

Into the Unknown

Breakout

Abraham, Genesis 12:1–4; 22:1–18

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进入未知的

突破

亚伯拉罕, 创世纪12:1-4;22:1-18

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Today, we are continuing our series called Breakout. I'm praying that through this series, God would shake us up...and we would breakout and go all-in as Jesus followers. Well let me ask, have you every gone to extreme measures to get someone's attention? I remember as a kid, I was finally at the age that I could go to what we called, "big church." Which was just what we called the worship service. And I remember it vividly because it was a big step in responsibility and independence. So since my dad was the pastor and my mom was in the choir...that mean't that me and my brother would be sitting alone. On that second row from the front...We felt a false sense of freedom to cut-up and and mess around during the service. Well...We made it through the singing time...but once the message started, we had grown restless and started punching each other and getting a little too rowdy. Then all of the sudden, we heard a very loud and familiar throat clearing sound from the choir loft. Yep, it was my mom. And when I made eye contact with her, she had a soul piercing mom glare that would terrify a back-ally gangster. Needless to say, after that, we didn't move a muscle the rest of the morning. And when we got home...oh man... we paid the price and learned a valuable lesson. To this day...when I hear a mom give that throat clearing sound to a child, my stomach drops a little and I sit up a little straighter.

今天，我们继续我们的“突破”系列节目。我祈祷通过这个系列，上帝会震撼我们.....我们会突破，作为耶稣的追随者全力以赴。我来问问，你们有没有为了引起别人的注意而不择手段?我记得当我还是个孩子的时候，我终于到了可以去我们所谓的“大教堂”的年纪。这就是我们所说的敬拜仪式。我记得很清楚，因为这是迈向责任和独立的一大步。既然我爸爸是牧师，我妈妈是唱诗班的，那并不意味着我和我弟弟会单独坐着。在前排的第二排，我们有一种错觉，觉得在仪式上可以随意乱搞。嗯.....我们熬过了唱歌的时间.....

但一旦信息开始，我们就变得焦躁不安，开始互相殴打，变得有点太吵闹了。然后，突然，我们听到一个非常响亮和熟悉的清嗓子的声音从唱诗班阁楼。是的，是我妈妈。当我和她眼神交流时，她那母亲般的眼神穿透心灵，连一个背后的流氓都会害怕。不用说，从那以后，整个上午我们一动也不动。当我们回到家，天哪，我们付出了代价，也学到了宝贵的一课。直到今天，当我听到一位母亲对孩子发出清嗓子的声音时，我会收腹一点，坐直一点。

Well, sometimes, God gives us those throat clearing directives and if that doesn't work, He goes to more extreme measures to our my attention. Has that ever happened to you? Well, today and through this series, I believe God is trying to get our attention. His throat is clearing...not out of shame or guilt (because that is never from God), but out of love. As our perfect Father, He wants what is best for us...and knows exactly what we need and when we need it. As I mentioned last week, some of us have been "half in" or only "partially in" on the mission of God, and God is telling us it's time to breakout and go *all-in*. Not just in a few areas of our lives, not just in the big parts, but with All of our lives. After the message last week, Frank asked me if this series is called breakout...or called out. As the message was pretty in your face. But I believe for some of us...we won't breakout until we are called out. (And probably won't amen that...but I will, "Amen!" Well last week we looked at Noah, and this week we're going to look at the story of Abraham. There are some important things in his story that teach us what it means to breakout and go *all-in*. His story is in Genesis 12.

有时候，上帝给我们清喉咙的指令如果不起作用，他就会用更极端的方法来吸引我们的注意力。这种情况在你身上发生过吗？好吧，今天和通过这个系列，我相信上帝正试图引起我们的注意。他的喉咙清了.....不是出于羞耻或内疚(因为这不是来自神)，而是出于爱。作为我们完美的父，他想要给我们最好的，并且确切地知道我们需要什么，什么时候需要。正如我上周提到的，我们中的一些人已经“一半”或“部分”在上帝的使命上，而上帝告诉我们，是时候突破并全力以赴了。不只是在我们生活的几个方面，不只是在大部分方面，而是在我们生活的所有方面。在上周的信息之后，Frank问我这个系列是否被称为“突破”或“呼唤”。因为你脸上的表情很美。但我相信对我们中的一些人来说...我们不会突破除非我们被召唤出来。(也许不会阿门.....但我会，“阿门!”上周我们讲了诺亚，这周我们要讲亚伯拉罕的故事。在他的故事

中，有一些重要的事情告诉我们，突破和全力以赴意味着什么。他的故事在《创世纪》第12章。

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 耶和华对亚伯兰说、你要离开本地、本族、父家、往我所要指示你的地去。2我必叫你成为大国。我必赐福给你，叫你的名为大，有你我也要叫别人得福。3为你祝福的，我必赐福给他。那诅咒你的，我必咒诅他。地上的万族都要因你得福。4亚伯兰就照著耶和华所吩咐的去了，罗得也与他同去。亚伯兰出哈兰的时候年七十五岁。

This story actually begins in a way very similar to Noah's. Remember how in Noah's day the whole world had become wicked and so God chose 1 man and his family and started over? Well, Genesis 10–11 records the story of Noah's descendants and tells you that in a short amount of time, the world became wicked again. In fact... There's one family line that belongs to God, the descendants of Shem, but it ends in chapter 11 with them living in a place of idolatry, with the assumption that they have become idolaters, too. The final guy in this line, Terah, has one son, Abraham, and Abraham is childless. Terah's name literally means “moon,” which is a Hebrew metaphor for “the end.” (like us saying “caboose”). It's over. The godly line has succumbed to idolatry and Abraham is childless. So it looks like it is about time for God to destroy the world again. The humanity experiment has been an utter failure. But instead of destroying the earth, God does something different. He calls out Abraham and gives him this promise: that he will bless him; and more than that—he will make their name great by making them a blessing to the whole earth. Like Noah, Abraham, found grace in the eyes of God, and through him, we'd all find grace. The promise of blessing was an explicit promise of the coming Messiah. Through Abraham's descendants God would send a Messiah that would bless all the families of the earth.

这个故事的开头和诺亚的非常相似。记得在挪亚的时代，整个世界都是邪恶的，所以神选择了一个人和他的家人，并重新开始。《创世纪》10-11章记载了诺亚后裔的故事，告诉你在很短的时间内，世界又变坏了。事实上，有一个家族是属于上帝的，闪的后代，但在第11章结尾，他们生活在一个崇拜偶像的地方，他们也成为了崇拜偶像的人。最后一个人，他拉，有一个儿子，亚伯拉罕，亚伯拉罕没有孩子。他拉的名字字面意思是“月亮”，这是希伯来语对“末日”的隐喻。(就像我们说“caboose”“载货火车的最后一节”一样)。这就是结束了。闪族屈服于偶像崇拜而亚伯拉罕没有子女。看来上帝又要毁灭世界了。人类实验已经彻底失败了。但是上帝没有毁灭地球，而是做了一些不同的事情。他呼召亚伯拉罕，应许他要为他祝福。更重要的是，他要使他们的名显为大，使他们得福给全地。就像诺亚，亚伯拉罕，在上帝眼中得到了恩典，通过他，我们都能得到恩典。祝福的承诺是对即将到来的弥赛亚的明确承诺。通过亚伯拉罕的后裔，神将派遣一位弥赛亚来保佑地球上所有的家庭。

Like Noah's ark, this Messiah would shield his people from the wrath of God and commence a new creation—a new race—one that no longer loved evil and violence but loved God as they had been intended to. The blessing God is talking about here is the blessing of salvation. It would start in Abraham's house, but it would extend to the whole world.

Well..What was required of Abraham to receive this promise and become this blessing? **He had to leave all that he knew to obtain it.** He had to take his hands off of everything he owned and loved in order to become God's child and God's vessel. Abraham was facing a crisis of belief. He is quickly learning that God's assignment for him could not be accomplished without the power, provision, and promises of God. He had to believe God for the impossible. Abraham and Sarah are childless, which is a challenge for any couple, but vs. 4 tells us “Abraham was 75” and his wife was in her 60's. By that point you've pretty well concluded it's *not gonna happen* (Amen?). He was told to forsake all that he was clinging to and venture out into the unknown, trusting nothing but the promise of God. Every assignment that God gives requires a new measure of faith...and reveals what you actually believe about God.

就像诺亚方舟一样，这位弥赛亚将保护他的子民不受到上帝的愤怒，并开始一个新的创造——一个新的种族——一个不再热爱邪恶和暴力，而是像他们

所期望的那样热爱上帝的人。神在这里所说的祝福就是救恩的祝福。从亚伯拉罕的家里开始，扩展到全世界。

嗯。亚伯拉罕需要什么才能得到这应许，成为这祝福？为了得到它，他不得不离开他所熟悉的一切。为了成为神的孩子和神的器皿，他必须把手从他所拥有和所爱的一切事物上移开。亚伯拉罕正面临信仰的危机。他很快就认识到，没有神的能力、豫备和应许，神给他的使命就不能完成。在不可能的事情上，他不得不相信上帝。亚伯拉罕和萨拉没有孩子，这对任何夫妇来说都是一个挑战，但第4节告诉我们“亚伯拉罕75岁”，他的妻子60多岁。到那时，你已经很清楚地得出结论，这是不可能发生的(阿门?)他被告知要放弃他所依附的一切，到未知的地方去冒险，除了神的应许外什么也不信。神给的每一项任务，都需要一种新的信心标准……并揭示你对神的真正信仰。

Let me pause here to give you 4 crucial things you need to understand about following God and experiencing his plan for your life:

1. Following God means venturing into the unknown

In the book *Experiencing God*, Henry Blackaby says, “If you can clearly see how something can be accomplished, more than likely faith is not required.” Abraham had to trust God with a completely unknown future. God said to Abraham, “Go.” And Abraham said, “Where?” and God said, “I’ll show you.” “God says to Abraham, ‘I’ll give you a son.’ And Abraham says, ‘How?’ God answers, ‘I’ll take care of that. Just follow me.’” Later in his life, “God will say to Abraham, ‘Go to the top of the mountain and sacrifice your son.’ And Abraham says, ‘Why?’ God answers, ‘I’ll show you later. Just climb.’” At every step, Abraham had to follow God into the unknown. Each step a crisis of belief. And when God spoke, Abraham’s response required faith. I love how John Calvin summarized God’s interaction with Abraham: “Just close your eyes and take my hand.” I love that. *Just close your eyes and take my hand.* I see so many people that are unwilling to do this. They want to know, “Well, God, if I surrender all of this to you, show me how it will end up. If I’m going to follow you, I need to see the step-by-step instructions in their entirety up front. God...If I say yes...Where you going to make me go? Do I have to become a missionary? Will I have to break up with my boyfriend? Do I have to be poor? And God says, “For now, close your eyes

and take my hand.” What you believe about God will determine what you do!

I'm not telling you to turn off your mind. You have to take time to figure out if it's really God speaking. But once you do, are you willing to trust Him. If not, you'll never know God or experience the best he has for you.

让我在这里给你4件重要的事情，你需要了解跟随神和经历他对你生命的计划：

1. 跟随上帝意味着冒险进入未知

在《体验上帝》一书中，亨利·布莱克比说：“如果你能清楚地看到事情是如何实现的，那么信心就更不需要了。”亚伯拉罕必须把一个完全未知的未来托付给神。上帝对亚伯拉罕说：“你去吧。”亚伯拉罕说、在那里呢。上帝说：“我会告诉你的。”“上帝对亚伯拉罕说：‘我要给你一个儿子。亚伯拉罕说，怎么样呢。’上帝回答说，‘我会处理的。就跟我来。’”在他后来的一生中，“神要对亚伯拉罕说：‘你上山顶把你的儿子献上。亚伯拉罕说，为什么呢？上帝回答：“我待会给你看。”只是爬。每走一步，亚伯拉罕都要跟随神进入未知的世界。每一步都是信仰的危机。当上帝说话时，亚伯拉罕的回应需要信心。

我喜欢约翰·加尔文对上帝与亚伯拉罕互动的总结：“闭上你的眼睛，牵着我的手。”“我喜欢这样。闭上你的眼睛，牵着我的手。我看到很多人不愿意这样做。他们想知道，“上帝啊，如果我把这一切都交给你，告诉我结果会怎样。”如果我要跟着你，我需要在前面看到完整的一步一步的说明。天啊，如果我答应了，你要我去哪？我必须成为一个传教士吗？我必须和我的男朋友分手吗？我一定要穷吗？上帝说：“现在，闭上你的眼睛，握住我的手。”“你对神的信仰将决定你的行为！”

我不是让你停止思考。你得花点时间去弄清楚这是否真的是上帝在说话。但一旦你知道了，你愿意相信他吗？否则，你就永远不会认识神，也不会经历他给你的最好的。

2. God's calling to salvation and his commissioning into mission are one and the same.

Notice that God's first call to Abraham is also his commissioning of him into the mission. There is a misconception among Christians that you get called to be God's child at one point and then later he calls again to be his disciple and puts you on mission. In the Bible, the two calls are *always* one and the same. When God called Moses to himself he also called him into the mission (He appears to Moses at the burning bush and says, "You belong to me, Moses. I've got a message for you to give to Pharaoh). When Jesus called Peter to be his disciple he does so by telling him to cast his net on the other side of the boat, having it fill up with fish, and telling him that he would catch men like that. When God appeared to Paul on the Road of Damascus, he said (Acts 26:16) **But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you,**

God's call on your life is a call to use you in his mission. He blesses you to be a blessing. One pastor said that God is like a spiritual tornado. He never pulls you in without also hurling you out.

Jesus said John 15:7-8, 16, "***You did not choose me, but I chose you, that you would go and bring forth fruit... and by this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit.***" And by the way, YOU don't make the fruit. That's God's job. But isn't it amazing that God uses us? God chose you to make you a blessing, an eternal blessing to others. That's good news... some of you feel like you don't have much to offer. But with Jesus, that's just not true. You have the treasure of Jesus...the hope of the world. A gift that is intended to be re-gifted. Which leads to number 3...

2. 上帝对救赎的呼召和他对使命的委托是一样的。

请注意，上帝对亚伯拉罕的第一次呼召，也是他委托他完成使命。在基督徒中有一种误解，认为你被召唤成为上帝的孩子，然后他又召唤你成为他的门徒，让你执行使命。在圣经中，这两种呼召总是同一个的。神召摩西到自己那里，也召他到传道的地方(他在荆棘那里向摩西显现，说，摩西，你是属我

的。我有个口信要你给法老)。当耶稣叫彼得做他的门徒时，他告诉彼得把网撒在船的另一边，把网撒满了鱼，并告诉他，他要像那样得到人。当上帝显现在保罗去往大马士革的路上,他说(使徒行传26:16)**你起来站着,我特意向你显现，要派你作执事，作见证，将你所看见的事和我将要指示你的事证明出来。**

神对你生命的呼召，就是在他的使命中使用你。他祝福你成为一个祝福。一位牧师说，上帝就像一场精神龙卷风。他每次把你拉进去都要把你扔出去。

耶稣在约翰福音15:7-8,16说：“**不是你们拣选了我，是我拣选了你们，叫你们去结果子.....你们多结果子，我父就因此得荣耀。**顺便说一句，果子不是你做的。这是上帝的工作。但是神使用我们不是很神奇吗？神选择你是为了让你成为一个祝福，一个对别人永远的祝福。这是个好消息...有些人觉得自己没什么可说的。但对耶稣来说，就不是这样了。你拥有耶稣的宝藏，世界的希望。用来转送的礼物。这就引出了第三点.....

3. You are blessed to be a blessing.

Is that how you see the blessings of your life? Are you more of a reservoir or channel? I heard about a multi-millionaire who started a ministry where he would give away all his money to help other ministries get started. Someone asked him what his ultimate goal in life was and he said, “My goal is to bounce my last check.” He’s a millionaire trying to go broke. He just keeps writing checks because everything belongs to God.

If you are a channel, then...Because you believe you’ve been loved by God, you’ll show that in your love for other people. And if you’ve been given anything (money, wisdom, skills or insight), you’ll share it. Everything you have was given to you by God. Pride wants you to believe that it’s all yours...you earned all of it. Pride says, “I earned it.” Poverty says, “I shouldn’t have it.” Gratitude says, “I received it by grace.”

The key to resisting the spirits of pride and poverty is to remember that we were slaves to sin, the work God has done in us by grace, and that although we have worked hard, it has been God’s blessing on our lives that has produced anything good. And number 4...which is probably one of the most challenging for me is to...

3.你是有福的，因为你是被祝福的。

你是怎样看待你生活中的祝福的？你更像是一个水库还是一个管道？我听说有个千万富翁开办了一个事工，他把所有的钱都捐出来帮助其他事工。有人问他人生的最终目标是什么，他说：“我的目标是退回最后一张票。”“他是一个想破产的百万富翁。他一直在写支票，因为一切都属于上帝。

如果你是一个管道，那么……因为你相信你被上帝爱着，你会在你对他人的爱中表现出来。如果你得到了任何东西(金钱、智慧、技能或洞察力)，你都愿意与人分享。你所拥有的一切都是神赐给你的。骄傲让你相信这一切都是你的，是你自己赢得的。骄傲说：“这是我应得的。”贫穷说：“我不应该拥有它。”感恩之心说：“我是蒙恩领受的。”

抵抗骄傲和贫穷的关键是要记住我们是罪的奴仆，是神藉着恩典在我们身上所作的工，虽然我们劳苦，但神对我们生命的祝福才产生了美好的东西。第四，这对我来说可能是最具挑战性的事情之一，那就是……

4. Take your hands off.

What does that mean? It means...To receive “the blessing” and become the blessing we have to take our hands off of everything and make God our trust and his kingdom our delight. God wasn't calling Abraham to make God a part of his life or add a few tweaks to his morality. God called Abraham to a whole new basis of life. No longer would he find his security in how much he possessed or how able he was to provide for himself; he had to trust God. No longer would he spend his life building his own little kingdom; he left that to seek the building of God's Kingdom. Following God, you see, is not just adding a little God to our lives... it means making God your trust for the future and his kingdom your delight. All of us have things that we depend on for security and meaning and significance. They are usually good things like...Succeeding in your career. Having enough money to make sure you're ok and you can get whatever you need or want. Some people live for their hobbies, that's why they spend so much time and money on them. Students depend on getting into the right schools and getting the grades that will help you get the job you want. For some of you it's getting married and having a great family and a comfortable life. But here's the deal...Following Jesus means letting go of all of that as your

primary treasure and security and making God the sole source of those things. God is far more concerned with your walking with Him, than any of those other things. And number 5,

4. 把手拿开。

这是什么意思?它的意思是...要接受“祝福”，成为祝福，我们必须把手从所有的事上拿开，使我们的信靠和他的国成为我们的喜乐。神召亚伯拉罕不是为了使神成为他生命的一部分，也不是为了使他的道德有所改变。神召亚伯拉罕到一个全新的生活基础。他不再从他拥有多少财产或他是否有能力养活自己中找到安全感;他必须相信上帝。他不再花毕生精力建造自己的小王国;他离开那里去寻求建立上帝的国度。跟随神，你看，不只是给我们的生命增添一个小小的神...这意味着让神成为你未来的倚靠，让他的国成为你的喜乐。我们每个人都有我们依赖的安全感、意义和意思。这些通常是好事，比如事业成功。有足够的钱来确保你没事，你可以得到任何你需要或想要的东西。有些人为了他们的爱好而活，这就是为什么他们在这些爱好上花费那么多时间和金钱的原因。对于学生来说，能否考入合适的学校、取得有助于你得到想要的工作的成绩，至关重要。对你们中的一些人来说，幸福就是结婚，拥有美满的家庭和舒适的生活。但是，跟随耶稣意味着你要放弃所有这些，把它们当作你最宝贵的财富和安全，让神成为这些事情的唯一来源。神更关心的是你与他同行，而不是其他的事情。并且第五5，

5. To become the blessing, we have to believe the impossible.

Abraham had to believe what he couldn't understand and what seemed impossible and then... act on it. He had to believe God would keep his word. He had to close his eyes and take God's hand. For you to follow God you have to believe that he can save you, and believe that he will use your life for blessing. What you do reveals what you believe about God, regardless of what you say. Now, before I apply this to us, I want to take you to Genesis 22:1-18 where Abraham was tested on this, and then we'll draw some conclusions for us. By this time, Abraham and Sarah were now the parents of Isaac, their miracle baby. Isaac was born to them when Sarah was 90 and Abraham was 100. Now look at this verse...

22:1-2 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac,

whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

5. 要想成为祝福，我们必须相信不可能。

亚伯拉罕必须去相信他所不能理解和看来不可能的事，然后.....去做。他必须相信上帝会遵守他的诺言。他必须闭上眼睛，握住上帝的手。要跟随神，你必须相信他能拯救你，相信他会用你的生命来祝福你。不管你说什么，你所做的表明了你对上帝的信仰。现在，在我把这个应用到我们身上之前，我想带你们看《创世纪》22:1-18亚伯拉罕在这个问题上接受了测试，然后我们会得出一些结论。这时，亚伯拉罕和撒拉已经成为有了他们的奇迹宝宝以撒的父母。撒拉90岁、亚伯拉罕100岁的时候生了以撒。现在看看这一节...

22:1-2这些事以后，神要试验亚伯拉罕，就呼叫他说，亚伯拉罕。他说、我在这里。他说：“你带着你的儿子，就是你独生的儿子，你所爱的以撒，往摩利亚地去，在我所要告诉你的山上，把他献为燔祭。”

I realize this raises some questions. How could God ask something like this... but you have to consider how momentous this is for Abraham. In those days, having sons was everything. Sons provided for you in your old age; they continued on your family name. Plus, for Abraham, this was the child of promise; this was their only son, and the only way God would fulfill the promise he'd made to them. This is what they'd left everything for! All their hopes and dreams and affections center upon him. And God says lay him here on my altar.

This seemed unspeakable for God to give such a command. But Abraham obeyed God. He gathered the needed supplies, grabbed his son, and headed up the mountain where he would sacrifice Issac. When they reached the top, Abraham and Issac gathered stones and built the alter. And Issac continued asking where the sacrifice was...and Abraham told him that the Lord would provide. He was trusting God would come through...but he was willing to do what seemed impossible. Abraham tied Issac up, laid him on the alter, raised his knife....and at the perfect time. God audibly opened his mouth and stopped Abraham. **11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 12 He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do**

anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

我意识到这引发了一些问题。上帝怎么会问这样的问题……但你得想想这对亚伯拉罕有多重要。在那个年代，有儿子就是一切。在你年老的时候有儿子养你；他们延续了你的家族姓氏。况且亚伯拉罕这是凭着应许生的。这是他们唯一的儿子，也是上帝实现他对他们承诺的唯一方式。这就是他们抛弃一切的原因！他们所有的希望、梦想和情感都集中在他身上。上帝说让他躺在我的祭坛上。

上帝下达这样的命令，这似乎是不可言喻的。亚伯拉罕却听从神。他收集了所需的补给，抓起儿子，向山上走去，在那里他要把以撒献祭。亚伯拉罕和以撒到了山顶，便聚集石头建造祭坛。以撒继续问献祭的地方在哪里，亚伯拉罕告诉他，耶和华会给他提供的。他相信神会来救他，但他愿意去做看似不可能的事。亚伯拉罕把以撒捆起来，放在祭坛上，举起他的刀...而且是在完美的时间。11耶和华的使者从天上呼叫他说：“亚伯拉罕，亚伯拉罕！他说、我在这里。12耶和华说：你不可按手在这童子上，也不可在他身上行什么事，我现在知道你是敬畏神的了，因为你没有将你的儿子，就是你独生的儿子，撒下不给我。13亚伯拉罕举目观看，见有一只公羊在他后边，两角扣在稠密的小树中。亚伯拉罕就去取了那只公绵羊，献上为燔祭，代替他的儿子。于是亚伯拉罕给那地方起名叫“耶和华必豫备”。直到今日人还说、在耶和华的山上必有豫备。

And God spoke again and said 16...because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his^[d] enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Genesis 22:11

神又说16.你既行了这事，不留下你的儿子，就是你独生的儿子，17论福，我必赐大福给你，论子孙，我必叫你的子孙多起来，如同天上的星，海边的沙。你的子孙必得着仇敌的城门，18并且地上万国都必因你的后裔得福，因为你听从了我的话。”

创世纪22:11

In light of this account... let me first ask you some questions about your life:

A. Is God your primary treasure and trust?

You know how you can tell? You can tell by asking...Does he have full authority to tell you what to do with everything in your life. Have you come to a point where you have told God he can have it all; where you lay it all at his feet to do with it as he wills. Where your life is a blank check to God. Let me be clear about this: if you are not in this position, you are not yet a disciple of Jesus. Is God your primary treasure and trust? As Hebrews 11 reminds us, our faith without action is dead. Next,

根据这一描述，我先问你一些关于你生活的问题:

A. 神是你最主要的宝藏和信靠吗？

你怎么判断吗？他有完全的权力告诉你该如何处理你生活中的每件事吗？你已经到了告诉神他可以拥有一切的地步了吗？你把一切都放在他的脚下让他随心所欲。对上帝来说，你的生命就是一张空白支票。让我明确一点：如果你不在这个位置上，你就不是耶稣的门徒。神是你最主要的财富和信靠吗？正如希伯来书11章提醒我们的，没有行动的信心是死的。接下来，

B. Are you pursuing an earthly kingdom or a heavenly one?

What are your resources and your talents being used to build? Please understand: I'm not saying everyone needs to go into full-time ministry. God gave you talents and skills in business for a reason. But is your primary pursuit in those things glorifying God and leveraging what you have for his purposes? Are you leveraging the money God has given you primarily for his kingdom, or for yours?

B. 你追求的是地上的王国还是天上的王国？

你的资源和才能被用来建立什么?请理解:我并不是说每个人都需要全职的事工。上帝给你做生意的天赋和技能是有原因的。但你在这些事情上的主要追求是荣耀神,利用你所拥有的来达到他的目的吗?你用神赐给你的钱主要是为了他的王国,还是为了你的王国?

I heard about a couple who retired... and as many do, they had saved money for a beach house. So they bought one and moved there. And 2 weeks later...they said..."what are we doing? Our church, and our family are several hours away and we're trying to spend our last few years—arguably our best few years doing what?" "This," they said, "is when we have the most to offer the kingdom in terms of wisdom and time. Are we really going to spend our last years on vacation before we see Jesus?" Retirement is not a biblical concept. That's not what I want to be found doing before I see Jesus face-to-face. Ceasing a certain kind of work is fine... But saving up your money and spending your most valuable years on vacation is not. Retirement is when you are freed up to serve God more fully, and during that time, you have the most time and the most wisdom and skill to offer the kingdom of God. Now, to us as a church: I think we're at a moment similar to Abraham. Like I told you last week, I believe we've been chosen for blessing. God is building something here in Bellevue and beyond. And we aren't here to build our fame or brand...but to be instrumental in blessing those around the world...in the name of Jesus.

我听说有一对夫妇退休了.....和许多人一样,他们攒钱买了一栋海滨别墅。所以他们买了一个,搬到了那里。两周后,他们说:"我们在做什么?"我们的教堂,我们的家人就在几小时车程之外,我们试图把我们最后几年——可以说是我们最好的几年——用来做什么?"这个时候,"他们说,"就智慧和时间而言,是我们能为王国贡献最多的时候。"我们真的要在见到耶稣前度过我们最后的假期吗?退休并不是圣经里的概念。我可不想在见到耶稣之前被人发现我在做这种事。停止某种工作是好的.....但是存钱、把最宝贵的时光花在度假上却不是这样。退休是你被释放出来更充分地事奉神,在这段时间里,你有最多的时间、最多的智慧和技巧来奉献神的国。现在,对我们来说,作为一个教会,我认为我们在这个时刻类似于亚伯拉罕。就像我上周告诉你的,我相信我们是被选中来祝福的。上帝在贝尔维尤和其他地方都有所建树。我们在这里不是为了建立我们的名声或品牌,而是为了帮助世界各地的人,以耶稣的名义祝福他们。

I believe we're at a pivotal moment in the life of our church. And just so we're on the same page, as I understand it, God's vision for the church has never been small. God told Abraham he'd be a blessing to all the nations. He'd have sons and daughters of faith like the sand on the seashore and stars in the sky. Jesus—when he preached a sermon, he had thousands come. The Holy Spirit planted the first church in Acts 2 in the middle of the biggest city in Israel on a day when thousands were present and 3000 people got saved and baptized on that day! In Acts 3, 5000 were added a few months later. Acts 4 tells you that they were so big they could only come together every once in a while so in the meantime they met house to house. They were the original multi-site megachurch.

Paul, the Apostle, wanted to get the gospel into Rome, the capital of the world, to see the influence of the gospel spread from there all over the world. I am not one of those who believe that God's plan is for small, inward-focused-but-faithful private meetings. Jesus' promise was for the salvation of our families, neighbors and nations. Sometimes it feels impossible, but no more impossible than a barren woman getting pregnant when she's 90 or Jesus' dead body coming out of the grave. I've felt that impossible feeling of reaching my Chinese city of 17 million people for Jesus and feeling all alone in doing it. But we started with one! My God is not honored through small dreams and dwarfed plans. Here are 3 questions I ask myself all the time, I want you to ask yourself:

我相信我们正处在教会生活的关键时刻。我们的观点是一致的，就我所知，上帝对教会的愿景从来都不是小的。上帝告诉亚伯拉罕他会成为万国的祝福。他会有信仰的儿女，就像海边的沙子和天上的星星。耶稣——当他讲道时，成千上万的人来听他讲道。使徒行传第二章圣灵在以色列最大城市的中心建立了第一个教会。那一天，成千上万的人在那里，3000人得救并受洗。在使徒行传第3章中，几个月后又增加了5000人。使徒行传4章告诉你，他们太庞大了，只能偶尔聚一聚，所以在这期间他们挨家挨户地见面。它们是最初的多址巨型教堂。

使徒保罗想把福音传到世界之都罗马，看福音从那里传播到世界各地的影响。我不相信神的计划是小规模的、专注于内心但忠诚的私人聚会。耶稣的应许是为了拯救我们的家庭、邻居和国家。有时感觉这是不可能的，但不比一个不能生育的女人在90岁时怀孕或者耶稣的尸体从坟墓里出来更不可能。

我感受到了那种不可能的感觉，在我这个有1700万人口的中国城市为耶稣布道，我感到孤独。但我们从一个开始!我的上帝不会因渺小的梦想和渺小的计划而受到不尊敬。这是我一直在问自己的3个问题，我希望你们问自己：

1. *Is what you're living for worth him dying for?*
2. *Is what you are doing with your life worthy of the magnitude of his sacrifice?*
3. *Does the scale of your dreams match the scale of his sufferings?*

I get so excited about the possibilities for us. In this season, we are just now getting our feet under us...our DNA is being established...and we are at a tipping point for blessing our families, neighbors and nations. So at this moment, Awakening Church... How will you respond? Will you respond with the sacrifice and faith that allows us to become this blessing God has declared over us? I'm praying this would be a profound moment of discipleship for you: You see, these *kinds of* moments have a way of making you decide where your kingdom is. What God has planned is far better than what this world has to offer. And God gives us key moments where we can transfer our kingdom from this world to that one.

Matt 6:21. Says, **“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”**

1. 你活着的目的是值得他为之牺牲吗？
2. 你用自己的生命所做的事值得他做出如此巨大的牺牲吗？
3. 你梦的大小和他所受的痛苦的大小一样吗？

我为我们之间的可能性感到兴奋。在这个季节，我们刚刚站稳脚跟，我们的DNA正在建立，我们正处于一个转折点，祝福我们的家人、邻居和国家。所以在这个时刻，觉醒教会...你们将如何回应?你愿意以牺牲和信心来回应，使我们成为神对我们所宣告的祝福吗?我祈祷这对你来说是一个深刻的门徒时刻:，你看，这种时刻会让你决定你的王国在哪里。神所计划的远比这个世界所提供的好。上帝给了我们关键的时刻让我们把我们的王国从这个世界转移到那个世界。

马太福音6：21说：“**你的财宝在哪里，你的心也在那里。**”

Notice that it doesn't say where your heart is, there your treasure will be also (even though many people quote and apply it as if it does). It basically says that your heart follows your treasure. That is why tithing and giving offerings represent a test for every Christian. You say, "I just feel like the world has control over me." Do you want a strategy to remove your heart off of the world, *give!* Do you want a strategy to remove your heart from covetousness...live for another kingdom! That will help you not covet what others have. Giving, more than any other activity a believer does, works selfishness and greed out of our lives. **The primary purpose of giving is not that God would get the money out of our pockets, but that he would get the idols out of our hearts.**

请注意，它并没有说你的心在哪里，但你的财富也会在那里(尽管许多人引用并应用它，好像它说的是)。它基本上是说你的心跟随你的宝藏。这就是为什么什一奉献和奉献是对每一个基督徒的考验。你会说：“我觉得这个世界控制了我。“你想要一个把你的心从这个世界上抹去的策略吗?给吧!”你想要一种策略来去除你心中的贪婪吗...为另一个王国而活吧!这样你就不会贪图别人的东西了。奉献，比信徒做的任何其他活动，都能使我们的自私和贪婪从我们的生活中消失。给予的主要目的不是让神从我们的口袋里把钱拿出来，而是让神从我们心中把偶像拿出来。

Money, no matter how much you get, can never satisfy. It's never enough. You'll be bored once the shine wears off. Listen...You need a whole new basis of life; a new love; a new kingdom; and giving away the money you spend on useless toys could help you do that. Well, let me bring this to a close today. We can't end our study without reflecting on the fact that The real meaning of all this story, as with all OT stories is that: **Jesus** was the real Abraham. He answered the call of God to leave all the comfortable and familiar to go out into the void, not knowing where he went to create a new people of God. **Isaac** was a picture of Jesus, who would be sacrificed on top of that mountain for our sins. Yet, when the Father raised the knife over him, no angel would stand in the way. God would plunge it deep into his heart. He would wear a crown of thorns and be sacrificed in our place so we could go free, and and we can say, 'God...Now I know that you love us because you did not withhold your son, your only son, from us.'

无论你得到多少钱，也不能使人满足。这是远远不够的。听着，你需要一个全新的生活基础;一个新的爱情;一个新的王国;把你花在无用玩具上的钱捐出去可以帮助你做到这一点。好了，让我来结束今天的演讲。在结束我们的研究之前，我们必须思考这个故事的真正意义，就像其他故事一样:耶稣是真正的亚伯拉罕。他响应了上帝的召唤，离开所有舒适和熟悉的地方，到虚空中去，不知道他要到哪里去创造上帝的新子民。以撒是耶稣的画像，他将在那座山上为我们的罪献祭。然而，当这位父亲举起刀指着他时，没有天使能阻挡他。上帝会把它深深扎进他的心里。他会戴着荆棘的冠冕，代替我们牺牲，这样我们就能获得自由，我们就能说:‘神啊，现在我知道你爱我们，因为你没有不把你的儿子，你唯一的儿子，留给我们。’

As a control freak, I know the fear that arises when I'm asked to tread into unknown waters. For many today, you're being asked to go out into the unknown. But remember what Calvin said, Close your eyes and take my hand. That's scary...unless it's Jesus' hand. The one who saved me is the one who sustains me. I have to take my hands off of everything and make God our trust and his kingdom my delight.

Today...We have to live in the gap between the promise and its fulfillment. But you meet that fear with the promise that **He who calls you is faithful; (1 Thessalonians 5:24)**, and he will also do it.

作为一个控制狂，我知道当我被要求踏入未知水域时所产生的恐惧。对于今天的许多人来说，你们被要求进入未知的领域。但记住加尔文说过的话，闭上你的眼睛，握住我的手。太吓人了，除非那是耶稣的手。那个救了我的人就是那个支持我的人。我必须放下手中的一切，让上帝成为我们的信仰者，让他的国度成为我的喜悦。

今天，我们必须生活在承诺和兑现之间的差距中。但你们要迎接那惧怕的心，应许说，**那召你们的是信实的。(帖撒罗尼迦前书5:24)**，他也必这样行。

I like to read about people that shape our world. And Walt Disney is one of those people. Did you know that he never lived to see the completion of Disney World? At the opening of the park someone said to his wife, "I really wish Walt could have seen this." His wife responded, "He did." That's vision. That's faith. When God called Abraham, I don't think he was like,

“*Seriously, God, I have to leave it all? Why me?*” That would have meant he really didn’t understand or believe what God was offering him! He probably said, “I can’t believe I WAS CHOSEN to bless the world! Wow... me? I’m going to have children like the stars of the sky? The father of faith for many nations? What a privilege!” Yes, it cost him... he had to leave his home... *but he got to be a blessing to the nations!* Many of us have dread. When we started this series last week you were like, “Seriously, God, again? Why do I have to be a part of a church always calling me to sacrifice and faith?” Doesn’t that show your disconnect from the gospel? If we really understood all this, we should be filled with:

1. **humility**. A deep, awe-inspiring humility: why me? And that should be followed up by an overwhelming sense of 2. **gratefulness**: I get to breakout and go “all-in” for the God broke out for me! 3. **excitement**: I get to be used! I get to be a blessing to the nations! Excitement, humility, gratefulness— that’s a cheerful giver.

2 Cor 8:9 says **For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.**

God loves a cheerful giver. Cheerful people are those who get the gospel. When you get the gospel, you give with excitement, humility and gratefulness, and God loves it when people get the gospel. Would you give your life to Jesus today? Turning away for your way and acknowledging His death as the payment for your sin? Surrender to Him today.

我喜欢读那些塑造我们世界的人的故事。沃尔特·迪士尼就是其中之一。你知道他没能活着看到迪斯尼世界竣工吗?在公园的开幕式上，有人对他的妻子说：“我真希望沃尔特能看到这个。”他的妻子回答说：“是的。”“这是视觉。这是信仰。当神呼召亚伯拉罕的时候，我不认为他会说：“神啊，我真的要离开这一切吗?为什么是我?就是说他真的不明白，也不相信神所赐给他的。他可能会说：“我不敢相信我被选中来保佑这个世界!”哇.....我吗?我要有像天上的星星一样的孩子吗?是许多国家的信仰之父吗?一种特权!“是的，这让他.....他不得不离开家。但他是国家的福气!我们很多人都有恐惧。上周我们开始这个节目的时候，你说，“神啊，又来了，真的吗?为什么我必须成为教会的一员，总是召唤我牺牲和信仰?这难道不表明你与福音脱节了吗?如果我们真理解这一切，我们应该充满:

1. 谦卑。一种深深的、令人敬畏的谦卑:为什么是我?接下来应该是强烈的2
感恩:我要突破自我,全力以赴,因为上帝为我爆发了! 3.兴奋:我要被使用了!
我将成为国家的祝福!兴奋、谦逊、感激——这是一个快乐的给予者。

哥林多后书8:9说,你们知道我们主耶稣基督的恩典:他本来富足,却为你们
成了贫穷,叫你们因他的贫穷,可以成为富足。

神喜爱乐意付出的人。快乐的人是那些得到福音的人。当你得到福音时,你
会带着兴奋、谦卑和感激去给予,而神喜欢人们得到福音。今天你愿意把你的
生命献给耶稣吗?放弃你的道路,承认他的死是对你罪的偿还?今天就向他
降服吧。