

SERMON STUDY NOTES

11th July 2021

Speaker: Martin Armstrong

The Faith of Abraham

1. There are some people who do crazy things and then say God told them to do it. Give some examples.
2. Abraham was a visionary, a man of faith who could clearly hear the voice of God. Yet most people would have thought he was '*a nutter*' when he tried to tell them what he felt God had said to him. Discuss.
3. The church desperately needs people like Abraham today. Leadership these days is based on the business model which restricts God to our own capabilities and budgets. People seldom listen to God and act in faith. Do you agree?
4. At Jesus' baptism the Father said to Jesus, "*This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased!*" Lu 3:22. In Mark 4:1-2 *Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert*. The devil challenged God's word and said, "*if you are the Son of God turn these stones into bread....*" Satan tries to get Jesus to doubt that he was the Son of God. Satan will seek to make us doubt our acts of faith also. Discuss.

5. When we're in the crisis of faith we have to be totally honest, rather than pretend there isn't a problem. Read and discuss Rom 4:18-22.

6. Rom 12:2 *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and **approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.*** We can learn to think like God so that He can more easily reveal His will to us. Discuss.

7. "Streams of living water flowing up within us can be blocked by greed, fear, hurt, bitterness and disappointment. These block up our well and block God's voice". Discuss.

8. What has God given us to undertake by faith at TBC & in this town? Do we have a leadership that can clearly hear what God is calling us to do? Do we have the faith to step forward and obey? Are we operating in the power of the Holy Spirit or in our own strength? What about in our personal lives

9. Pray for our church and each other.