



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Beyond Salvation

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

When the Spirit Moves

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for the covenant You made with Abraham and the blessings I receive because of it. You sent Your only Son to save me from the penalty of death, and I can never thank You enough. You're more than worthy of my time, talents, and praise. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to empower me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

In Genesis 15, God made a covenant with Abram, promising him children despite his old age. During this covenant, God changed Abram's name to Abraham, signifying their close relationship. Later, God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac; it was a test of his faith and willingness to obey. Abraham demonstrated his faithfulness by preparing to kill Isaac, but God intervened, stopping him and providing a ram as a substitute. Because of Abraham's faithfulness, God blessed him and multiplied his descendants, upholding the covenant. This test foreshadowed God's sacrifice of His Son for the sins of the world. And among the many blessings God promised Abraham, the most significant was the Holy Spirit.

Christianity extends far beyond the cross. The Holy Spirit enables us to live in the Kingdom of God. The Father sent Jesus to grant us eternal life and provide the Holy Spirit. Scripture repeatedly emphasizes the importance of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, in addition to water baptism. The first sign of receiving the Holy Spirit is empowerment, leading one to live according to God's will. Speaking in tongues is another sign, allowing for direct communication with God through His utterance. As Peter walked on water with Jesus keeping him above the waves, we do the natural, and God performs the supernatural. We need the Holy Spirit to assist us and lead us. The Spirit empowers us, and we must continually ask to be filled daily.

Practical Application

God gives us countless opportunities to demonstrate our faithfulness. He's done so much for us, and now we have the privilege of living our lives in a way that brings glory to Him. What is God asking you to do to prioritize Him in your life? Maybe it's getting up early to read the Bible, spending time in daily family prayer, changing

what you listen to or watch on TV, rekindling your hobbies, switching jobs, starting to volunteer, or finding new friends.

Take a moment to write down at least one thing you can do differently to ensure that God remains the most important aspect of your life.

Reference Verses

- Genesis 12:1-3, 15:7-21, 22:2-18
- Zechariah 12:3
- Hebrews 6:16-18
- Galatians 3:13-16
- Matthew 3:11
- John 20:20-22, 16:7
- Luke 24:49
- Acts 1:4-8, 2:1-4, 10:38, 8:5-12
- Ephesians 5:18

Declarations

- I have access to the power of the Holy Spirit.
- I have many opportunities to demonstrate my faithfulness to God.
- I have the privilege of doing things that bring glory to God and help bring His kingdom to earth.

What's Next?

This message is designed to help you apply the powerful truths found in Genesis 12, 15, and 22. These chapters lay the foundation for understanding God's plan for humanity, the significance of Israel, and the promise of the Holy Spirit. By following these steps, you can deepen your understanding of God's covenant and walk in the fullness of His power.

Step 1: Grasp the Foundational Promises

Begin by immersing yourself in the core concepts presented in Genesis 12, 15, and 22. Take time to study these passages, noting the promises God made to Abraham. Understand that these promises are not merely historical accounts but have profound implications for believers today. Recognize that God's covenant with Abraham established Israel as a chosen nation and that the blessings promised extend to all who believe in Jesus Christ. Reflect on God's unwavering commitment to His word and His divine plan for the world.

Step 2: Embrace Your Inheritance in Christ

Acknowledge that through faith in Jesus, you are an heir to the blessings promised to Abraham. Understand that the "promise of the Spirit," or the baptism in the Holy Spirit, is a crucial aspect of this inheritance. This is not simply about forgiveness of sins but about receiving divine power to live a life of witness and service. Actively seek this empowerment, recognizing that it is a gift from God intended to equip you for the work of the Kingdom.

Step 3: Live in the Power of the Spirit

Having received the promise of the Spirit, commit to living a life that reflects His power. This means actively yielding to the Spirit's leading, allowing Him to guide your words and actions. Embrace your role as a witness, sharing the Gospel with boldness and confidence. Remember that the Holy Spirit empowers you not just to receive blessings but to be a blessing to others, extending the Kingdom of God to the world around you.

By understanding the foundational promises of God and actively living in the power of the Holy Spirit, you can experience the fullness of your inheritance in Christ. May this guide serve as a starting point for a deeper journey into the heart of God's plan, empowering you to walk in His ways and fulfill His purpose for your life.

Scripture References

Beyond Salvation

Genesis 12:1-2 NKJV Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.

Genesis 12:3 NKJV "I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Zechariah 12:3 NKJV And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

Genesis 15:7-10 NKJV Then He said to him, "I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." And he said, "Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other...

Genesis 15:12-21 NKJV Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates— the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

Galatians 3:16 NKJV Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

Hebrews 6:16-18 NKJV For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation...

Genesis 22:2 NKJV Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Genesis 22:10 NKJV And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

Genesis 22:12-14 NKJV And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Genesis 22:16-17 NKJV ...and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore...

Galatians 3:13-14 NKJV Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Matthew 3:11 KJV I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire...

John 20:20-22 NKJV When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Luke 24:49 NKJV "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Acts 1:4-5 NKJV And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Acts 1:8 NKJV But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 2:1-4 NKJV When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where

they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

John 16:7 NKJV Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

Acts 10:38 NKJV ...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil...

Ephesians 5:18 NKJV And do not be drunk with wine...but be filled with the Spirit...

Acts 8:5-8 NKJV Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:12 KJV But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:14-16 KJV Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost. For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.