**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Faith for the Family |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Hebrews 11:23-27 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2400 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Hebrews 11:23-27
      1. We find two champions of faith in this passage:
         1. Amram
         2. Jochebed
      2. Amram and Jochebed were parents to Moses.
   2. The most powerful and influential people on Earth do not occupy elected offices or run industries or handle the business of Wall Street.
      1. The most powerful and influential people on Earth are parents of faith.
   3. The importance of family cannot be overestimated.
      1. Faith is the vital ingredient in any family’s success.
   4. To say that it takes a village to raise a child is backwards.
      1. It takes a family to raise a child, and families change the village.
      2. It begins with the parents.
   5. The family is the primary classroom.
   6. Psalm 68:6
   7. The devil has unleashed an all-out war upon the family.
   8. Amram and Jochebed went against the tide of their day.
   9. In today’s message, we will learn four things about faith for the family.
2. FAith’s vision (hebrews 11:23)
   1. Hebrews 11:23
      1. Amram and Jochebed saw that Moses was a proper child.
         1. Some translations translate “a proper child” as “a beautiful child” or “an unusual child.”
   2. Amram and Jochebed were people of great faith.
      1. They were students of the Word of God.
      2. They were both born of the tribe of Levi.
         1. The priestly tribe.
      3. They knew that God had prophesied that the children of Israel would come out of Egypt after 400 years.
         1. That 400 years had transpired.
            1. It was time to come out of Egypt.
         2. A leader was needed.
      4. That which engendered the faith in the lives of Amram and Jochebed was two-fold:
         1. They had the written Word.
         2. The Spirit of God had spoken to their hearts and told them that this child was the proper child.
            1. This is a child chosen of God.
   3. God has a plan for every child.
      1. Every child is special, and parents need to see every child as a special child.
      2. Psalm 112:1-2
      3. The greatest joy, privilege and responsibility is to be a parent.
   4. We cannot control the destiny of our children, but we can certainly influence the destiny of our children.
   5. Not only can we, but we must believe God on behalf of our children.
      1. Mark 9:17-24
         1. The Lord saw that seed of faith in the child’s father, and God did for this boy that for what his father believed.
   6. Proverbs 22:6
      1. One of the keys to understanding this verse is the word “way.”
         1. It is a Hebrew word whose meaning is something like a bend in a bow.
      2. Every child has a particular bent.
         1. They are not warped, but they are bent to a particular thing.
      3. It is our duty and joy as parents to discover that bent.
         1. Don’t look upon your child as a block of unsculptured granite that you take a hammer and chisel to, trying to make out of him what you will.
         2. Try to determine what gifts God has put into that unique, individual person.
   7. There are things in a child that no teacher, coach or pastor can see; but only a parent can see, if they pray over that child and see that child as special.
   8. Ask God to give you the faith that Amram and Jochebed had so that you can see a destiny for your child.
3. faith’s valor (hebrews 11:23)
   1. Hebrews 11:23
      1. Amram and Jochebed had every reason to be afraid because Pharaoh had commanded that all the little boy babies be drowned in the Nile.
         1. Exodus 1:22
      2. But they were not afraid.
   2. Though it was a dangerous time for them, Amram and Jochebed realized that their battle was not primarily with Pharaoh.
      1. Their battle was spiritual.
      2. Ephesians 6:12
         1. We often think that the enemy is the pornographer, the drug dealer, or the warmonger.
         2. But the real enemy is the devil.
      3. When we understand that our battle is not with flesh blood but is spiritual, we should be encouraged because that battle can be fought and won by faith.
   3. Amram and Jochebed were not afraid, and we need to put the fear out of our lives, as well.
      1. By faith, we need to raise our children in these dangerous days for Jesus.
   4. 2 Timothy 3:1
      1. We are living in perilous times.
         1. There is liberalism in our churches.
            1. There is nothing more deadening and more devil-pleasing than a liberal church that does not accept the true Lordship of Jesus Christ and the inerrancy and infallibility of the Word of God.
            2. A liberal church is empty, futile and dangerous.
         2. There is humanism in education.
            1. A philosophy that makes man the sum and the substance, the center and the circumference of everything.
            2. Humanism is a polite way of saying atheism.
            3. Humanism takes God from His throne, enthrones man, and makes man the sum, the center and circumference of everything.
            4. The chief building block of humanism is evolution, which is a religion.

We can’t teach creationism in public schools because that is teaching religion.

But humanism and evolution are both religions.

They are attempts to explain everything apart from God.

They are both a negative religion.

Evolution is, in itself, a faith because it has never been proven.

* + - * 1. Sex education in schools will never work unless it is conjoined and accompanied by strict, biblical, moral truth.
      1. There is hedonism in society.
         1. Society today is given over completely to sensualism.
         2. The alcohol industry is targeting our youth and young people with their marketing campaigns.

As a wise parent, decide not to have any beverage alcohol in your home.

Make it a point to be up when they get home.

Establish a non-drinking tradition in your family.

* + - * 1. Most all sexual encounters on television are illicit, dealing with perversion, adultery or fornication.
        2. Proverbs 21:11

“Simple” means naïve.

* 1. Amram and Jochebed were not afraid of the king’s commandment because they knew the King of kings.
     1. They were not afraid because of faith.
  2. We will not be successful at raising our children as we ought unless we have the kind of faith that Amram and Jochebed had.
     1. Don’t throw up your hands or throw in the towel, but have the vision and the valor to be the parents that God wants you to be.

1. faith’s venture (hebrews 11:23)
   1. Hebrews 11:23
      1. They did something.
         1. They hid their child from Pharaoh’s henchmen.
   2. Amram and Jochebed did not just sit around saying, “We’re just going to trust God.”
      1. Faith without works is dead.
      2. James 2:17
      3. When you have the vision and the valor, then you have to have the venture.
      4. True faith is belief with legs on it.
         1. It does something.
   3. Amram and Jochebed did not have fatalism.
      1. They did not say, “Whatever will be, will be.”
   4. They did not have fanaticism.
      1. They did not say, “We’ll just throw him into the Nile and let God take care of him.”
      2. Real faith acts; they did something.
      3. Real faith is belief with legs on it.
      4. James 2:17-18
         1. “Faith without works is dead.”
            1. If you are going to raise your child in today’s society, you had better get to work.
         2. If you believe God for a house, say “Amen” with a hammer and saw.
         3. Say “Amen” with work.
      5. 2 Thessalonians 3:10
   5. You do your part, and God will do His.
   6. Proverbs 22:6
      1. It is our duty to train up our children.
         1. Political correctness is against that today.
         2. Political correctness says that spanking a child is child abuse.
            1. Proverbs 22:15
         3. Political correctness says to give your children birth control.
            1. God says, “Teach your daughter character.”
            2. Hebrews 13:4
         4. Political correctness says that the government should partner with the parents.
            1. Psalm 127:3
         5. Political correctness says that you should let your children choose their own sexual preference.
            1. Leviticus 18:22
      2. When you do what God would have you to do, then God will move in and do His part.
      3. Are you training your children?
         1. The word “train” means “to prepare for a contest,” “to instruct by exercise,” “to drill,” “to form a proper shape,” and “to discipline for use.”
         2. We have to pray.
         3. We have to teach and show by example.
         4. Do you have your children in a Bible-believing church?
         5. Do you have your children in a Bible class or Sunday school with a born-again teacher?
         6. Are you training in the home by precept and by example?
         7. We are to train our children.
            1. If all we do is teach our children, then someone else can come along and teach them something else.
            2. But when you train them, it becomes part of them.
   7. Faith honors God, and God honors faith.
      1. Exodus 2:3-9
         1. When they could no longer hide Moses, they made a little ark out of bulrushes and placed him in the Nile River.
         2. The princess, Pharaoh’s daughter, came to bathe in the Nile.
            1. Why did the princess bathe in the dirty Nile River when she had lavish baths in her palace?
            2. But she went to that exact spot where the little baby was floating in that basket.
         3. When she saw the baby, it was at that exact moment that the baby cried.
            1. Her maternal heart melted at the cry of that little baby.
         4. About that time, Moses’ sister Miriam came forward and offered to get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for the princess.
         5. Moses’ mother was going to get little Moses back and be able to train him.
            1. She must have poured her heart, life, mind, and prayers into the heart of little Moses.
         6. Moses was trained by his own mother, and she was paid for it, as well.
         7. Moses also had access to the finest education that money could buy in Egypt.
            1. Acts 7:22
      2. What a mighty thing God began to do when they did their part.
      3. When we obey God and follow God, He will move in and do something wonderful.
2. faith’s victory (hebrews 11:24-27)
   1. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world.
   2. Hebrews 11:24-27
      1. Moses had caught a glimpse of Jesus and endured.
   3. Moses was faced with tremendous temptation.
      1. He had received a secular education.
      2. Jochebed had also put into Moses’ heart something that a secular university could not take away.
   4. Now, Moses was offered a choice:
      1. On one hand, he could have everything that royalty could provide.
         1. Pleasures
         2. Treasures
         3. Power
         4. Position
      2. If he turned his back on what the palace had to offer, then he would face the wrath of the king of Egypt.
         1. He would face reproach, deprivation, and struggle.
         2. Yet, he would have the treasures of Jesus.
   5. How did Moses make his decision?
      1. Evaluation
         1. Moses evaluated.
         2. Hebrews 11:26
            1. On the one hand is the reproach of Christ.
            2. On the other hand are the treasures of Egypt.

Moses evaluated which was greater.

* + - 1. Through the teaching of his parents, Moses came to see that that treasures of Christ were greater than the riches of Egypt.
      2. The word for “esteemed” in verse 26 is a bookkeeping term.
         1. He balanced the ledger.
         2. He saw that the glories of the future outweigh the pleasures of the present.
         3. He saw that to be a child of God was greater than to be a grandchild of Pharaoh.
      3. Moses got his values straight.
      4. We need to teach our children how to evaluate.
    1. Determination
       1. Hebrews 11:25
          1. He chose on the basis of an evaluation.

His determination came from the evaluation.

* + - 1. Our children will not be determined to live for God without the proper values in their hearts.
      2. Our children’s lives are measured by choices.
      3. We’re free to choose, we’re not free not to choose, and we’re not free to choose the consequences of our choice.
         1. We choose, and then the choice chooses for us.
    1. Elimination
       1. That determination led to an elimination.
       2. Hebrews 11:24, 27
       3. Most parents try to get their kids to make an elimination before giving them values.
          1. They tell their children not to do this and not to do that without giving them the reason for doing it or not doing it.
          2. We must get the values into their hearts.

Once they see the value, then they can determine.

Once they determine, then they can eliminate.

If you try to take a nasty bone away from a dog, you might get bit.

But if you put a piece of steak on the ground, the dog will drop the bone to get the steak.

* + - 1. We must put the riches of Jesus Christ into the hearts of our children.
         1. If our children don’t have the riches of Jesus in their hearts, then there will be no evaluation, no determination and no elimination.

And Egypt will have them.

1. CONCLUSION
   1. We must be parents of faith.
      1. Faith’s vision, faith’s valor and faith’s venture will lead to faith’s victory.
   2. But in order to be a parent of faith, you must first trust in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16