

MAKE IT A

SEPTEMBER

TO REMEMBER

*Dr Anthony Jacobs*



**TO OBEY OR  
NOT TO OBEY**

**REMEMBER: 2024 IS A YEAR OF GROWTH!**

**“... growing in every way more  
and more like Christ...”**

**(Ephesians 4:15)**

**REMEMBER: THE ACRONYM “GROW”**

**In 2024 I am going to GROW in:**

**G - Putting GOD First**

**R - My RELATIONSHIP with God and people**

**O - OBEDIENCE**

**W - Acting on God's WORD**

**O - OBEDIENCE**

**“The bottom line in the Christian life is obedience and most people don't even like the word.”**

**- Charles Stanley**

Genesis 22:1 (NLT)

1 Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith.

"Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

OBEDIENCE IS ALWAYS THE RESULT OF A PERSONAL  
RELATIONSHIP:

"But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. **I have called you by name; you are mine.**"

- Isaiah 43:1 (NLT)

## Genesis 22:2 (NLT)

2 “Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you.”

### OBEDIENCE COMES AT A PRICE:

- Take your son
- Your only son
- Isaac
- Whom you love so much
- Sacrifice him
- As a burnt offering



**“OBEDIENCE WILL COST YOU  
SOMETHING... NO... IT WILL COST  
YOU EVERYTHING!!!”**

**- Dr Anthony Jacobs**

Genesis 22:3-4 (NLT)

**3** The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about.

**4** On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

OBEDIENCE = IMMEDIATE OBEDIENCE:

“By faith **Abraham**, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”

- Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

**“OBEDIENCE is always better,  
especially when it is IMMEDIATE  
OBEDIENCE.”**

**- Dr Anthony Jacobs**

## OBEDIENCE

- **Hebrew word “shama”** - "to hear, listen; obey"
- **Greek word “hupakouo”** - "to listen under; obey"

Genesis 22:3-4 (NLT)

**5** “Stay here with the donkey,” Abraham told the servants. “The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back.” **6** So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac’s shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, **7** Isaac turned to Abraham and said, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “We have the fire and the wood,” the boy said, “but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?” **8** “God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

**OBEDIENCE IS A SIGN OF YOUR LOVE FOR GOD - IT**  
**IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP:**

**“Jesus replied, “*Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching.* My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. *Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.* These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”**

**- John 14:23-24 (NIV)**

**OBEDIENCE IS A SIGN OF YOUR LOVE FOR GOD - IT IS  
AN ACT OF WORSHIP:**

**“We show our love for God by obeying his commandments, and they are not hard to follow.”**

**- 1 John 5:3 (CEV)**

**“But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.”**

**- 1 John 2:5-6 (NLT)**

## Genesis 22:9-14 (NLT)

**9** When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. **10** And **Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice.** **11** At that moment the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes,” Abraham replied. “Here I am!”



## Genesis 22:9-14 (NLT)

**12** “Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.” **13** Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. **14** Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means “the Lord will provide”). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

## **OBEDIENCE LEADS TO GOD'S PROVISION:**

**“The Lord takes care of those who obey him.”**

**- Psalm 37:18 (GNT)**

**“God gives us what we ask for because we obey  
God's commands.”**

**- 1 John 3:22 (NCV)**

**“Those who obey him have all they need... Those  
who obey the Lord lack nothing good.”**

**- Psalm 34:9-10 (GNT)**

## Genesis 22:9-14 (NLT)

**15** Then the angel of the Lord called again to Abraham from heaven. **16** “This is what the Lord says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your son, your only son, I swear by my own name that **17** I will certainly bless you. I will multiply your descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will conquer the cities of their enemies. **18** And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me.”

## **OBEDIENCE LEADS TO GOD'S BLESSINGS:**

**“God blesses those who obey him”  
- Proverbs 16:20 (TLB)**

## OBEDIENCE LEADS TO GOD'S BLESSINGS:

“If you fully obey the Lord your God... You will experience all these blessings if you obey the Lord your God: Your towns and your fields will be blessed. Your children and your crops will be blessed. The offspring of your herds and flocks will be blessed. Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed. Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed... If you listen to these commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today, and if you carefully obey them, the Lord will make you the head and not the tail, and you will always be on top and never at the bottom.”

- Deuteronomy 28:1-14 (NLT)

Genesis 22:19 (NLT)

**19** Then they returned to the servants and traveled back to Beersheba, where Abraham continued to live.

**“Obedience is the key that unlocks  
God’s promises, provision and  
ultimately His blessings.”**

**- Dr Anthony Jacobs**