

Emotional/Mental R.E.S.T. (Part 2)

Genesis 22:3-18 - Read these verses with me, but also again when you have time alone.

In obedience to our God, we should not expect it to just pour out of us naturally or _____ . So many times in our obedience to Him, that is all we have and that is the sustaining power of God. To depend on the power of God to get us through.

Verses 7,8 - God wanted Abraham to sacrifice Issac in his heart so that Abraham would know clearly that he loved God more than his long-awaited son. The whole purpose behind our testing is to grow our character and to strengthen our trust in God.

Verse 12 - When we give to God all that we hold dear to our hearts, he blesses us so much more. He blesses us more than what we are sacrificing.

May I ask you one question....only because the Lord asked it of me, too.

What is something so near and dear to your heart, that the very idea of completely sacrificing it to God and it no longer being a part of your life, is a thought that you can't hardly bare the mental and emotional load of it? If God were to ask you to take that one thing — (all your wealth, all your material items, your title, your position at work, your calling, your spouse, your parent, your child, your boyfriend), and to sacrifice it fully to Him, which means ... giving it totally into His hands to do with whatever He wills), ... can you do it? Can you love God more than that thing, that status, that person?

When you think of the emotions of Abraham when he was making that 3 day trip with his son and with a stack of split wood, write out what you believe he could have been feeling? Maybe this question will help you ... What would YOU be feeling? Write it out...

When you think of the thought that could have been burning in his mind, as he was placing his son, all bound up in ropes, on top of that pile of wood, what thoughts can you imagine he had in that moment?

I know this is so hard for us to “go there” in Scripture but when we do, we realize that Abraham was no less human than us, and yet he demonstrated Romans 1:5 obedience that comes from faith by also demonstrating emotional and mental trust (or rest) in God and God's truth.

Faith is acting on _____ .

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Mark 12:30 - "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength,"

You must first love with all your mind before you can obey with all your mind.

When you try to obey someone where you do not have a love relationship, then all you have are rules.

Rules without relationship leads to rebellion.

Attempting to obey without love - that's LEGALISM.

"SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE, not on earthly things," Colossians 3:2.

Set - greek meaning: *ongoing decision - repetitive action for strengthening*

Faith is acting on TRUTH.

When Jesus prayed, "Yet not as I will, but as You will," where was his mind?

- On things _____ — on Truth — on eternal things.

When Abraham bound his son and had the sacrificial knife in his hand, where was his mind?

- On things _____ — on Truth — on eternal things.

Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, - think about such things. Philippians 4:8

Next video (Part 3) - will be on the 4 requirements in order for us to "think about such things."