

Passing the Baton 2: Be Fruitful and Multiply



Introduction:

- What do you want to see at the end of your life?

- When you were born, you cried and everyone was happy. When you die, everyone will cry; will you be happy? That depends on what you lived your life for: _____ or _____.

I. A Priority for God: bear fruit

1. **Adam** (Gen. 1:28) 1st chapter of the 1st book; the 1st word to the 1st man; God's very 1st command.

2. **Noah**. (Genesis 9:1) Once again. But now physical reproduction wasn't enough.
How do we know? a) Drunkenness (personal) b) Babel (national)

3. **Abram**. (Gen. 12:1-3) God promised him: a) a _____ b) a _____ c) a _____

a. Genesis 15:4-6 Look at the stars. Abram believed.

b. Genesis 16:1-2 Hagar/Ishmael.

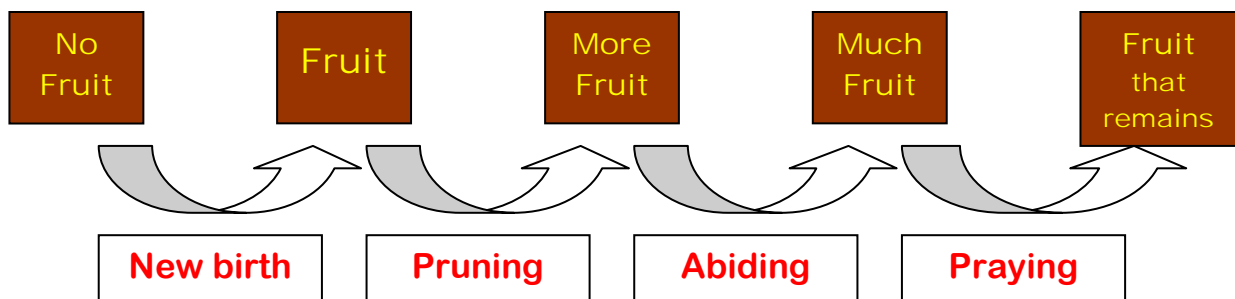
c. Genesis 17:5 Changed his name.

d. Genesis 17:17-19 Promised that "The Big Joke" was going to be born.

e. Genesis 21:2-3 Isaac was born.

We are the sons of Abraham, and heirs of the promises. (Galatians 3:7, 29)

II. A priority for your life: bearing fruit John 15:2, 5, 8, 16



What is fruit?

a) _____ Gal.5:22-23 (quality)
The image of God as in Genesis

b) _____ (quantity)

III. Obstacles to bearing fruit

1) Difficulties Luke 1:9-38 a) Elizabeth: too _____; she couldn't b) Mary: too _____, she shouldn't

Nothing is impossible with God. Luke 1:37

2) Excuses

- 1. It's not my gift
- 2. Sterile up to now. (Like Abram)
- 3. My thing is sowing, not reaping
- 4. Satisfied with just a little
- 5. I witness just by my life.

IV. What do I need to do to bear fruit?

1. Completely reject _____

God created you to bear much fruit.

Rachel (Genesis 30:1) Give me children, or I die.

Hanna (I Samuel 1:10-11) Let it bother you.

Sterility is a curse.

2. _____. It is the Spirit who prepares you to give birth to spiritual fruit.

Luke 1:35 Acts 1:8 power to bear fruit

Not Ishmael, from fleshly effort, but Isaac, by God's grace

3. Lift up _____

Believe that God is going to do great things through your life.

Gen.13:14, 15:5

Is. 60:4 Your sons will come from afar

We are the Bride of Christ, and we are going to have children

John 4:35

4. _____ Hebrews 11:13

Are you willing to work in all of this for your whole life and not see hardly any fruit.

Example of E.M. Bounds, author of Power Through Prayer.

The most important part is our faith.

The "Father of a multitude" died with only one son in sight.

God's first command. Christ's last command.

Paul (Col.1:28-29) The power of God for bearing fruit

Key John 12:24

So what is God's will for your life?

Be _____ and _____
