

How God Tests Your Faith

History Makers, Part 1

Pastor Ken Ritz * Mar 10, 2013 * New Life Vineyard Church

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. James 1:2-4 (NLT)

God Tests Those He Intends To Use

In each person we see...

- o An Opportunity (or a promise from God)
- o An Obstacle or Opponent
- o An Ordeal (a waiting period or test)

(NOAH) GOD MAY TEST YOUR FAITH WITH...

- o An Impossible _____

“It was by faith that Noah built an ark to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before.” Heb. 11:7 (NLT)

1. FAITH IS BELIEVING WHEN I DON'T _____ IT.

“Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” Heb. 11:1

(ABRAHAM) GOD MAY TEST YOUR FAITH WITH..

- o A Major _____

“It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.” Heb. 11:8 (NLT)

- o A Delayed _____

“And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God.” Heb. 11:9-10 (NLT)

- o An Unsolvable _____

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age — and Sarah herself was barren — was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. Heb. 11:11-12 (NIV)

- o A Senseless _____

“It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God's promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, even though God had promised him, ‘Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.’” Heb.11:17-18 (NLT)

2. FAITH IS OBEYING WHEN I DON'T _____ IT.

“Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death!” Heb. 11:19 (NIV)

(MOSES) GOD MAY TEST YOUR FAITH WITH...

- o Prolonged _____

It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward. Heb. 11:24-26 (NIV)

3. FAITH IS PERSISTING WHEN I DON'T _____ IT.

“By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.” Heb. 11:27 (NIV)

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*