

Patient Progress (Hebrews 11:11-12, 17-19)

June 7, 2026

TEXT— Hebrews 11:11-12, 17-19

MAIN IDEA—Trusting in the Lord and His plan during trials and perceived delays builds our faith and gives glory to God.

Memory Verses—Heb. 6:11-12

1. FAITH GROWS THROUGH TRUSTING GOD IN THE MIDST OF CIRCUMSTANCES (Heb. 11:11)—Abraham and Sarah were troubled by their circumstances. Abraham was 75 and Sarah was 65 when God promised He would give them a son, land, blessing and descendants (**Gen. 12:4**). Old age, barrenness and delays were trying circumstances.

See Gen. 16:1-4.

1 Pet. 4:12-13; Jas. 1:2-3

2. FAITH GROWS THROUGH WAITING (Heb. 11:11)—Abraham and Sarah waited 25 years, overcame frustrating circumstances and received name changes before God fulfilled His promise. Nevertheless, God fulfilled His promise.

Ps. 130:5-6

Is. 40:29-31; Lam. 3:25-26

3. FAITH GROWS THROUGH TRUSTING GOD’S PROMISES (Heb. 11:11)—Even after Sarah and Abraham struggled to believe, God graciously kept coming to them reaffirming His promises and will (**See Gen. 17:1-7**).

See Gen. 17:15-19, 21; Gen. 18:9-15

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Two reasons why God deals with us through promises:

*God's promises encourage us to look beyond temporary circumstances to see our eternal God.

2 Cor. 4:18

*God's promises keep us focused as we pass through this life (**2 Pet. 1:3-4**).

Rom. 5:1-2; Rom. 8:16-18, 28

Heb. 10:23

4. FAITH GROWS THROUGH TESTING (Heb. 11:17-19)—God tested Abraham by commanding him to offer his promised son, Isaac, as a burnt offering (**V 18**). Abraham's obedience provides valuable lessons about God's grace and how He works through our faith (**See Gen. 22:1-14**).

*The proof of love is always found in its willingness to sacrifice. **Jn. 3:16; Eph. 5:25.**

*The test of Christian devotion always involves whether we love God more than the gifts He gives.

Prov. 23:26

Richard D. Phillips — *We will be challenged to sacrifice or subordinate our careers to His will. Or perhaps it will be a relationship that is dear to us, but that cannot abide with our higher devotion to Jesus Christ. It may be money; it may be a certain self-image or a lifestyle; it can be practically anything. God test our faith in terms of our willingness to sacrifice for Him, and in this manner, He also protects us from the idolatry to which our hearts are so inherently prone.*