



Rock Creek Baptist
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Waiting on God - Genesis 15
Can God be trusted? The real question is,
can YOU put your trust in Him?
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The agony of waiting

Video: Dog waiting to eat a treat

Unusual for a dog to show patience, it's becoming unusual for people to show patience as well. We live in a world of instant gratification

God's promises to Abraham in Genesis 12

- 1) I will make you into a great nation
- 2) I will bless you
- 3) I will make your name great
- 4) You will be a blessing (be seen as blessed)
- 5) I will bless those who bless you
- 6) I will curse those who curse you
- 7) All people on the earth will be blessed through you

Genesis 13 "if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted."

But time passes...slowly...

Genesis 15:1

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward. "

God addresses the fear in waiting by showing who HE is

Genesis 15:2-6

But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Matthew 19:26

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

By now, Abraham is full of faith but still has some questions

Genesis 15:7-8

He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

Have you ever asked God for a sign?

Genesis 15:12

As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.

Have you ever felt a sudden dread or terror you can't explain away?

Parents, ever suddenly known something was wrong with your children?

Abraham feels that here for his son who hasn't even been conceived yet.

Genesis 15:13-16

Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

There is no coincidence that we see this number 400 again...
Sometimes there is hardship on the road to a blessing

Mark 10:29-30

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.

Hab. 2:3

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

Genesis 15 asks the question can God be trusted? And can you put your trust in Him?

Story: the century plant

Visualization: walking with Jesus up the mountain