



***"And it came to pass
after the death of Abraham
that God blessed Isaac."***

(Genesis 25:11 nasb)

Did you notice that one little word **"after"**? It was "after" the death of Abraham that God blessed his son, Isaac. That's not to say that Isaac didn't enjoy the blessings of God before that, as he surely would have enjoyed the blessings of a dad who loved and served God, but now, AFTER Abraham had died, God was carrying on His covenant directly with Isaac. As I read this, I thought, as a parent we may never see the full blessing the Lord has for our child or grandchild. In fact, we may see only rebellion, disrespect, and destruction in our current situation, but (and don't you just love that with God there is always a contrast?) BUT that doesn't mean that blessing can never happen. Like Abraham, we may just not be here to see it.

We're told in Hebrews 11:8-10, and 13 that Abraham when he was called, he obeyed, even when he didn't know where that obedience would lead. He lived in faith and He died in faith, without ever receiving what was promised. But AFTER! The sweet ever AFTER. Blessing poured out not just on Abraham, not just on Isaac, but through these men who by faith served the One true God, blessed all of us as the Messiah came through their lineage of faith.

Just as Abraham, we may never get a glimpse of the blessing poured out on those we know and love, but we can know that God desires to bless them, and is always at work toward that end. In the meantime, our job is to live a life of faith, to walk in obedience to God and show His great love. To pray for our children and grandchildren in full assurance that God loves them even more than we could, and desires to bless each one. Let us be like Abraham, **"he considered God is able..."** and let us trust Him completely with the "after".

"Father, praise You for being a God who blesses. You didn't have to be, except that You are. Your character is love, always doing what is best for Your children. Forgive us for the times of doubt that You are anything but attentive and loving. Help us to accept that it may be after we leave this world that You are going to bless those we love and may we never give up praying for them. Your plan is so much grander than anything we could imagine or see. Thank You for the glimpses You allow of blessing in their lives now. Help us to be women of faith, not in some fanciful way in things, but rather faith that comes by knowing You and the strength of Your attributes. You are worthy of our faith. How we long for the sweet ever after, but until then help us to be women who walk in faith."