

What Are We Showing God? (Love Is An Action pt. 2)

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Sunday Morning, 9:30am Stream

2/13/22 (2nd Sunday Message)

{All scriptures are NIV84 unless stated}

Today's Title:

What Are We Showing God?

John 14:15

15 “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

If we love God, we will obey what he commands.

If you love...obey.

John 14:15 (MSG)

“If you love me, show it by doing what I’ve told you.”

If you love...show.

Our Love For God Is Not Measured In Our Words, But In Our Action!

We can say something all day...

We can say something for years...

Just because you say it doesn't mean it's true.

Our Words Are Validated By Our Action!

Our actions can prove our words true.

Our actions can prove our word false.

So the question is...

What Are We Showing God?

What are we giving God that he can “look at?”

Genesis 12:1-3

The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

God didn’t spend too much time asking Abram questions.

Tell me how you feel Abram

Tell me you love me Abram

Tell me words.

God says...I want you to **show** me.

God tells him to do something.

Abram COULD have said...

“God, I can’t go...but I love you.”

But Abram didn’t give words.

Verse 4

4 So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

God said...show me.

75 year old Abram got up and left.

John 14:15 (MSG)

“If you love me, show it by doing what I’ve told you.”

There is nothing wrong with words...

However,

God doesn’t want to JUST hear words.

God wants to see it.

God told Abram his ACTION would lead to something.

Genesis 12:1-3

The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.

God told him to do something.

He told him to “GO.”

If Abram loved God...he WOULD GO.

He would “listen.”

He would “do what God told him.”

Then what?

2 “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

God Said:

- 1. He Would Make Him Into A Great Nation**
- 2. He Would Make His Name Great**
- 3. He Would Bless Those Who Bless Him**
- 4. He would Curse Those Who Curse Him**

All this would happen...

What did Abram need to do?

Verse 2

I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

God would do all 4 of these things.

All Abram Needed To Do Was Be A Blessing To Others

We can see God operating with give and take.

God sees our love by our obedience.

God asks Abram to leave everything and follow him.

Abram shows his love for God by being obedient.

God blesses Abram for his obedience.

God Rewards Us When We Are Obedient To Him!

There's more!

Genesis 22:1-2

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. 2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”

Genesis 21 tells us Abraham was 100 years old when he had Issac.

Abraham at the time had been hearing God promise him a son for decades.

He and Sarah were unable to have a child.

But they desperately wanted to have a child.

They tried many ways to have a child.

Eventually God honors his promise and Abraham and Sarah have a child.

He was 100,

She was 90.

They loved this child.

And now God is asking for his life.

“Take your son...

...your ONLY son...

...whom you love.”

almost rubbing it in.

...who you waited so long for.

...you were so old...

...you might have to wait another 100 years.

...this is your everything right here...

So what happens?

Genesis 22:9-10

9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

Abraham has prepared the altar.

He has everything ready.

He reaches toward Issac to kill him.

Verse 11-12

11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. 12 “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

The Angel of the Lord called out to him.

Hang on!

Don’t kill him!

I can now SEE that you fear God.

I can now SEE that you love the Lord.

Because you have offered your son.

Because of your obedience...I can now SEE.

God Doesn’t Ask For Words, He Asks For Obedience!

John 14:15 (MSG)

“If you love me, show it by doing what I’ve told you.”

Are you looking for something from God?

Do you have something you’ve been praying for?

God rewards those who are obedient to him!

God Opens Doors For Those Who Are Listening And Obedient!

Abraham has proved his love for God by his obedience.

Abraham’s situation shows something unique.

Genesis 22:15-18

15 The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time 16 and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

We knew Abraham loved his son.

God reminded him of it.

But because Abraham was willing to be OBEDIENT to God...

He proved that he loved God more.

The angel said he could “see” it.

So...clearly now that the Lord SEES that Abraham loves God more than anything.

God Said:

- 1. I Will Bless You**
- 2. Your Descendants Would Be As Numerous As Stars In The Sky**
- 3. Your Descendants Would Conquer Their Enemies**
- 4. The Nations Of The Earth Will Be Blessed By Your Descendants**

God offered 2 sets of blessings.

What was the 1st again?

{When God Asked Abram To Leave Everything He Knew:}

God Said:

- 1. He Would Make Him Into A Great Nation**
- 2. He Would Make His Name Great**
- 3. He Would Bless Those Who Bless Him**
- 4. He would Curse Those Who Curse Him**

God offered many blessings towards Abram for his obedience.

All he had to do was to show his love by leaving everything he knew to follow God.

What is the 2nd Set of blessings?

{When God Asked Abraham To Give Up Everything:}

God Said:

- 1. I Will Bless You**

- 2. Your Descendants Would Be As Numerous As Stars In The Sky**
- 3. Your Descendants Would Conquer Their Enemies**
- 4. The Nations Of The Earth Will Be Blessed By Your Descendants**

We could spend time going very deep into this...but we see the characteristics of God here.

Obedying God Can Create Blessings For You AND Your Children!

Abraham's DESCENDANTS...

Meaning future...

Children who weren't even born yet would benefit.

Imagine being in a family where God blesses you because of things your parents did.

This is actually what we have now!!

Galatians 3:29

29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

We are blessed because of things Abraham has done!

We are blessed because of things our parents have done!

Our children can be blessed because of things WE do!

This is what obedience does!

Because we show God our love for him...

AND can impact the lives of us as well as our descendants...

We have to take advantage when God asks us to do something!

Simply put:

Be Ready When God Calls You!

God gives us opportunities.

Some of them may seem like big things.

Some of them may be subtle.

But we must keep our eyes open.

Especially for the little things we may not notice.

What has God called us to do?

Here's a simple one:

John 15:17

17 This is my command: Love each other.

God has given us a command to show love to one another!

2 John 6 (MSG)

Love means following his commandments, and his unifying commandment is that you conduct your lives in love. This is the first thing you heard, and nothing has changed.

Nothing has changed...

God tells us to show love to one another.

If our love for God is measured by doing what he commands...

{from last week}

We Show Our Love For God When We Show Love For Others!

Philippians 2:4

4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

We should be concerned about others.

If we take care of others...God takes care of us.

He blesses us.

He blesses those around us.

He blesses our descendants.

He blesses our future..

{recap:}

1. We Show Our Love For God Through Our Actions

2. Our Obedience Can Create Blessings For Us And Our Future

3. Listen When God Tells Us To Love Others

Those of us who have become part of Chosen are CHOOSING a method to show love.

This is a way to be obedient to God.

Prayerfully some of you will join us this week.

Ending with a scripture from last week:

Galatians 6:9-10

9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Never get tired of “doing” the right thing.

Never get tired of being “obedient.”

Never get tired of “showing” love.

Your harvest is coming.

Affirmation:

“God Will Bless Me When I’m Obedient To Him!”