

Lesson One – Women of the Bible Speak - Sarah IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

Class Facilitator: Opening Prayer:

Raise your hand if you think there is something too hard for God!

So, it's fair to say that we ALL believe that God can do anything?

Now, here's another question and I'm not going to ask you to raise your hand.

Do you really believe that God can do anything?

We quote these scriptures all the time...

Who has quoted Philippians 4:13 (NIV) - ¹³ *I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

One of my favorites that I have quoted a lot!!! Ephesians 3:20 (NIV) - ²⁰ *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*

There is nothing that you can ask or even think of that God can't do!

But do we really believe the way we should. We know it's possible, but do we think it will happen to us??

I read this quote... **We are not faithless, but not exactly trusting either!**

The Lord can do anything, yet it doesn't mean He will answer yes to every prayer we pray. God can do all things, yet He doesn't always choose to.

We are going to study a woman that God proved to her that He can do anything!

We all know about Sarah's story for having a baby when she was well past the age to have a baby.

Tell me something you know about Sarah.

Facts About Sarah:

1. She was Abraham's wife.
2. She knew she was supposed to be the mother of generations.

BUT she was barren, so how was she going to be the mother of generations.

3. She took matters into her own hands and had Abraham sleep with her handmaid Hagar.
4. She laughed when the angel said she was going to have a baby in her old age and then lied about it.
5. She did eventually have a son.

Read Genesis 16:1-5 Point #1

16 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; ² so she said to Abram, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said. ³ So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. ⁴ He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the LORD judge between you and me."

Sarah took matters into her own hands and had Abraham sleep with Hagar. **Why do you think she did that?** When you read verse 2 it seems Sarah is blaming God! Do we take matters into our own hands when your prayer has not been answered when you think it should have been answered? Have you been praying for something, and you are tired of waiting and you have acted without God? Gods timing is not our timing. *II Peter 3:8 - ⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.*

Read Genesis 18:9-15 Point #2

⁹ "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?" ¹³ Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son." ¹⁵ Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

Sarah laughed when the angel said she would have a baby when they return. **Why do you think she laughed?** Do you think she had some doubts? Did her faith waver? Who can relate to this? *James 1:6-8 - ⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the*

sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

Read Genesis 21:1-3 Point #3

21 Now the LORD was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised. ² Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. ³ Abraham gave the name Isaac^[a] to the son Sarah bore him.

She had a baby and is in the Hall of Fame. The silver lining – she did conceive and have a baby and made the Hall of Fame. Hebrews 11:11
What can we learn from this? God will do what He says He will do.

You have got to decide in your heart not to give in to the doubt. I know that it's easier said than done.

Tell my Sarah story about Dwayne and I dating...

TRUST God to do His part and release your blessings!!

So, let me ask you a final question??

**Raise your hand if you believe God will forgive your sins and save you?
THINK ABOUT IT!**

It's amazing how much we can doubt God in the little things of life, yet we know we can rely on Him for **salvation and forgiveness**. If you believe He will save you, why can't we believe that He will (answer your prayers, give you what you been praying for) be there and help you in difficult times (illness, a job search, you fill in the blank with your difficulty).

IF you trust Him for your salvation..., why can't we trust Him for things in our everyday life situations we are dealing with?

Even if it seems too difficult for us, it is not too difficult for God. In our own abilities, many things seem too hard.

It is easy for us to forget God's unlimited power, but this should not be.

Whenever you find yourself doubting God and taking matters in your hands, refer to these scriptures. Write them down, put them in your phone, bookmark them in your Bible so you can remind yourself — nothing is too hard for God.

Mark 9:23 -24 - 23 “‘If you can’?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”²⁴ Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

Mark 11:22-24 - ²² “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. ²³ “Truly²⁴ I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

*Jeremiah 32:17-19 - ¹⁷ “Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. **Nothing is too hard for you.** ¹⁸ You show love to thousands but bring the punishment for the parents’ sins into the laps of their children after them. Great and mighty God, whose name is the Lord Almighty, ¹⁹ great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve.*

Repeat after me...

Sisters Mantra:

There is nothing too hard for God.

I am a daughter of the King.

God has great plans for me!

I will make every effort to live as a Christian should.

I will strive to inspire and encourage my sisters to do the same.

Question / Comments / Prayer request

Closing Prayer: