

## Jesus in Genesis 11: Terah

**Intro:** Everyone has a list of things they really regret...Missed opportunities...Not following through  
Amelia Island Map: "The Loop" City Dock, City Park/Middle School, Pirates Den, Rec Center, Main Beach  
All night long: Make the Loop:  
Sign at the Rec Center: Lynyrd Skynyrd: NO WAY: Uncle..Running for Office Fund raiser...Rocked the house!  
Opportunity, that I missed..over and over and over again! I thought about it...saw the cars...sign...  
Why? I SETTLED for the Comfortable, Known, Familiar. Couldn't bring myself to actually believe, afraid it not true

That is what happened with Terah, Abraham's father. He KNEW the call of God to a better place, greater opportunity, he heard God calling him to more...and he started out...Got halfway...and then something happened...HE SETTLED

Genesis 11:27-12:5 Pg 8                      Acts 7:2-4 Pg 775

### 1. It is Very Easy to "Settle" for Less than God's Best.

- Abraham and Terah left for Canaan from Ur of Chaldeans and then Stopped halfway in Haran  
MAP OF THE JOURNEY  
~Settled: In Genesis 11: 31                      Lit = to sit down and remain; to take your ease; to establish yourself  
~Dwelt: In Acts 7:2                              Lit = to dwell permanently
  
- A lot of reasons we settle for less than God's best
  - ~Journey is too difficult...too long, we get tired
  - ~Circumstances become difficult and hard (some think Terah was sick?)
  - ~Lack of vision...we HEAR it...but we don't REALLY see it or believe it
  - ~Comfortable with the present...(Find a place of ease...thought of leaving too hard!)
  - ~Cost is too high...We know what it takes to follow God's call...but we don't want to pay price  
(Not money) Time, Comfort, Struggle, Difficulty, Sacrifice...Letting Go...
  - ~We can live with/"settle" for less...We know its' not all it could or should be...but it's acceptable: OK
  - ~We like what we have...and are unsure of what is to come! Better a bird in the hand...Careful
  - ~Fear of unknown Heb 11:8 "not knowing where he went!"

Have you settled in your spiritual life? Like Abram, and Terah, you heard God's call, and maybe you started out, But somewhere along the Haran Highway...you pulled over...only intended it to be a rest stop...but settled in, Got comfortable...Put down some roots...and you have allowed yourself to settle for less than God's best in your life

### 2. Understand What You Lose When You Settle.

- ~God's BLESSING                                      (God doesn't bless disobedience) Loves you, but never have His BEST
- ~God's BEST for YOUR life                              (Look at the promise...Land, Seed, Blessing Abrahamic Covenant)
- ~God's BEST for OTHERS in your life! Not JUST YOU! Family...those you would touch...bless...draw!
- ~Terah lost the blessing of the Promised Land...Flowing w/Milk and honey... Haran "parched"

**EX:** The Path we have created: Path of discipleship...It is the way you live your life to see God's best!

- Worshipping Weekly:                              Heb 10:25 Do not give up on meeting together 1Co 16:2 Meet first day of week  
*Lose God's presence and His speaking to you! 2 or more gathered  
Lose consistency...Spiritual life...Lose instilling value of worship kids*
- Gathering in Group:                              Gen 2:18 Not good for man to be alone  
*Lose community, lose support, lose encouragement, Hearts knit together*
- Serving on Ministry Team:                              Col: Epaphras, Tychicus: Fellovservants: (No one like him) Tim Useful  
*Lose the connection that comes from sacrificing together! Seeing God work  
Illus: Thursday: Took my whole day...1 1/2 hours...lunch...back...*
- Living On Mission:                              Mt: 28 "As you go" Why would you EVER want to miss that?  
*Living each day with a sense of "God, what do you have me to do today."  
Illus: Got a text from someone in hospital last week...Says..."*
- Giving Generously                              Mal 3:10 Forfeit God's blessing!  
Haggai 1:5-6 Instead of abundance...lack  
*Some of you are living Haggai...instead of Malachi...!!!*
- Multiplying                              Mt 28: Go and make disciples of all nations....  
*Miss the blessing of seeing people coming to Jesus. The ONLY thing you do that will  
touch eternity!*  
Illus: Pastor Jorge...Hard! Come in and tell me....2 people came to Jesus  
Young man prayed with me this week...

**ILLUS:** Some of you hear me say that...and its JUST LIKE SEEING THE SIGN: Gods' best.....→

### 3. How Do You Get Unstuck?

What do you do if you have settled...and you find yourself on dead center? (off dead/high center) driving on beach  
When it was time to go up ramp...Get in the ruts...but sometimes the ruts are so deep, center so high...stuck!

~LISTEN to God...Again! *"The Lord has said to Abram" ...So Abram left, as the Lord had told him!*  
When you are spiritually stuck..and you KNOW you are missing God's best  
Listen for what He has told you...and is STILL saying...

~LEAVE the comfort of whatever is holding you back. *Leave you country, people, Fathers household*  
>County Ur...and Haran  
>People Nation...  
>Fathers' Household The extended family that was everything

~ LEAN on God for Guidance forward: *(Go to a land I will show you!)*  
>When Abram and Terah left the ONLY map they had was God!  
>They didn't know where they were going to end up...all they had was the step by step guidance of God.  
> God has always done that with His people. We want to know the final destination...Final outcome  
>But God chooses to put us in the position of trusting Him step by step. Moses, Joshua, Abraham, Paul

~LOOK for God's Blessing You can see it...all around you...  
>You identify WHERE God is blessing in your life...and GO THERE!  
Left his homeland... Because God had Caanan  
Left his people... Because God was going to create a NEW nation...the Apple of his eye..HIS people!  
Fathers House... Because God was going to make him the father of many nations.

~Never Settle for LESS than the BEST God has for you.  
They left...*"they set out for the land of Canaan...and they Arrived there!"*  
I think Abram learned his lesson about stopping!!!  
I was having the conversation with someone this week about WHY it is so hard to live for God  
When is the battle over...  
When do break through...get to the other side...when do we see the victory!  
Answer: WE are in a spiritual battle...and its raging...hold on...press on...go forward.

CONCL: Some of you are like me and the Skynyrd concert.  
You are missing God's best...an incredible blessing is right there in front of you  
But you are afraid...not stepping into it...Can't see it...don't believe it.  
You drive past God's blessing every week...Hear Him calling you..Worship, Tithe, Study, Serve  
Just can't bring yourself to DO it!  
Cost is too high, time commitment too much, Thought of writing a check that big scares you  
Stepping up and saying...I will take responsibility for that area of ministry...Count on me  
Makes your palms sweat to think of sharing your faith with others...  
Worshipping Weekly ...Occasionally hear his voice...not often  
Gathering Group ...don't have people to lean on when wheels come off  
Serving Ministry Team ...No Joy of shared sacrifice : Thurs: not 3 people in world I would take my day off and drive  
Living On Mission ...Your life is dull, dreary...wake up and dread going to work...never expect see God  
Giving Generously ...your giving hurts..you don't know the JOY of giving ...seeing God's blessing  
Multiplying ...your life is about you, and yours, know nothing of joys of seeing others blessed through you

Time to move...Get off center...  
Come and make that commitment TODAY...  
Attend Weekly  
Sign up group  
Volunteer ministry  
Look Live on Mission  
Start tithing  
Look for opportunity to share you faith....

YOU KNOW WHERE GOD IS CALLING YOU...Time to move...God had said...do it!