



Life In The Balance – A Series On Romans
Chapter 4 – My Miracle Family of Faith

Romans 4:1-16 (NIV)

Romans 4:17 (NIV) As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

Two Kinds of Miracles:

1. **Life-Giver - God gives life to the dead.**
2. **Creator - God creates something out of nothing.**

Living Out my Faith in This Miracle Family:

1. I place my faith in God.

Hebrews 6:13-15; 18 (NIV) When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, ¹⁴ saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." ¹⁵ And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised... ¹⁸ God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.

2. I base my hope on God's word.

Romans 4:18 (NIV) Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed... ..and so became the father of many nations just as it had been said to him.



Romans 10:17 (NIV) Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

3. I look beyond the circumstances.

Romans 4:19 (NIV) Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah's womb was also dead.

FAITH is facing the facts...

but not allowing it to...**weaken your faith**.

4. I give glory to God.

Romans 4:20-21 (NIV) Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

James 1:6-8 (NKJV) But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

- **Humans** ignored God, the Creator (1:20, 25);
Abraham believed in God as Creator and Life-Giver (4:17).
- **Humans** knew about God's power, but didn't worship him as God (1:20);
Abraham recognized God's power, and trusted him to use it (4:21).
- **Human** beings did not give God the glory he was due (1:21);
Abraham gave God the glory (4:20).
- **Human** beings dishonored their own bodies by worshipping beings that were not divine (1:24);
Abraham, through worshipping the God who gives new LIFE, found that his own body regained its power even though he was long past the age for fathering children.