

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Faith for the Family

SERMON REFERENCE: Hebrews 11:23-27

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Hebrews 11:23-27
 - i) We find two champions of faith in this passage:
 - (1) Amram
 - (2) Jochebed
 - ii) Amram and Jochebed were parents to Moses.
- b) The most powerful and influential people on Earth do not occupy elected offices or run industries or handle the business of Wall Street.
 - i) The most powerful and influential people on Earth are parents of faith.
- c) The importance of family cannot be overestimated.
- d) To say that it takes a village to raise a child is backwards.
 - i) It takes a family to raise a child, and families change the village.
 - ii) It begins with the parents.
- e) The family is the primary classroom.
- f) Psalm 68:6
- g) The devil has unleashed an all-out war upon the family.
- h) Amram and Jochebed went against the tide of their day.
- i) In today's message, we will learn four things about faith for the family.

2) FAITH'S VISION (HEBREWS 11:23)

- a) Hebrews 11:23
 - i) 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."
- b) Amram and Jochebed were people of great faith.
 - i) They were students of the Word of God.
 - ii) They were both born of the tribe of Levi.
 - iii) 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.
 - (a) It was time to come out of Egypt.
 - (2) A leader was needed.
 - iv) 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.
- c) Every child is special, and parents need to see every child as a special child.
- d) The greatest joy, privilege and responsibility is to be a parent.
- e) Psalm 112:1-2
- f) We cannot control the destiny of our children, but we can certainly influence the destiny of our children.
- g) Not only can we, but we must believe God on behalf of our children.
 - i) 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.
 - h) Proverbs 22:6
 - i) 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.
 - ii) Every child has a particular bent.
 - (1) They are not warped, but they are bent to a particular thing.
 - iii) 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.
 - i) 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.
 - j) 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)
- a) Hebrews 11:23
 - i) 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
 - ii) But they were not afraid.
 - b) Though it was a dangerous time for them, Amram and Jochebed realized that their battle was not primarily with Pharaoh.
 - i) Their battle was spiritual.
 - ii) 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.
 - iii) 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.
 - c) Amram and Jochebed were not afraid, and we need to put the fear out of our lives, as well.
 - i) By faith, we need to raise our children in these dangerous days for Jesus.
 - d) 2 Timothy 3:1
 - i) We are living in perilous times.
 - (1) There is liberalism in our churches.
 - (a) 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) There is humanism in education.
 - (a) Humanism is a polite way of saying atheism.

- (b) Humanism takes God from His throne, enthrones man, and makes man the sum, the center and circumference of everything.
 - (c) The chief building block of humanism is evolution, which is a religion.
 - (i) We can't teach creationism in public schools because that is teaching religion.
 - (ii) But humanism and evolution are both religions.
 - 1. They are attempts to explain everything apart from God.
 - 2. They are both a negative religion.
 - 3. Evolution is, in itself, a faith because it has never been proven.
 - (3) There is hedonism in society.
 - (a) Society today is given over completely to sensualism.
 - (b) The alcohol industry is targeting our youth and young people with their marketing campaigns.
 - (i) As a wise parent, decide not to have any beverage alcohol in your home.
 - (c) Most all sexual encounters on television are illicit, dealing with perversion, adultery or fornication.
 - e) Amram and Jochebed were not afraid of the king's commandment because they knew the King of kings.
 - i) They were not afraid because of faith.
 - f) We will not be successful at raising our children as we ought unless we have the kind of faith that Amram and Jochebed had.
 - i) 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.
- 4) FAITH'S VENTURE (HEBREWS 11:23)
- a) Hebrews 11:23
 - i) They did something.
 - (1) They hid their child from Pharaoh's henchmen.
 - b) Amram and Jochebed did not just sit around saying, "We're just going to trust God."
 - i) Faith without works is dead.
 - ii) James 2:17
 - iii) When you have the vision and the valor, then you have to have the venture.
 - iv) True faith is belief with legs on it.
 - (1) It does something.
 - c) Amram and Jochebed did not have fatalism.
 - i) They did not say, "Whatever will be, will be."
 - d) They did not have fanaticism.
 - i) They did not say, "We'll just throw him into the Nile and let God take care of him."

- ii) They did something.
 - (1) If you believe God for a house, say “Amen” with a hammer and saw.
 - (2) Say “Amen” with work.
- iii) 2 Thessalonians 3:10
- e) You do your part, and God will do His.
- f) Proverbs 22:6
 - i) 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.
 - (a) Proverbs 22:15
 - (3) Political correctness says to give your children birth control.
 - (a) Hebrews 13:4
 - (4) Political correctness says that the government should partner with the parents.
 - (a) Psalm 127:3
 - (5) Political correctness says that you should let your children choose their own sexual preference.
 - (a) Leviticus 18:22
 - ii) When you do what God would have you to do, then God will move in and do His part.
 - iii) 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.
 - (a) If all we do is teach our children, then someone else can come along and teach them something else.
 - (b) But when you train them, it becomes part of them.
- g) Faith honors God, and God honors faith.
 - i) 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.
 - (a) Why did the princess bathe in the dirty Nile River when she had lavish baths in her palace?
 - (b) 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) Acts 7:22
 - ii) What a mighty thing God began to do when they did their part.
 - iii) When we obey God and follow God, He will move in and do something wonderful.
- 5) FAITH'S VICTORY (HEBREWS 11:24-27)
- a) Faith is the victory that overcomes the world.
 - b) Hebrews 11:24-27
 - i) Moses had caught a glimpse of Jesus and endured.
 - c) Moses was faced with tremendous temptation.
 - i) He had received a secular education.
 - ii) Jochebed had also put into Moses' heart something that a secular university could not take away.
 - d) Now, Moses was offered a choice:
 - i) On one hand, he could have everything that royalty could provide.
 - (1) Pleasures
 - (2) Treasures
 - (3) Power
 - (4) Position
 - ii) 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.
 - e) How did Moses make his decision?
 - i) Evaluation
 - (1) Moses evaluated.
 - (2) Hebrews 11:26
 - (a) On the one hand is the reproach of Christ.
 - (b) On the other hand are the treasures of Egypt.
 - (i) Moses evaluated which was greater.
 - (3) Through the teaching of his parents, Moses came to see that that treasures of Christ were greater than the riches of Egypt.

- (4) The word for “esteemed” in verse 26 is a bookkeeping term.
 - (a) He balanced the ledger.
 - (b) He saw that the glories of the future outweigh the pleasures of the present.
 - (c) He saw that to be a child of God was greater than to be a grandchild of Pharaoh.
- (5) Moses got his values straight.
- (6) We need to teach our children how to evaluate.
- ii) Determination
 - (1) Hebrews 11:25
 - (a) He chose on the basis of an evaluation.
 - (i) His determination came from the evaluation.
 - (2) Our children will not be determined to live for God without the proper values in their hearts.
 - (3) Our children’s lives are measured by choices.
 - (4) We’re free to choose, we’re not free not to choose, and we’re not free to choose the consequences of our choice.
 - (a) We choose, and then the choice chooses for us.
- iii) 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (b) We must get the values into their hearts.
 - (i) Once they see the value, then they can determine.
 - (ii) Once they determine, then they can eliminate.
 - 1. If you try to take a nasty bone away from a dog, you might get bit.
 - 2. But if you put a piece of steak on the ground, the dog will drop the bone to get the steak.
 - (4) We must put the riches of Jesus Christ into the hearts of our children.
 - (a) If our children don’t have the riches of Jesus in their hearts, then there will be no evaluation, no determination and no elimination.
 - (i) And Egypt will have them.

6) CONCLUSION

- a) We must be parents of faith.
 - i) Faith’s vision, faith’s valor and faith’s venture will lead to faith’s victory.
- b) But in order to be a parent of faith, you must first trust in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
- c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.

- d) 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.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16