**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Family Faith |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Hebrews 11:23-27 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2123 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. Hebrews 11:23-27
	2. God wants the home to be the primary classroom in which to raise children, and it must be done by faith.
		1. Matthew 9:29
	3. Today’s message will look into the lives of two forgotten heroes in the Bible: Amram and Jochebed.
		1. They were powerful people because they were the father and mother of Moses.
		2. They were powerless as slaves, under the tormenting chains of Egyptian bondage.
		3. There seemed to be very little that they could really do, yet, they did the thing that every mother and father ought to do.
			1. They raised a child by faith.
	4. The most powerful and influential people on Earth are mothers and fathers of faith.
	5. The message today will share four things about raising children by faith.
2. faith sees every child as special (hebrews 11:23)
	1. Hebrews 11:23
		1. Some translations say that Moses was “an unusual child” or “a beautiful baby.”
		2. God had a plan for Moses.
			1. Every baby on Earth is special.
			2. God has a plan for every child that is born on planet Earth.
	2. Parents need to do what Amram and Jochebed did, and that is to wait before God until He gives you a dream, a vision for your child.
		1. Wait before God until you can see that your child is a special child.
	3. Psalm 112:1-2
		1. This is not merely a promise to some, but it’s a promise to all who fear the Lord.
	4. Great people are not born; great people are made.
		1. They are nurtured.
	5. It was by faith that Amram and Jochebed saw that Moses was a special child.
		1. Hebrews 11:23
	6. Not only ***can*** we believe God for our children, but we ***must*** believe God for our children.
		1. Mark 9:14-29
			1. God did not put the burden to believe upon the child but upon the parent.
			2. This boy was not in a position to believe at that particular time.
				1. He needed someone to have faith for him.

Decide to have faith for your children.

* 1. Proverbs 22:6
		1. Every child is different.
		2. The idea in this passage is that of a bend in a bow.
			1. Every child has his or her special bent.
			2. Every child has his or her own proclivities.
				1. Find out the proclivities of your child.
1. faith sees every conflict as spiritual (hebrews 11:23)
	1. Hebrews 11:23
		1. Exodus 1:22
			1. The king’s commandment was to kill all the boy babies.
		2. Amram and Jochebed saw that this conflict was a spiritual conflict.
			1. It was not a conflict between Jews and Egyptians.
			2. It was not a conflict between parents and a king.
			3. It was a conflict between light and dark, between the Spirit of God and the spirit of wickedness.
	2. Ephesians 6:12
		1. Faith sees every conflict as spiritual.
	3. Amram and Jochebed lived as slaves in Egypt.
		1. They were helpless and disenfranchised.
		2. They had no rights.
			1. What despair they must have had apart from the courage that faith gave them.
		3. When they realized that this was a spiritual conflict, they took courage and were not afraid of the king’s command.
	4. Just as Amram and Jochebed were living in dangerous days, we are also living in dangerous days; and we must see today that the conflict is spiritual.
		1. 2 Timothy 3:1
			1. Perilous times are here.
			2. As parents, we are walking through a minefield, and we won’t get through unless we use faith to understand that we are in a spiritual battle.
				1. Our wit, wisdom and money will not get us through.
		2. We are facing liberalism in religion.
			1. It is a tragedy when children are raised in churches that do not accept the authority of the Word of God and where the life of the Lord Jesus Christ is not made manifest.
				1. It would be better for them not to attend church than to attend a Bible-doubting, empty, futile and liberal church.
			2. Many parents will drive across the nation to find a good college for their children, but they won’t drive across town to get their children in a good church.
		3. We have humanism in education.
			1. Humanism is camouflaged atheism.
			2. Humanism sounds good because it sounds so much like humanitarianism.
				1. But humanism does not believe in a personal God.
				2. Humanism believes that man is the sum and substance, the center and the circumference of his existence.
			3. The chief building block of humanistic education is evolution.
				1. Evolution is religion in reverse.

It is an attempt to explain everything apart from God.

* + - 1. Whereas the prime building block is evolution, it is capped off by sex education in the schools.
				1. Everything is wrong with sex education if it is not built on a fixed standard of right and wrong.
				2. Sex education will never work for good but will always work for harm unless it is accompanied by genuine moral values.
				3. When you divorce sex education from moral principles, then it is totally bankrupt and is implicit approval for immorality.
		1. We have hedonism in society.
			1. We have a society today that has been soaked in beverage alcohol.
				1. The alcohol industry, who sponsors many sporting events, wants to seduce our children.
				2. Everyone, when he or she begins to drink, believes that he or she will drink responsibly.

Yet, many become alcoholics or problem drinkers.

Proverbs 20:1

* + - * 1. There are certain things we need to do as parents:

Allow absolutely no beverage alcohol in your home.

When your children go out at night, be home and awake when they come home.

It’s better to lose your sleep than to lose your children.

Give them a big hug and smell what’s on their breath.

Help your children see that there is another side to alcohol besides the glitter of the advertisements.

Proverbs 21:11

The word “simple” means “naïve.”

* + - 1. The entertainment industry
				1. What are our kids watching?
				2. When our children are taught to laugh at sin (which is the basic theme of most television sitcoms), then they cannot take it seriously again.

Proverbs 14:9

* + - * 1. The television has become a babysitter.
	1. Amram and Jochebed saw the conflict as spiritual, and the only answer to a spiritual conflict is faith.
		1. They were not afraid of the king’s commandment.
			1. Hebrews 11:23
		2. By faith, they saw beyond the king to the King of kings.
1. faith sees every challenge as solvable (hebrews 11:23-24)
	1. Amram and Jochebed had a problem, and they solved that problem.
		1. They were not intimidated by the king of Egypt.
		2. They were not intimidated by the sinister minister of fear, who is Satan himself.
			1. Hebrews 11:23
				1. They were not afraid.
			2. They did something.
			3. They refused to give in to the spirit of fear.
		3. They refused to be lazy.
		4. They refused to be passive.
		5. They refused to be selfish.
		6. They refused to be cowardly.
	2. Philippians 4:13
	3. There is no problem that cannot be overcome by faith.
	4. Exodus 2:1-4
		1. Moses’ parents put him in a little ark made of bulrushes.
		2. This was not fatalism.
			1. They did not say, “There’s nothing we can do. Whatever will be will be.”
			2. If you have a garden and fail to do something, then it will soon become a garden of weeds.
		3. This was not fanaticism.
			1. They did not take Moses and just throw him into the river without building a boat for him and say, “We’ll just trust God to deliver him.”
		4. It was faith.
			1. We know it was faith because they did something.
			2. James 2:17-18
	5. Proverbs 22:6
		1. The word “train” does not mean to teach; it means “to prepare for a contest,” “to instruct by exercise,” “to drill,” “to form to a proper shape,” “to discipline for use.”
		2. Training is more than teaching.
			1. Do you have your children in a Bible-believing church?
			2. Do you have them in a Sunday school class?
			3. Do you know who their friends are?
			4. Do you know where they’re going?
			5. Are you living in front of them by precept and example?
	6. Real faith is belief with legs on it.
		1. Many parents are wearing themselves out with scout troops, umpiring Little League games, and community recreational programs; but that is not family training.
		2. No one can do family training but you.
			1. You may teach your child one thing, but someone else may teach him something different and he may decide to believe that other teaching.
			2. When you train your child, you put something in him that no matter how rebellious he may want to be, there is something in him that restrains him.
	7. Exodus 2:5-10
		1. We see the providence of God throughout this story.
			1. Pharaoh’s daughter, living in the richest nation on Earth at that time, had access to marble tubs and lavish baths.
				1. Why would she choose to bathe in the dirty Nile River?
			2. The baby cried while Pharaoh’s daughter was there.
			3. Jochebed is given the privilege of nursing, teaching and training her child.
				1. And when Moses is ready for a college education, Pharaoh has to pay the tuition.
			4. Jochebed is paid for taking care of Moses, for whom she would give her life.
			5. Jochebed raises her child.
	8. By faith, Amram and Jochebed did what they could do.
		1. They built the little boat.
			1. But that was all they could do.
	9. When we do all that we can do, then God will do the rest.
		1. There are situations that we cannot control.
		2. But when we act by faith and do what we can do, then we turn our children over to God; and God will move Heaven and Earth for our children when we believe Him.
	10. It wasn’t by chance but by the providence of God.
	11. Don’t let the devil make you negative or pessimistic concerning your children.
		1. There is a way for your children.
2. faith sees every choice as significant (hebrews 11:24-27)
	1. Hebrews 11:24-27
		1. Moses had tremendous temptations.
		2. He had before him all of the pleasures and treasures of Egypt.
			1. Worldly position, pleasure and possessions.
			2. It was all at his fingertips, but Moses had a value system.
	2. There was a value established.
		1. Hebrews 11:26
			1. Moses saw the reproaches of Christ and the treasures of Egypt.
			2. The word “esteemed” in this passage means that he accounted.
		2. Moses did some figuring, and he saw that the glories of the future outweighed the pleasures of the present.
			1. He saw that to be a child of God was greater riches than to be a grandson of Pharaoh.
			2. He saw that it was better to be right with the King of kings than with the king of Egypt.
				1. So, he made a choice.
		3. It is foolish to expect our children to make right choices until they see proper values.
		4. Moses had learned the reproaches of Christ.
			1. Jochebed and Amram put it in his heart.
	3. Virtue was chosen.
		1. Hebrews 11:25
		2. Our job as parents is to teach our children to choose.
		3. We all must choose; we cannot escape choices.
			1. Even if we choose not to choose, that is a choice.
		4. If Moses had decided not to choose, then he would have stayed right where he was.
			1. So, he chose.
		5. We can choose, but we cannot choose the consequences of our choice.
			1. When your child makes a choice, then the choice chooses for your child.
	4. There was a vice that was rejected.
		1. Moses was at a crossroads.
			1. He could have perhaps sat on the throne of Egypt.
				1. He could have had pleasure, possessions, popularity and power.
				2. Where would that road end?
			2. Or, he could choose reproach and suffering with the people of God.
				1. Where would that road end?
		2. Everything in this world is generated to make our kids go down the road of pleasure, possessions, popularity and power.
		3. Help them choose God.
			1. This is by faith.
3. CONCLUSION
	1. You can believe God for your children and for every area of your life.
	2. Pray now that God will increase your faith.
		1. Without faith, it is impossible to please God.
			1. Hebrews 11:6
		2. Without faith, we will be failures as parents and grandparents.
	3. To have faith, you must first be saved.
		1. You must surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ; you must have a personal relationship with Jesus.
	4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	5. 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