



BRAVE WOMEN RUN IN MY FAMILY

Connect Study 8

SARAH Pt2 – RECIPIENT OF A PROMISE

SARAH: *A barren woman who received God's promise*

"Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him."
(Genesis 21:1)

Sarah's story is found in Genesis 11-23 and tells us of a beautiful woman who, with her husband Abraham, was given an amazing covenant promise. However the road to receiving that promise was long and difficult with times of doubt and testing for both of them. There were times when it must have been particularly difficult for Sarah to keep trusting

Take some time to consider the following questions:

- **Read Isaiah 51:1-3.**

Isaiah was prophesying to a people in exile who must have wondered if they would ever return to their land and he encouraged them to look back at the example of Abraham and Sarah. What encourages you as you look back at Sarah's life and example?

- **Read Genesis 12:10-20 and 20:1-7, 10-14.**

How do you think you would have coped in those situations?

- **Read 1 Peter 3:5-6.**

Sarah chose to trust God and not give way to fear. What are some of the fears that Sarah could have given way to? What fears do you need to refuse to give way to in this season of your life?

How do you react when your husband demonstrates that he is not yet perfect?

Note: Peter emphasizes doing what is right and so we are not to imitate Sarah when she did something wrong (e.g. Genesis 16:1-6; 18:5).

Commentary extract: 'Christian women become daughters of Sarah as they become like her in doing good and in not fearing any potential disaster, but trusting in God. (Proverbs 3:25-27)' (NIV Study Bible Zondervan USA 1985 p.2558)



- **Read Hebrews 12:1-3.**

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, including Sarah, but ultimately our focus needs to be on Jesus. What will happen when we consider Him?

Study tip: Last time we talked about finding all the biblical references when studying a person. It is also helpful, when studying a person who appears in the Old Testament, to see if there are any New Testament references to them. This is because the New Testament writers will add a Christian perspective to what we have learned about the person in their Old Testament context.

Pray: Pray for each other that you will learn from Sarah's courage and refusal to give way to fear.

NATION BUILDERS

- *One of the best ways we can make a difference as a connect is to regularly PRAY for the Nation*
- *Builders causes we support, and regularly inspire your group to receive your Nation Builders offering.*
- *Your giving makes a massive difference in helping us 'reach and influencing the world'.*
- *Hillsong Church, Kiev & Moscow*
- *Please take the time in your group to pray for our church in Kiev and Moscow at this time of global*
- *uncertainty. Let's pray for peace in this region and for wisdom for the governments involved. Please*
- *pray for our Pastors and our people in both Moscow and Kiev, that they will continue to focus on*
- *Jesus and that the church will go from strength to strength in these challenging times.*

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Heart for the House Miracle Offering – this weekend
- Hillsong Conference – 1.5 Weeks Away

PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time.
- Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500 or Newcastle 02 4927 1888 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

