

You Can Laugh  
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Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?"  
Genesis 18:10-12

The Old Testament book of Genesis describes the lives of a cute retired couple - Sarah and Abraham. They were given a promise. They didn't always act like they believed that promise. Sometimes they even tried to make the promise happen themselves instead of waiting for God to provide. Sarah even laughed at the craziness of God's promise! They looked like sinners. They looked like us. Still God's promise came true. Miraculously, out of nothing, God gave Sarah a baby! And eventually through the line of Abraham God provided His own Son, Jesus, as Savior for all families of the world!

We have been given the promise of forgiveness and eternal life, complete and free. Like Abraham and Sarah, we don't always act like people with a promise. We stress out over challenges and don't take advantage of God's help. We stress out over our failures thinking God loves us because we are successful. We stress out over our fears, forgetting that Jesus has conquered death! Yet God still provides and His promise will come through.

Like Sarah who laughed, we often think God's promise is too good to be true. How can we be totally forgiven for free? How can salvation be a gift and not something we need to work for? How can I, who have nothing really to offer God, be given everything, even the life of His Son? It's crazy. Maybe it is hilarious. If you are really aware of how crazy in love God is with you go ahead and laugh like Sarah!

One day we will all be laughing, even with those who have gone before us. But this time it won't be a laugh of disbelief but of joy, and we will see with our own resurrected eyes all the promises of God come true!