Thesis: Expectation Determines Experience

[Romans 4:17-21]
“… Abraham believed in the God who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did. Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping – believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have! And Abraham’s faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead – and so was Sarah’s womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God’s promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises.
1) Let God do the talking

[Romans 4:17-18]
“Abraham believed in the God who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did... “Abraham kept hoping – believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have”

2) Hope against Hope

[Romans 4:18]
“Even when there was no reason to hope, Abraham kept hoping”

[Romans 4:21]
Abraham was fully convinced that God was able to do whatever He promised.

[Romans 15:13 (NLT)]
“I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit!”

3) Wait Well

[Romans 4:20]
“Abraham never waivered in believing God’s promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God.”

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What areas of your life have you settled for? What does expecting God for more in these areas look like?
2. What are the challenges to expecting God for More?
3. What lessons can we learn from our children when it comes to faith?
4. Do you have a plan to hear God’s Word? What Bible reading plan do you have? Challenge each other to get on a steady diet of God’s Word.
5. Is your hope in the promise or is it in the one who made the promise? Talk about the difference between those two things.
6. What can we do while waiting on the promise, that will produce even more faith?