Confident in the God Who Is Always at Work By Major Jan Pemberton Divisional Women's Ministries Secretary Cascade Division

Scripture Focus:

Hebrews 11:20-22; Genesis 25-50

Devotional:

There's something profoundly reassuring about reading Hebrews 11. It reminds us that the heroes of our faith weren't perfect; they were people just like us, navigating complicated family stories, wrestling with disappointment, and waiting on promises they couldn't yet see. And still, they believed.

We find three familiar names in verses 20–22: Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. At first glance, they seem like unlikely examples of confidence. Isaac was passive and often reactive. Jacob, though chosen by God, spent much of his life manipulating situations. Joseph endured betrayal, false accusations, and years of waiting, yet he held fast to God's promises.

Their lives, found in Genesis 25–50, were far from tidy. And yet, God was sovereign over every detail. Our theme today is confidence in the God who is always at work, working out His plan, sovereign over it all.

Each of these men demonstrated faith not in perfect circumstances but in the perfect God. Isaac blessed his sons in obedience despite not knowing how the blessing would unfold. In his final days, Jacob, leaning on his staff, worshipped and passed on his faith. Joseph, just before his death, declared confidently that God would surely come, believing in a future Exodus he would never live to see.

These were acts of faith that looked forward. And so are ours. As women in ministry, officers, soldiers, volunteers, leaders, mothers, and friends, we often hold the tension between the seen and unseen. We lead in corps, run programs, care for families, and serve our communities, all while trusting God is doing something bigger than what we can currently grasp. And let's be honest: sometimes, we don't see it. Sometimes, the plan seems unclear, the timing feels delayed, and the load feels heavy. But Scripture reminds us that God is not absent in these seasons. He is at work. Always. He is working in your daily faithfulness, the Lord is present in our quiet prayers, and He is moving, even in the waiting.

Our confidence doesn't come from how our lives feel together; it comes from who God is: faithful and sovereign, always working for His glory and our good. We are part of a long line of women who have trusted God through uncertain times. We stand in the tradition of Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and the unnamed midwives who feared God more than Pharaoh. Like them, we may not see the end from the beginning, but we know the One who does. So take heart. Keep walking, keep praying, keep leading. God is always at work, even when we can't see it, especially when we can't feel it. He is weaving something eternal through your faithfulness today.

Reflection Questions:

- What areas of your life are you waiting to see God's plan unfold?
- What small act of faith can you take today that declares your confidence in His sovereignty?
- Where in your life do you need to be reminded that God is still at work?
- How can you encourage another woman this week to trust God's plan?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for the quiet, faithful ways You work behind the scenes of our lives. When we feel unseen, remind us that You see. When we feel weary, be our strength. Please help us to live like Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Help us walk confidently, not in ourselves but in You.

Make our lives a testimony of trust.

Use our hands, prayers, and love to shape future generations.

In Jesus' name, Amen.