

Welcome to the sixth week of  
*25 Weeks of Advent!*

The stories of Advent all give us some insight as to the point and value of Jesus' life for us.

Sarah, Abraham's wife, faithfully followed the 'father of faith' when God called Abraham to leave everything, and trust in His supply.

Standing by his side, Sarah struggled with the promise of Abraham being the father of many nations, as a woman well past child-bearing age. However, Sarah learns what we also need to learn—that God works in unexpected and mysterious ways!

We see Sarah's doubtful laughter turn to true joyful laughter, as God blesses her with a son, Isaac. God gives us this gift of laughter, too—this gift of joy and surprise, when we experience Him working in our life!



### Readings for your Week

*Come to God, who is beyond our understanding, & you will go out with joy!*  
Isaiah 55

*Mothers who sang with joy*  
Hannah: 1 Samuel 1:27—2:10  
Mary: Luke 1:46-55

*God transforms our sorrow into joy*  
Psalm 30

## Week 6: The Gift of Laughter

**Read: Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7**  
*"God has brought me laughter" (v6.)*

God works in unlikely, unexpected, mysterious ways—ways that don't make sense!—so that only He can get the glory! The battle plan for Jericho was... walking, and playing music. Abraham was 75... and God said it was time to move on, start again, and become a great nation. He was 100 by the time Isaac came along! Sarah **could not have said** she had a son in her own strength, and in her own ability—it was impossible! And because it was impossible, God must get the glory.

*Have you experienced God working unexpectedly?  
What has God done, that has brought you surprising joy  
—and even made you laugh?  
How did you use this testimony to bring glory to God?*

As far as bitterness and sorrow is from joy- that's how big the transformational power of Jesus is, and the *difference* he makes when he is in our lives!

*When has God made all the difference in a situation in your life — like Sarah's joy when God gave her a miracle child?  
What is a situation that you know of now, that needs divine intervention to make a transformational difference?  
What are you praying for?*

*Share this prayer need with a friend today, and commit together to praying for a Jesus-transforming difference.*

Remember to add this picture to your Jesse tree!

