# HOW GOD TESTS YOUR FAITH

**Building Character – Part 5** Rick Warren May 25-26, 2019

"Whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your FAITH IS TESTED, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when it is fully developed you will be STRONG IN CHARACTER and ready for anything!" James 1:2-4 (NLT)

## **6 WAYS GOD TESTS YOUR FAITH TO BUILD YOUR CHARACTER**

1<sup>s⊤</sup> TEST:

(WHAT Lord?)

"It was by faith that Noah built an ark to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about something that had never happened before." Heb. 11:7 (NLT)

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain OF WHAT we do not see." Heb. 11:1 (NIV)

2<sup>ND</sup> TEST:\_\_\_\_\_\_(WHERE Lord?)

"It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went WITHOUT KNOWING WHERE HE WAS GOING." Heb. 11:8-10 (NLT)

3<sup>RD</sup> TEST:

(WHEN Lord?)

"Even after Abraham reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, LIVING IN A TENT AND SO DID ISAAC AND JACOB, to whom God gave the SAME PROMISE. Abraham did this because he was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God." Heb. 11:8-10 (NLT)

o FAITH IS

without knowing "WHEN?"

### 4<sup>™</sup> TEST:

<sup>TH</sup> TEST:\_\_\_\_\_\_ (HOW Lord?) *"It was by faith that Sarah together with Abraham was A<u>BLE TO</u>* HAVE A CHILD, even though they were too old and Sarah was barren. Abraham believed that God would keep his promise. And so a whole nation came from this one man, Abraham, who was too old to have any children—a nation with so many people that, like the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore, there is no way to count them." Heb. 11:11-12 (NLT)

5<sup>TH</sup> TEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (WHY Lord?) "It was by faith that Abraham <u>offered Isaac as a sacrifice</u> when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God's promises. was READY TO SACRIFICE his only son, Isaac, even though God had promised him, 'Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted." Heb.11:17-18 (NLT)

"Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death!" Heb. 11:19 (NIV)

6<sup>™</sup> TEST:

<sup>TH</sup> TEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (HOW LONG Lord?) "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, <u>refused</u> to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. HE CHOSE TO BE MISTREATED along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward." Heb. 11:24-26 (NIV)

### o FAITH IS

without knowing "HOW LONG?"

"By faith Moses left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; He PERSEVERED because he saw him who is invisible." Heb. 11:27 (NIV)

> An Opportunity- God gives you a promise An Obstacle or Opponent –that holds you back An Ordeal - A waiting period or test