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“Laughter or Possibilities”

by
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What God visits Abraham and Sarah to give them new names and to announce that they will have a baby. They are beside themselves with laughter, unsure that it can be true, but ultimately choose to believe that nothing is impossible for God.

Themes: Trust, Obedience, Family, Abraham, Sarah, Covenant

Who Sarah
Abraham
God (offstage voice)

When Biblical days

Wear (Props) Abraham and Sarah may be dressed in Biblical attire or in a more contemporary feel of all black.

Why Genesis 17,18

How Abraham and Sarah should both be very naïve and disbelieving when hearing of God’s plans for their lives. Laughter should build for each until reality sets in. Age does not deter God from using us to fulfill his will.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Abraham is onstage alone whittling (or performing some other hobby).

Abraham: *(humming and singing as he whittles)* It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood...a beautiful day to be neighbors...*(admires wood)* ...now that is great work if I do say so myself...yesiree...*(continues to hum and sing and whittle)* ... *(stops short in pain and holds shoulder)* ...oh, boy that hurts...I guess my age is catching up with me a bit...I used to could whittle all day long...but now, this old body just needs a rest every now and then.

God: *(offstage)* Abram.

Abraham: *(startled)* Who is it?

God: I am El-Shaddai...God Almighty.

Abraham: *(falls down and bows)* My God!

God: I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants. I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham.

Abraham: *(peeks up)* Are you sure you want to do that? I just had a bunch of business cards made up and I had Abram put on them...

God: *(loudly)* Your name will be Abraham!

Abraham: No problem. Abraham it is. *(Bows back down)*

God: Your wife will now be known as Sarah. I will bless her and give you a son from her.

Abraham: *(still bowed and begins to lightly laugh)*

God: Abraham, did you hear me?

Abraham: *(still bowed and laughing louder)*

God: What is wrong?

Abraham: *(looks up and is laughing loudly)* I thought you said that Sarah and I were going to have a baby.

God: I did say that. You will have a son and you will become the father and mother of many nations.

Abraham: *(laughing loudly)* Oh, God. You have such a great sense of humor! You had me going there for a minute.

God: What is so funny? You and Sarah are going to have a baby boy!

Abraham: (*stands*) God...look at me! I am old and gray and shriveled up! How can I become a father at the age of 100?

No reply from God.

Abraham: This is a joke, right?

No reply from God.

Abraham: Maybe there is another Abram that you meant for this task.

God: You are the one I have chosen. There will be a son born to you and Sarah about this time next year. Have a good day!

Abraham: But God...we need to talk a little more...don't leave yet...I don't know anything about birthing babies...God!

Abraham continues to pace around stage and Sarah enters.

Sarah: Abram...are you OK?

Abraham: (*startled*) Oh...yes, I'm... fine.

Sarah: Well, you look a little pale. Are you getting sick?

Abraham: No. I'm just thinking about things.

Sarah: Oh. All right. (*Turns back to leave*)

Abraham: Wait. I just talked to God!

Sarah: What?

Abraham: God and I had a conversation.

Sarah: You and God?

Abraham: Yes.

Sarah: You had a little chat with God?

Abraham: Not just a little chat. You won't believe it. Big stuff!

Sarah: Why don't you give me a try?

Abraham: Well, first off...God is changing our names.

Sarah: Is that right?

Abraham: Yes. I am going to be called Abraham from now on and you are going to be called Sarah.

Sarah: Well, that doesn't sound like too big of a deal. I kind of like that...Abraham and Sarah...it has a nice ring to it. What else?

Abraham: You'd better sit down for this next thing.

Sarah: I'm OK.

Abraham: Trust me. *(guides her to chair)* You need to sit down.

Sarah: Abram...I mean Abraham...what is it?

Abraham: God said that about this time next year, you and I are going to have a baby.

Sarah: *(pauses)* A baby what?

Abraham: A son! We are going to have a little boy!!!

Sarah: You and me?

Abraham: Yes.

Sarah: A baby.

Abraham: That's right.

Sarah: *(begins to quietly shake with laughter, then explodes laughing)* You were sleeping and dreaming again!

Abraham: No I wasn't! God told me this.

Sarah: Well, then we need to get your ears checked again, because you heard wrong!

Abraham: God said he chose us to have a baby.

Sarah: *(standing)* Abraham...look at me. How could a worn-out woman like me enjoy such pleasure, especially when you are...well, you are no spring chicken.

Abraham: Listen, I know this is a lot for you to take in. Why don't I give you a little time to yourself? Just sit back down. I'll go finish your housework for you. *(Helps Sarah sit back down)*

Sarah: You are crazy.

Abraham: Just relax. *(Pats Sarah and slips away)*

Sarah: A baby? ...I am ninety years old! ...There is no way that an old woman like me can have a baby... *(begins silently laughing again and then builds to full laughter)*

God: *(offstage)* Sarah?

Sarah: *(startled)* Who is it?

God: I am El-Shaddai...God Almighty!

Sarah: *(falls to knees)* You want to talk to me?

God: Yes. Sarah...why are you laughing?

Sarah: I didn't laugh.

God: Yes, you did.

Sarah: Well, you see my husband just told me that he and I are going to have a baby next year, and well...it is so funny.

God: Why?

Sarah: God...he is ninety-nine years old and I am ninety. The only diapers around here are the ones we need to wear.

God: Sarah, you are going to have a son.

Sarah: This can't be.

God: Is anything too hard for the Lord?

Sarah: But how?

God: This is my plan. Have a good day!

Sarah: *(stands)* God? ... Wait! ... I have some more questions for you! ... God? ... *(stops and looks at herself)* ... is anything too hard for the Lord? ...well, maybe not... *(starts dancing around)* ...I'm feeling a little younger already... *(leaves stage laughing)*

Blackout