ²³But the words 'it was counted to him' were not written for his sake alone ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him..." (Romans 4:18-24 ESV)

Face the obvious REALITY.

"...He considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb." (Romans 4:19 ESV)

Apply the filter of truth: the promise of His WORD.

"...He gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised." (Romans 4:20-21 ESV)

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." (2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV)

Choose to FOCUS on God.

"No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God..." (Romans 4:20 ESV)

"For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest, but trouble comes." (Job 3:25-26 ESV)

Draw LINES of faith in the face of fear.

"So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! ²⁰Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? ²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²²You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works..." (James 2:17-22 ESV)

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen... And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him." (Hebrews 11:1, 6 ESV)

"...Through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Galatians 5:13-14 ESV)

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:16 ESV)

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