**Week of October 21, 2018**

**Genesis 18:9-15, 21:1-7**

9 “Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

10 Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. 11 Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

15 Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.”

But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

21 Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. 2 Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. 3 Abraham gave the name Isaac[a] to the son Sarah bore him. 4 When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. 5 Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

6 Sarah said, “God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” 7 And she added, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.

**Understanding The Scriptures**

Today’s scripture continues in our meeting and understanding of God’s plan for Abraham.

What is a promise? A promise is a declaration or assurance that one will do a particular thing or that a particular thing will happen. As we have studied that God’s promises are kept, never broken and you can count on them. What is an angel? An angel is a spiritual being whom act as an attendant, agent, or messenger of God, conventionally represented in human form. Angels are formless but take the form of a human to get God’s message across. The background of the week’s scripture finds that the three angels visit Abraham with a message from God. God had specifically given Abraham this message before and Abraham fell to his face and laughed about it because he and Sarah were of old age and believed that they were past the child baring age. Abraham and Sarah his wife decided to take matters in the own hand by involving their maid Haggar to bear a child for them. However, that was not God’s plan. Sarah overheard the discussion outside of the tent an began to laugh in disbelief. We have all had situations that have come up and someone may be telling us about an issue or a possibility and we laugh it off. Our laughing may not be done in joyous manner but more in disbelief. Why disbelief, usually we are looking back at some historical experiences that we have had on the matter or understanding that we have on the matter and that forms our opinion. To have faith challenges those experiences. It makes one lean not to their own understanding but belief that we may not necessarily understand or can figure out. Abraham and Sarah were told by the Lord that he would come back in a year and at that time they would have a son. As God promised Sarah bore Abraham a son and called him Isaac. Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was ninety-one years old when she bore Isaac. In today’s time we would find this unbelievable based our understanding. However, this was a promise made and fulfilled by God.

