

October 25, 2020

Isaac is Born-Genesis 21:21-7

Bible Lesson

This is the story of Isaac's birth and the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham and Sarah. The story, told by Sarah, finally makes both Abraham and Sarah parents. They are very old. Sarah is 90 and Abraham is 100. These are hardly the ages one would expect to be parents. Sarah, still in disbelief, finds this miracle to be humorous. In this story Sarah laughs, as she did when she first learned that she would be a mother. However, this time her laughter is because of joy rather than doubt. Her joy seems to come from gratitude in knowing God kept the promise made to her family and to all their descendants. In response, Sarah names her son *Isaac*, which means "laughter." We may all have different emotional responses to surprises. God can do things we do not expect, and God can create a life that we might not have imagined. When we examine our own lives, there is likely more *unexpected* than *expected*. Yet, in the midst of uncertainty, there is joy. And when we look closely, there is an immense amount of joy all around us. Today's faith word is *faith*. Faith is to believe in God's presence and hope.

Wonder together:

- Why did Sarah laugh?
- How did Sarah have faith?
- Have you ever lost faith? Why?
- How do you respond when something unexpected happens?

Today's Bible story shows us that there is so much joy when we trust in God and see God's promises fulfilled.

Activity

Print Joy printable or create your own. Color and decorate using whatever arts supplies you like best.

Start a list of things that bring you joy. Add to your list as you think of new things that bring you joy.

WONDER: What brings you joy? Where do you see joy in the world? How can you show and share joy?

Pray

Joy-filled God, we praise you.
Thank you for keeping your
promises and helping us have a
joyful faith. Amen.