

HARD
BUT — NOT — TOO
HARD

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Dwelling Place Church Vision: Manifesting
Christ in Many Ways to Many People

Genesis 18:1-15 Then the Lord appeared to him by [a]the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. 2 So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, 3 and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. 4 Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5 And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said." 6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. 8 So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate. 9 Then they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" So he said, "Here, in the tent." 10 And He said, "I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son." (Sarah was listening in the tent door which was behind him.) 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and [b]Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?" 13 And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?'" 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son." 15 But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh!"

Reality is this = being married and being married and having kids creates inconveniences regardless of if the husband or father is a man of God or not.

Genesis 18:19 For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

Husbands, fathers, future husbands, out of our fellowship with Jesus we are empowered to create an atmosphere in our home and in our wife's heart and mind – 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

Mothers are then crucial in creating in the atmosphere the children's hearts and minds – 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

"Exhaustive research tells us that young children listen to what their primary caretaker (usually their mother) says about causes (of why things happen) and they tend to make this style their own. If the child has an optimistic mother, this great, but it can be a disaster for the child if the child has a pessimistic mother."
-Martin Seligman

"Your habitual way of explaining bad events, your explanatory style is more than just the words you mouth when you fail. It is a habit of thought, learned in childhood and adolescence. Your explanatory style stems directly from your view of your place in the world-whether you think you are valuable and deserving, or worthless and hopeless. It is the hallmark of whether you are an optimist or a pessimist." -Martin Seligman

First, a biblical optimistic worldview is not denying current reality. A biblical optimistic worldview is not denying pain. A biblical optimistic worldview is not denying life is hard.

Second, a biblical optimistic worldview however is not allowing the reality of pain and things being hard to paint the whole picture.

A biblical optimistic worldview is acknowledging that life is hard but it is not too hard for the Lord.

Sarah's question is foundationally this: Shall I have pleasure after pain?

The word "pleasure" in the Hebrew is "eden."