

Remnant Life Church
April 19, 2015

Full Surrender
Genesis 22:1-18

- There was a time when if someone made you a promise you would believe them
 1. Their word was their bond
 2. Not anymore – in our society today words have very little meaning
- God's Word is true and eternal
 1. He will never leave us
 2. His love is unconditional
 3. He cares about us and our lives
- But what about when the promises seem to be delayed don't show any signs of coming, or God seems to be asking us to give it back to Him?
- The best thing that you can do may sound like the last thing you would want to do – fully surrender whatever that is and ourselves back to God

READ – Gen 22:1-18

- Surrendering most often means a difficult time because it is not what we want to do
- Webster: "*Surrender*" – the action of yielding one's person or giving up the possession of something; especially into the power of another.
- But, as a Christian, if you don't surrender you invariably face difficulty related to what you are holding so tightly to – your will; your possessions; your promises
 - Story of the battleship and the lighthouse
 - If we are not willing to surrender our will the rocks lie ahead
- Abraham is called to surrender the most precious thing in his life – his son
 1. This would have made no sense to Abraham
 2. The promise God had given him was dependent on his son and the generations to follow

Three things happened to Abraham that will happen to us all

1. God will call all believers at some point to prove their faith
 1. The name Isaac means "laughter"
 2. Was Abraham willing to prove his faith by giving up his laughter?
 3. Four great crisis that required Abraham to surrender something:
 - a. Leave your country and your family (Gen 12:1)
 - b. Separate from what you brought (Gen 13:1-18)
 - c. His plans for Ishmael (Gen 17:17-18)
 - d. His son of the covenant (Gen 22:1-19)
 - i. The place was also of significance
 - ii. Mt Moriah is the location of the Mount of Olives
 - iii. Jesus was arrested at the base in the Garden

iv. He ascended into heaven from MoO

2. We must trust God with all of our hearts even when we don't understand
 - a. I think one of the greatest struggles for Abraham would have been the night before he and Isaac were to leave
 - i. The devil would have been saying all kinds of things to him
 - ii. Telling him lies!
 - b. How did Abraham deal with this?
 - i. By faith
 - ii. **Hebrews 11:17-19** - *By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.*
 - iii. You can either be overcome by fear or you can overcome by faith
 - iv. Once we prove our faith and show that we will believe Him no matter what our understanding – then it is God's turn to show us something
3. God will see our faith and reward us in His time
 - a. Moses encountered obstacles and delays but God rewarded his faithfulness by leading them out of Egypt
 - b. God rewarded each of those listed in **Hebrews 11**
- The picture of Abraham and Isaac is a perfect parallel of the cross and God's sacrifice for us.

Notice the similarities between Isaac and Jesus:

 - i. Isaac was the long-promised son; Jesus the long-promised messiah (**Gen 12:3; Gen 3:15; 13:3**)
 - ii. Both were an only son (**Gen 22:2; Math 3:16,17**)
 - iii. Both were loved by their fathers (**Gen 22:2; Math 3:16, 17**)
 - iv. Both had a 3 day experience
 - Isaac – three days travel to Mt. Moriah
 - Jesus – three days from the cross to the grave to resurrection
 - v. Both accompanied by 2 men
 - Isaac by 2 servants (**Gen 22:3**)
 - Jesus by 2 thieves (**Matt 27:28**)
 - vi. Both carried the wood for their sacrifice
 - Isaac – the wood for the fire (**Gen 22:6**)
 - Jesus – the crossbeam of his cross (**John 19:17**)
 - vii. Both submitted to the will of their father (Isaac laid down; Jesus to the will and plan of God)
 - viii. Both were raised from the dead
 - Isaac figuratively
 - Jesus literally

- To surrender means I give of myself, all of myself, to God
 - a. Nothing is too important
 - b. If it is than that is your idol
- What does that surrender look like?
 1. Does not always mean giving something up
 2. Often simply the condition of your heart
 - a. What is it that captures the greatest amount of your time and attention?
 - b. That is your Isaac
 - c. Singing gift (example)
 - i. If I surrender that gift to God that does not necessarily mean I stop singing
 - ii. Why do I sing? (My job; my house; my education; my appearance...)
 - iii. It should not be more important what people think of me but what they think of God when they are with me
- What is the most precious thing to me in the world?
- Have I surrendered it to Jesus?
- If not, why?
 - If I am not willing to surrender it back to God then I cannot experience the fullness of His will for my life
 - He may be waiting to bring something even greater into my life that what I am holding to is preventing
- Am I willing to lay down my Isaac today?