

Sermon Notes and Scriptures  
Sunday, June 14, 2015  
National Presbyterian Church

Abraham's Faith

*Great faith is not first a matter of trying harder to believe,  
but of knowing that the person in whom (or the object in which) one believes  
can be trusted.*

**Hebrews 11:8 (Genesis 12-25)** -- <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** – <sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord (that is, “have faith in” the Lord) with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Abraham's Hope

*Great hope is the faith that God has power over the future,  
and has a future for us, that remains secure  
despite any and every seeming dead end.*

**Romans 4:18-21 (Genesis 17-18, 22)**

<sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, Abraham believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “*So numerous shall your descendants be.*” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

<sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

**Psalm 62:5,6**

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Abraham's Love

*Great love is not primarily a feeling but an action which seeks the ultimate good of another,  
and is empowered by both faith and hope  
which enables us to let go of what is ours by right.*

**Genesis 13:8-9** – Abraham and his nephew, Lot

<sup>8</sup>Then Abram said to Lot, “Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herders and my herders; for we are kindred. <sup>9</sup>Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.”

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 13**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

<sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. . . . <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three . . . and the greatest of these is love.