## Becoming

# Game Changer!

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

### December Focus: HOPE

[Abraham] did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God . . . being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

#### Romans 4: 20-21

Henry Kranenburg, in his devotion called 'Hoping in God' explains exactly where, as Christians, we need to be careful to place our hope: "In hope, Abraham believed "against all hope." That's quite a tribute. In fact, it almost sounds as if Abraham's hope "without weakening in his faith" earned him the righteousness he got. I admire that; I appreciate that Abraham is a part of the "cloud of witnesses" we can read about in Hebrews 11. He inspires me to want to strengthen my hope and faith. But if determination to have stronger hope and faith is all I get from this passage, I wouldn't be hearing what God is saying. The strength of our hope and faith does not start with us; it starts with what we hope for and what we have faith in. That's what Paul is explaining here. God made a promise, and God keeps his promises. This is the God who raised Jesus, our Lord, from the dead. Having delivered Jesus to death for our sins, God raised Jesus to life for our justification. My faith and my hope didn't make that happen; God did. My faith and hope simply embrace what God promised and did. Even Abraham didn't always understand. His wife hadn't borne a child, so he tried helping God to fulfill his promise by having a child with his wife's servant (Genesis 16). But God didn't need Abraham's help, and God doesn't need our help. He is God, and our hope is in him, not in the power of our hope."

#### **BIBLICAL THROUGHLINES**

Throughout the daily routines at TCS your children are exposed to and learning about 10 Biblical Throughlines. IF you would like to familiarize yourselves and your families with the Throughlines, please feel free to use the family devotional that we compiled several years ago by clicking on the link below:

#### **TCS Family Devotional**

#### SPOTLIGHT: Christmas Hampers

By now, you would have received from your children's' homeroom teachers a request for items to complete a classroom Christmas hamper.THANK-YOU for helping us model to our students what it means to be IMAGE-REFLECTORS of God. Through the hampers, it is our hope that students will experience being the hands and feet of Jesus - the greatest example of HOPE and love!