



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Weathering the Storm: The Fruit of Patience

Speaker: Jacqueline Snape, Executive Pastor

Scripture: Genesis 18: 9-14

Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

Genesis 18: 9-14 (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

- I. Abraham is hosting 3 messengers and the passage starts with a conversation with the visitors.
- II. Abraham is 99 and Sarah is 89 years old.
- III. Patience is not wishful thinking. Patience is the ability to weather the storm
- IV. Often, we try to grasp for what we feel we are promised instead of being patient.
- V. To learn patience is not to rebel against every hardship.
- VI. When we allow ourselves to go through the storm it then allows us to extend love and patience to others.
- VII. Patience takes time, perseverance and trust.
- VIII. When we are patient, we see God, ourselves and others differently, as children of God.
- IX. Abraham and Sarah failed in patience, but God was still faithful to them, He was just waiting for them to be ready to receive

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday New Life's Executive Pastor Jacqueline Snape continues the Fruit of the Spirit series based on patience.

Sermon Questions:

- I. What words or phrases from this scripture passage resonated in you as you read them? Why?
 - In your family of origin, were your parents/guardians patient? How does that effect the way you react today?
 - How do you think Abraham and Sarah felt after decades of having no children, of waiting for a promise?
 - Who or what in your life tests your patience? At work, home, school, family, commuting, etc.?
 - Patience is not a personality trait but a fruit of the Spirit. If there is an area in which you are struggling with patience, what changes may you have to make to find patience?
 - How do you prepare and what do you need to weather the storms in your life?