

Nehemiah Project

21 Daily Devotions

DEVOTION #5 - Thursday, October 13

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love— Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." GENESIS 22:1-2, NIV

At this point, Abraham has been living on the edge of faith for 25 years. He's well into retirement age when God calls him into his greatest test of faith.

Can you imagine what Abraham must have been feeling as he walked Isaac up that mountain? Can you imagine the turmoil? This was his son, his future, his legacy. This was everything he had sold out for. This was all the years of following God faithfully, and now in an instant God was asking Abraham to lay it all down, to re-surrender, and start all over.

Here's what we learn from this story: Living God's way isn't a moment, it's a lifestyle of surrender. The idea that we can push hard for God for a little bit and then mentally check out and coast—that's not biblical. The mentality of working hard for a while and then retiring to the islands, sipping fruity drinks, and lying on the beach all day long—that's more of the American dream, not God's dream for your life.

We never graduate from surrendering to God. He always calls us to greater levels of commitment and trust. What could He be calling you to?

God, Your Son laid down his life for me, therefore, the least I can do is lay aside my will and surrender my all to you so that you can use me for the sake of others.