

FAMILY FAITH

Chapter 8: Our Father in Faith

Abraham had faith in God and became the father of God's people.

Chapter Summary

God's plan of love continued to unfold through Abraham. His plan was to prepare the world for the coming of the Savior. He began by calling Abraham, a very faithful man, to be the father of the Chosen People. God made three promises to Abraham: he would have a great land, a great name, and many descendants. God called Abraham to move away from his home with his family to the land that God had promised. Abraham is called our "father in faith" because he is a great example of always believing and obeying God.

More for Parents

Family life requires faith. We enter into marriage but cannot see the future of our health, our spouse's health, or where careers will take us. Nor can we guarantee that our spouse will always make the right decisions. We raise children, but we cannot foresee our children's future. We live well amid uncertainty by being rooted in belief in God and what He teaches us. Faith helps us know that God is true. Unlike those who lived before Christ's coming, we have been given intimate knowledge of God and His plan for our salvation. We no longer need to live in fear. With faith, we step into this plan of God with belief and certainty that God is faithful to us.

Virtue in the Family

The virtue of faith helps us believe in God and in what He teaches us. It helps us give our lives to God in accordance with His will. Faith also unites God's family. We are united as baptized children of God and as a community of believers in God, our loving Father.

Growing in the Virtue of Faith

- Prayer activity
 - Spend five to ten minutes reflecting on the virtue of faith and how to nurture it as a family.
 - Ask God to teach you about Himself (what/ how He loves, why He created you, what His plan is for you).
 - Express to God your belief in Him and the teachings of His Church.
 - Ask God to increase and strengthen in you the virtue of faith.
 - Conclude by reciting together as a family, "Lord, I believe in You, and I give my whole life to follow You."
- God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as many as the stars in the sky. In today's world, city lights hide many of the stars, so the full impact of this promise is lost on us. Take your family out of the city, go to a planetarium, or find pictures online of the night sky with no light pollution. Let the magnitude of God's promise sink in as you look at the myriad of stars in the heavens.
- Share with your children about your faith in God, including when you were in a difficult moment.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Chosen People**
- **descendants**

Find digital flash cards to help your children review on the parent portal.



For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.