



**Big Idea: Live to leave a legacy of faith.**

-- Our text today references the final wishes of three men who are commended in Scripture for their faith.

**1.) Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph passed on a **LEGACY** of faith.**

-- Even though these men died without seeing the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises to them they believed God wholeheartedly (v. 13-16).

-- Because they believed God, they passed down their faith.

-- The ultimate gift that Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph gave their children was *"the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

-- **Abraham** – Although Abraham did not see God's promises fulfilled in their fullness, he believed God and gave Isaac a legacy of faith.

**-- Isaac (v. 20, Genesis 26-27)**

-- Isaac expresses the essence of faith: When he heard from God, he believed God and acted upon His Word (Genesis 26:24-25).

-- Isaac formally conveys the **FUTURE** blessings of the covenant upon Jacob (Genesis 27:28-29).

-- Isaac is commended for his faith because he was invested in God's promises about the future.

**-- Jacob (v. 21, Genesis 48:1-22)**

-- Genesis 48:1-4: Jacob's Testimony of Faith

-- Genesis 48:9-21: Jacob's Legacy of Faith

-- In Genesis 48, Jacob impresses the same faith upon his grandsons that his father (Isaac) impressed upon him.

-- v. 21 – Jacob is commended for the faith he displays in leaving for his **GRANDCHILDREN** a legacy of faith.

**-- Joseph (v. 22, Genesis 50:23-26)**

-- v. 24 – Joseph expresses his *“assurance of things hoped for and conviction of things not seen”*

-- v. 25a – Joseph is adamant about leaving a legacy of faith.

-- v. 25b – For Joseph, the fulfillment of God’s promise was not a matter of **IF** but **WHEN**

**Application: Live to leave a legacy of faith.**

-- More than anything else, at the end of their lives, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph desired to leave a legacy of faith in God and His promises.

**-- Living by faith means passing faith along to the next generation.**

-- *Can we claim a passion to know Christ if we do have a passion for our children to know Him?*

-- Passive parenting is ultimately about choosing what is **EASY** over what is **ETERNAL**

-- The discipleship of our young people ought to be about instruction more than amusement.

**-- Our children are merely on **LOAN** to us from God.**

-- God gives children to parents (and grandparents) as a gift and asks that we return them back to Him with faith.

-- Our #1 goal in raising our children (and grandchildren) ought to be instilling in them *“the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints”* (Jude 1:3).

**-- **WALKING** by faith means living to leave a legacy of faith.**

-- Make every effort to pass along to your children *“the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things unseen.”*

**-- Questions for Application:**

- If today were my last day on earth, what legacy would I have left to my family? Is what is most important to God most important to them?*
- Are my descendants becoming heirs to the promises of God, or are they becoming heirs of this fleeting world?*
- Am I living to instill in my children and grandchildren unshakable assurance of God's promises?*