



Three Strangers

By Arielle Namenyi

Based on the Account in Genesis 17-18

Abram was now 99 years old and only had one son, Ishmael, and that was through his servant, Hagar. One day, God visited Abram and reminded him of the promise that he would have generations of children and be a father of many nations. Abram was old and so was his wife, Sarai, so he asked God to fulfill the promise through Ishmael. But God told Abram that, while He will bless Ishmael with generations of children, the promise will come through a son from Abram with his wife, Sarai. God also changed Abram's name to Abraham, and Sarai's name to Sarah. Even though Abraham was 99 and Sarah was 90, God promised a son to them within the next year.

One hot day while Abraham was sitting at his tent door, three men came by. Abraham offered to get water to wash their feet, rest in the shade, and eat with him. The men agreed, and Abraham asked Sarah to bake bread and had a servant cook meat for them. As the men sat under the tree and ate, they asked Abraham where Sarah was. After he told the men she was in the tent, one of the men told him Sarah will bear him a son. Sarah heard them through the tent and laughed within herself, thinking, "how can I have a baby when Abraham and I are so old?" The man then asked, "Why did Sarah laugh? Is anything too hard for God? You and Sarah will have a son." Sarah was afraid and told them, "I did not laugh!" The man told her, "yes, you did." And then the three men got up and got ready to leave.

Jesus said that even when we think bad things in our heart, it's as if we are doing those things already. Even though Sarah didn't laugh at God's promises out loud, she did in her heart and that's the place where God looks the most. It does matter what we do in our life, but it matters more what's in our heart when we do them. And the best part is God is with us always and nothing is too hard for Him!

