

Isaac, the Son of Promise

Have you ever had to wait a *really* long time for a promise to be fulfilled?

In [Genesis 12](#), we heard God make some incredible promises to a 75-year-old man named Abram who didn't have any children. Abram and Sarai waited... and waited... and waited... for **25 years!** Think about that...

_____ years old	_____ years old
-	+
25 years	25 years
=	=
_____ years old	_____ years old

Twenty-four years after [Genesis 12](#), the LORD appeared to Abraham and made clear that he hadn't forgotten his promise:

The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time _____ year, and Sarah your wife shall have a _____." ([Gen 18:10](#))

When Sarah heard those words, she laughed! Abraham was almost 100 years old now and Sarah was almost 90. But, listen to the LORD's question:

"Is anything too _____ for the LORD?" ([18:14](#))

[Genesis 21](#) records for us that God kept his promise to that old couple when **Isaac** (*he laughs*) was born.

About 2,000 years later, an angel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin named Mary who was betrothed to a man named Joseph.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name _____." ([Luke 1:31](#))

When Mary struggled to understand (just like *anyone* would struggle to understand) and asked, "How will this be?" the angel emphasized the same truth Abraham learned 2,000 years before: "For nothing will be _____ with God" ([Luke 1:37](#))



For Class & Family Discussion:

- We can only speculate, but can you think of any reasons *why* God would wait 25 years before blessing Abraham and Sarah with a son?
- Let's notice how the writer of *Hebrews* highlights this event in [Hebrews 11:11-12](#). What does he want us to understand?
- What sort of things are "too hard" for us, even in the 21st century? Why is it **good** for us to be reminded that there are plenty of things "too hard" for us to do?
- Mary wasn't the only person who grappled with "How can this be?" in the beginning of Luke's Gospel. Who else learned firsthand that nothing is impossible for God in [Luke 1](#)?
- Think about these promises of God in light of passages like [1 Thessalonians 5:23-24](#). What does it all have to do with us?
- Finally, what does [2 Peter 3:8-9](#) help us see about the timing of God's promises?