



Sunday Worship 5-22-22

Sermon Series: FIRE—4

Today's Scripture Text:

Genesis 12:1-20

1 The Lord said to Abram: Go from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you. 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. 5 He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated, and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed through the land to the site of Shechem, at the oak of Moreh. (At that time the Canaanites were in the land.) 7 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved on to the hill country east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. He built an altar to the Lord there, and he called on the name of the Lord. 9 Then Abram journeyed by stages to the Negev.

10 There was a famine in the land, so Abram went down to Egypt to stay there for a while because the famine in the land was severe. 11 When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife, Sarai, "Look, I know what a beautiful woman you are. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' They will kill me but let you live. 13 Please say you're my sister so it will go well for me because of you, and my life will be spared on your account." 14 When Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. 15 Pharaoh's officials saw her and praised her to Pharaoh, so the woman was taken to Pharaoh's household. 16 He treated Abram well because of her, and Abram acquired flocks and herds, male and female donkeys, male and female slaves, and camels.

17 But the Lord struck Pharaoh and his household with severe plagues because of Abram's wife, Sarai. 18 So Pharaoh sent for Abram and said, "What have you done to me? Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? 19 Why did you say, 'She's my sister,' so that I took her as my wife? Now, here is your wife. Take her and go!" 20 Then Pharaoh gave his men orders about him, and they sent him away with his wife and all he had.

Definitions for today:

The Passion of God's Fire: Intense, driving, conviction to trust God.

The word PIVOT means a marked change, a factor/strategy to improve.

FOUR PIVOT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

Pivot Point 1: Realize that _____ trust God.

- a. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.
- b. _____ knows you _____ do it.
- c. Psalm 119:90 "Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures."

FOUR PIVOT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

Pivot Point 2: When we struggle to trust God, maybe the problem is we _____

- a. Genesis 12:11-12 When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife, Sarai, "Look, I know what a beautiful woman you are. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' They will kill me but let you live.
- b. Proverbs 3:5b ...do not depend on your own understanding.
- c. 1 John 3:18-21 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. 20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.
- d. Psalm 34:17 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.
- e. _____ means you _____ doing it.

FOUR PIVOT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

Pivot Point 3: We need _____ to trust God in _____.

- a. Genesis 12:7-8 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved on to the hill country east of

Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. He built an altar to the Lord there, and he called on the name of the Lord.

b. Acts 4:23-31 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.' 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

c. _____ means you _____ give up!

FOUR PIVOT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

Pivot Point 4: _____ the _____—Let _____ and let _____!

Focusing on the safety net is risky... we must learn to focus on God!

a. Genesis 12:17 But the Lord struck Pharaoh and his household with severe plagues because of Abram's wife, Sarai.

b. Proverbs 3:7-10 Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil. 8 Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones. 9 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. 10 Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

c. Proverbs 3:26 For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.

d. Matthew 6:24 (Jesus said) No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other...

e. Psalm 37:4-5 Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you your heart's desires. 5 Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust Him, and He will help you.

f. Luke 12:32 So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom.

g. Philippians 4:6-7 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion:

When you make a PIVOT POINT of full trust in God, you will move:

- From indecisive to decisive
- From doubt to belief
- From passive to proactive
- From partiality to impartiality
- From maybe to buying in

Reflection:

(Noel Nester shared this with me this week—something he heard some time ago)

Little Faith—Praying to God for something, but not expecting to receive it.

Great Faith—Praying to God for something and expecting God to answer the prayer.

Perfect Faith—Knowing even before you pray that God knows your heart and your needs.