

Obedience A Divine Opportunity

Our best is found in obedience to God's plan, vision, and perfect timing for our lives. I must trust how much He loves me so that I can trust and act upon everything He asks of me.

A. Saul the people's choice – 1Samuel 8:4-5, 19-21

- Rejection of God: God's way vs my way (releasing control and what is familiar)
- Making choices based on what we see others doing or possessing.

B. Obedience is better than sacrifice – 1Samuel 10:8, 13: 6-14; 1Samuel 15:1-3, 10, 13-22

- Partial obedience is still disobedience
- Consequences: what am I sacrificing in my disobedience?
- We are not disobedient because we are bad, disobedient because in some ways our trust in God is broken.
- We delay obedience because of our perception of what we believe the outcome will be
- Trusting God is trusting His timing and believing that you can rely upon Him in both the wait and the pursuit. We must trust Him before we can obey Him
- Obedience is not a burden (a heavy thing), perfection, achievement, sacrifice it's a holy thing. It's about alignment. It's an invitation to hear His voice and believe His promises and to follow what He says and shows

C. Abraham God's covenant man – Gen 12:1-3

- Obedience an opportunity to reveal your character
- When God speaks to you or gives you an idea/command don't wait for perfect conditions, strategy, marketing. When He says move, move.
- Look for ordinary obedience opportunities, show up in the simple and obey in the ordinary. God is not looking for grand gestures He wants your trust (heart)
- The heart of our covenant is our relationship with God and to be a blessing to others (bless to be a blessing)
- We are not here for the purpose of just receiving, we're to manifest what's been deposited in us. Carriers of the blessing! What does that mean to you? What does that look like?

D. Believe and obey – Gen 15:4-6, Genesis 22:1-3, 9-12

- Obedience is an invitation to hear His voice and believe His promises and to follow what He says and shows
- Every time we obey God it's an offering to Him
- Isaac the son of promise (25yrs to manifest)
- The character of God is what allows us to trust Him. (Faithful, Good, Truthful)
 - *Numbers 23:18
 - *Titus 1:2
 - *Joshua 23:14
 - *Hebrews 6:18
- Are you willing to sacrifice your Isaac to obey God?
 - *cannot merely go thru the motions of obedience must be willing and obedient
 - *the descendants of Abraham the fruit of his obedience
 - *Abraham's obedience required God to sacrifice His only begotten Son (covenant) just as Abraham concluded God was able to raise Isaac from the dead, so God raised Jesus from the dead!