



Resiliency: A Perspective of a Hopi Farmer

Michael Kotutwa Johnson, Ph.D.

Presented at

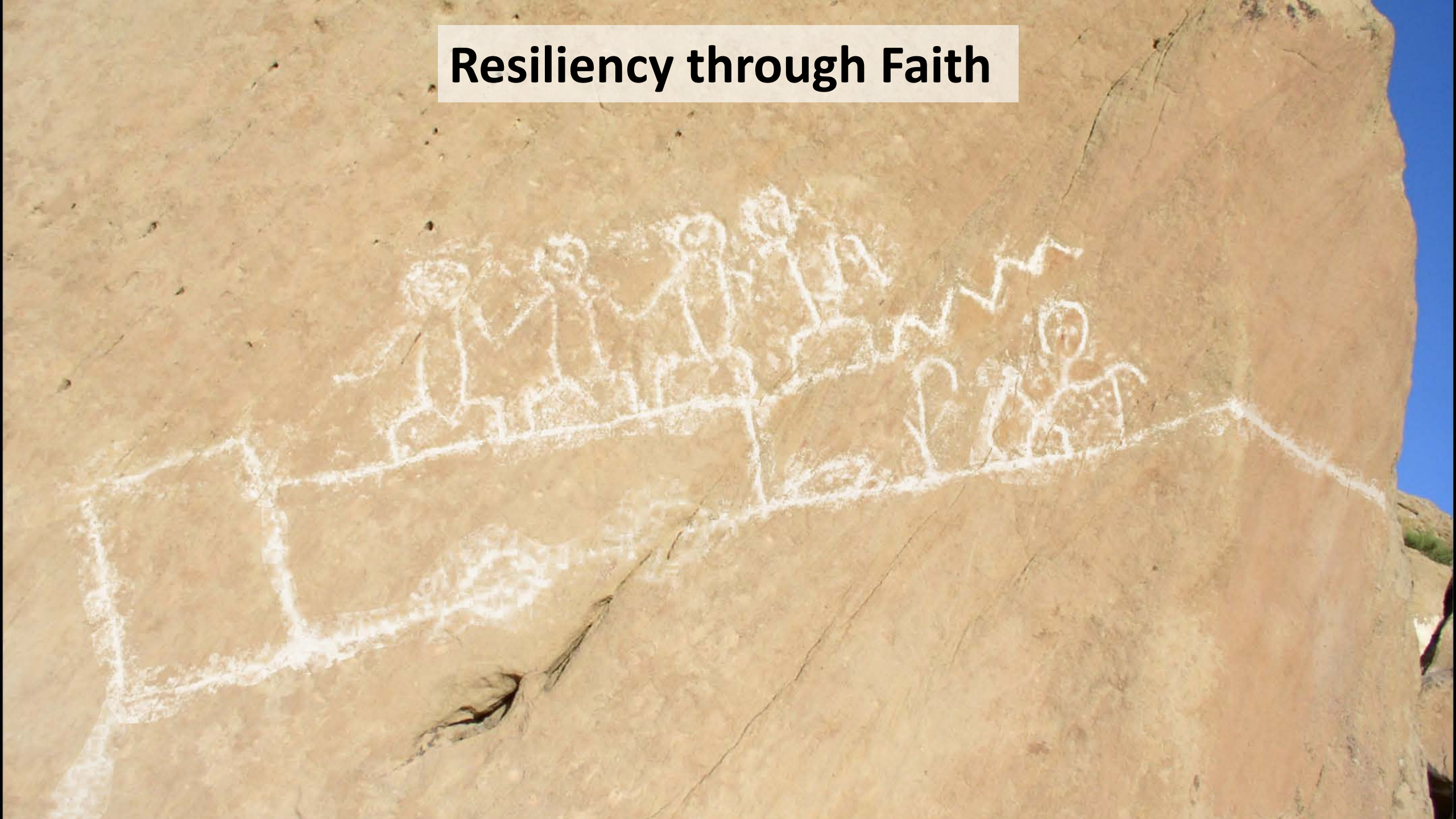
Tribal Water Resilience in a Changing Environment

August 30, 2021

Over 3 millennia of replication



Resiliency through Faith



Hopi Farming: A Way Of Life

We call corn our mother. Corn has nourished the Hopi for thousands of years. Corn is so important to us that we can't put a value on it. We don't take it to the store. We don't sell it or use it to feed animals like commercial farmers do. We plant corn to preserve our way of life; not to make money. As long as we keep taking care of our mother, we will be here for a long time.



The Man with the Staff, Hopi Indian Reservation, AZ. Everett Publishing Co., publisher's name Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, LC-USZ62-10416



Corn plants, like us, need help standing up once in a while, especially when challenged.



Continuity Over Time



ASM C. 1915



Kotutwa C. 2015



NMHM C.1901



Kotutwa C. 2015

Indigenous Peoples protect 80% of global biodiversity on a mere 25% of the planet's land with less than 5% of the world's population.



What is Indigenous Agricultural Knowledge (IAK)?

“.....applied knowledge for raising food and other agricultural products that is grounded in Indigenous belief systems and practices which have been time-tested over millennia.”

Johnson et al., 2019 p 4



Preservation of Soil Moisture



Preservation of Indigenous Generational Knowledge



Usable Environmental and Cultural Knowledge for the Next Generation



Final Thoughts

- **Johnson, M.K.**, Rowe, M. , Lien, A.M.& Hoffman-Lopez, L. 2021. Enhancing Integration of Indigenous Agricultural Knowledge into National Resource Conservation Service Cost-Share Initiatives. Journal of Soil and Water Conservation. Online. <https://www.jswnonline.org/content/early/2021/07/23/jswn.2021.00179>
- Contact Info:
Michael Kotutwa Johnson, Ph.D.
kotutwa@email.arizona.edu

