



Amazing Hope

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds.” ~ James 1:2

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.”
~ James 1:12

The Four Tests of Life

1st Test: A major change

“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”
~ Hebrews 11:8

The “Where” Test

- 1st Lesson: I am to follow God’s leading without always knowing where.

2nd Test: A delayed promise

The “When” Test

“By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.” ~ Hebrews 11:9

- 2nd Lesson: I need to wait for God’s timing without always knowing when.

3rd Test: The impossible problem

The “How” Test

“By faith Abraham, even though he was past age - and Sarah herself was barren - was enabled to become a father because he considered Him faithful who had made the promise.” ~ Hebrews 11:11

- 3rd Lesson: I need to learn to expect a miracle without always knowing how.

4th Test: A painful tragedy

The “Why” Test

¹⁷“By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, ¹⁸even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ¹⁹Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.”
~ Hebrews 11:17-19

- 4th Lesson: I need to learn to trust God’s purposes without knowing why.