

Message Transcript

THE PROCESS INTO THE PROMISE | I'VE GOT A WORD FOR YOU
TERRENCE MULLINGS | JUNE 27 & 28, 2026

Aaron Brockett:

Hey Traders Point fam. Our next guest preacher is, honestly, one of my favorite people on the planet. Terrence Mullings is a passionate minister, musician, song writer, preacher, and father of four. He and his wife, Emma, relocated to the United States in 2019 to plant History Makers Church, a dynamic church in south Florida that we help support due to your generosity.

Terrence has been involved in ministry since childhood and is a dynamic and engaging communicator of God's word. He's a seasoned leader with a heart to see every individual step into the fullness of God's plan for their life. He is known for his infectious encouragement, deep love for people, and unwavering passion to help others discover their God-given purpose.

I'm grateful to call Terrence a friend. And, as you will see in just a moment, he is wildly gifted but he is also one of the most humble and self-aware leaders I know. Even though he has more ability in his little finger than most of us have altogether, he's constantly asking questions because he has a growth mindset and the heart of a servant. I know you are going to be encouraged and challenged by his message today.

His wife, Emma, spoke at last year's Women's Night, but this is his first time to preach for us. So, would you please give Terrance a warm, Traders Point welcome as he comes to bring God's word.

Terrence Mullings :

Hello Traders Point. What an introduction. What a pastor you guys have. It is the highest honor and privilege for me to be with you here this morning, on a Sunday morning. And can we just start by giving praise to the One who deserves it, the King of kings, the Lord of lords. His name is Jesus. Come on. You can do better than that. Who's watching online? Every campus, come on! A loud church is a live church, and our God is not dead. He is alive!



Well, I love your pastor. He is my man crush. Come on. You guys have a church pastored by a wolverine. I mean it doesn't get any better than that. He really is a gift. I'm so grateful for Pastor Aaron. His generosity is like Jesus. He has wisdom, I believe, like Jesus. That's why I ask questions when I'm around him. Because I want to get God answers. If you want to know what it looks like to lead like Jesus and love like Jesus, look no further than your pastor.

If you are grateful for your pastor would you clap your hands and honor him? I know he and his wife are on sabbatical right now. In fact, I had the privilege to catch up with him last night and I did ask him about the history of this church called Traders Point. You guys look good for your age. I'll tell you, you guys look good.

Apparently Traders Point was a group of people, a settlement here. As travelers were coming through people would stop here and make a trade for something that would help them on their journey as they went to the next season of their lives.

And I thought, "Oof, that'll preach. That will preach right there because I believe Traders Point still is Traders Point. People come here every single week and have the opportunity to make a trade for something that will serve them in their next season. We get to come into the house of God and trade our sin for His salvation. We get to come into the house of God and trade our rags for His righteousness. Come on. Anyone grateful that Traders Point is still Traders Point? I love it.

It's not just salvation that we get in this house, it's sanctification. We get to become more like Jesus every day in every way. We come with our weakness and we can trade it for His strength. We come with our grief and we come with our mistakes and God gives us His great grace. Anyone grateful that we can come to the house of God and we can trade our sorrow for His joy? Come on. One more time. Clap your hands in this place. The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Well, I've got to start by saying the accent that you are hearing is an Australian accent. And I want to encourage you to get used to it because we'll all sound like this in heaven. This will be the accent of heaven so do get used to it.

Well, Pastor Aaron has asked me just to go forth and share with you what has been on my heart. And so this is the highest honor and privilege. And I want to share with you over the next three hours and thirty five minutes.... Why are you laughing? That's how we do it in Australia. I want to share with you over the next 35 minutes or so from this thought: The process into the promise. The process into the promise.



Every covenant promise has a covenant premise!

You know, God's promises are yes and amen in Jesus Christ. And every promise from God has a premise called a process. And if you don't understand the process in which God writes His story and His promises, then I believe that many of us forfeit the promises of God simply because we don't understand the process in which He does it. Someone say process. No, I didn't say process, I said prōcess. Come on. Prōcess.

Because, you know, there is a person of Jesus who gets you to heaven, but there are the principles of Jesus that allow us to experience heaven here on earth. And today I want to look at one of these principles and the person of Jesus because I believe that if you don't understand the process, then many of us have promises from God but we never achieve them because we are stuck in a sentence when God has more to the story.

So, this message is for anyone who feels stuck, anyone who might have settled short of the promises of God. My prayer is that as I speak you are going to see yourself in one of the four chapters that I'm going to outline in which God writes His story and fulfills His promises in our lives—so for anyone who is stuck, has settled or has stopped short... Many times God wants us here but we settle for the wilderness when God has a whole Promised Land.

The Scripture today that we are looking at is the story of Abraham. I believe Abraham is a great person to look at. The Bible calls him the Father of Faith. And he had a journey he had to go on. And we see these four chapters in his life. You ready for the Word? Alright. Genesis, chapter 12, verse one reads this: "The Lord had said to Abram,"

Eyes up. I need you to know that we serve a speaking God. That if God said it, you're going to see it. You know, when God wants to do something, He doesn't just give words for communication. No, when our God speaks, He speaks creation. That's why He looked at darkness and said, "Let there be light. And there was light." We serve a speaking God and I want you to know that what God has spoken in your life, if He said it, you are going to see it.

But do you know what God has said? Have you opened up His book? Get your face out of Facebook and actually get in the Book. Because God will watch over His Word to perform it in your life. He's got promises of faith, finances, friendship. He's got promises for your health, for your heart. So many promises found in the Word of God.



So, every promise is actually predicated on the process. And in the next part of the verse we're going to see the process. It's actually up there right now. All four steps are right here, it says:

"The Lord had said to Abram," number one, "'Go from your country,'" number two, I need you to leave "'your people'" number three, I need you to leave "'your father's household'" and step four, I need you to go to "'the land I will show you...'" said the Lord.

So, right there you see the process—four stages of the process—but now I want to go to the next verse to show you the promise and then I'm going to come back and unpack the process so we know what steps we need to take. Amen? So the next part of the verse says this. Here is the promise. God says:

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you. I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse,"

Now, I want you to notice here who is doing the blessing. Are we blessing ourselves or is it God doing the blessing? God is doing the blessing. I love how you are talking back. That's how we like it. I hope you are talking back in your car right now. God says, "I will bless you," and:

"all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

If I were to summarize this blessing that God has for us, the promise, into four words, I would say it like this. God wants to bless you, write this down, with:

Land

I know it might be expensive to buy a house in Indy, but God has land for you. The earth is the Lord's and He's given it to His children. But He's not just talking about an earthly land, He's talking about a heavenly land, your name written in the Book of Life, and a place in eternity.

Lineage

Lineage. Lineage is number two. He says, "I will make your name great, give you a people, family, friendships. I believe even in this room today God is going to break barrenness. There are going to be people in this room who will conceive and carry to full term because that is a promise that God has given you and I believe He is going to perform it here today in Jesus' name.



Legacy

Legacy is not just wealth. We don't just pass on wealth; we pass on wisdom.

Love and life more abundantly

Wisdom and life more abundantly. These are some of the promises God has. As we continue to read about Abram's journey in verse 4 it says Abraham went as the Lord had told him to do, following the four step process into the promise: "So, Abraham went, as the Lord had told him; following the four step process into the promise, "and Lot went with him. Abram was about seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot,"

And the Bible says Abraham was how old? Come on. Shout it. Abraham was how old?

"seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. 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." Genesis 12:1-5 (NIV)

Which is also known as the Promised Land. The Promised Land.

Again, God has a promise for you. But there is a process into the promise. Between the promise, watch this, and the possession of the promise there is always a process and I want to outline that process for you here today. In Abraham we don't just see a man, we see a model of how God leads us into the promises of God.

Before I dive into this, by way of introduction, because I can see some of you looking at me like, "I mean, he looks black. But that brother sounds really white." There is a reason for that. I look like this because I was born of Jamaican parents. Anyone here from Jamaica? Wow. Nobody. What a great start.

I was born of Jamaican parents. I look like this because I was born of Jamaican parents but I sound like this because I was born in Brisbon, Australia. In fact, my parents, my dad, with Jamaica being a part of the British Commonwealth, got a scholarship to study in Australia. So, my mom and he moved to Australia. My sister was born there. I was born there.

And we left when I was three months old and we moved all the way back to Jamaica where dad fulfilled his scholarship. He couldn't really find work there with the economy and so they moved right here. To America, baby. Come on. America. The American dream. They moved to Miami, Florida. And, again, dad couldn't find work. So he ended moving us all of the way back to Australia.



We've lived in so many different places: Brisbane, Sydney, a place called Deniliquin. We actually moved to a town called Wagga Wagga. Come on. Someone say Wagga Wagga. Come on. So good they had to name it twice. It was a great country town.

Did high school there and then I moved up to Sydney for university. And that's where I met my beautiful Angelina Jolie look alike with the heart of Mother Teresa. Come on. I scored. Plus, Emma spoke at the Women's Conference. Did anyone here hear her? Come on. Isn't she awesome?

This is a beautiful picture of my family. And for those clapping, you obviously don't have four children. I mean, I love my children. But do you know what four children is like? Four children is like... Imagine you are drowning and someone hands you four children. That's what four children is like. They are a blessing. In fact, I'm travelling with my eldest, Jeremiah. He's sitting there in the front row. I love him.

I do love my kids, but I don't have four kids because I love kids. I have four kids because my wife loves me. Come on. My wife loves the chocolate. She loves the good chocolate, the Ferrero Rocher. In Jesus' name. And so we got married. We actually ended up moving to America in 2019, just before the world shut down. And we actually ended up launching our church, History Makers Church, in Miami, Florida. And God has done just, honestly, some incredible things—exceedingly abundantly more than we could ask, think, or imagine.

And, in fact, four years later after launching the church, this Easter we saw over 3,350 people walk through the doors. We've had over 1,000 people say yes to Jesus in the church—hundreds of baptisms. Come on. You better clap your hands on that.

And I don't say that to brag on us. I actually say that to brag on you and to say thank you Traders Point for your generosity. You may not realize this, but every time you sow into Traders, you are actually sowing through Traders Point to see God's Kingdom come all around the world.

And we've been recipients of your great generosity. So, I came as a preacher, to say thank you so much for all that you are doing. You are making an epic and eternal difference. Give yourselves a round of applause one more time Traders Point.



But the second thing he said to Solomon... You can imagine that in that room, Solomon is looking at his dad, he ain't got much to say. And David says, "Number two, Solomon. Secondly, you're going to have to make a choice, make a decision: choose, decide. Choose to live courageously, but number two, Solomon, you're going to have to choose, decide— choose, decide to live obediently."

This is the crux of the matter. Look at what he says here in verse 3:

"...keep the charge of the Lord your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn,"

He said, "Ho, ho, ho, ho buddy. Success is expensive." Success is expensive. Success requires—hear me, hear me on this. There is no sustained success apart from personal discipline. And he's saying, "You want the favor of God?" Anybody want the blessing of...? Everybody wants the blessing of God. Everybody wants to raise their hand. Everybody wants to feel... "You want that feeling, you want that blessing? Look, buddy. If you're going to dance you've got to pay the bin. You can't live your life any old way that you want to. You're going to have to obey God."

God doesn't exist to rubber stamp your ideas. You exist to carry out His plan and His will. And you can't ala cart pick and choose your obedience.

And there is a little bit of an ellipses here. Something is being powerfully said that has not been spoken. And what is being powerfully said and not being spoken, David felt it and Solomon knew it. Although David did not utter the words.

Solomon knew his daddy's history. And he knew that David became king because his predecessor was erratic in terms of his obedience. Saul disobeyed God. He sort of rebranded what God told him to do and this kind of thing. So, God said, "Enough, enough. I'm taking my hand off of you. David, you're next." It's almost as if David is saying to his son, "Hey, man. Don't be stupid, boy. Don't think that you are the exception."

The other thing palpable in the room, not said but they both realize it, it's almost as if David is saying, "You know what happened with me and your momma. Right? It's an open secret. Yes, we did the nasty. Alright? And I had your mother's husband killed. Right? Now, God forgave me. Nathan confronted me. I repented of that. God forgave me. And in His grace I am still on the throne. He's forgiven me."



So, we moved here in 2019 to plant History Makers Church in Miami but the call of God actually came in 2014. It was in 2014, in October and November that I went on a 40 day fast—40 days, no food, just liquids. In fact, seven days, no liquids at all. And I wanted to press mute on the physical so I could turn the amplifier up on the spiritual, to hear God about a few things we were believing Him for.

And it's amazing that in those 40 days, watch this, in those 40 days God gave me the blueprint for the next 40 years of my life. In fact, what God showed me in that time is that every time heaven touches earth, every time our humanity encounters His divinity, God always writes His story through the same four chapters. You know, God is a God of systems and patterns. God is a God of order, not disorder. And, in fact, as we look at the story of Abraham we see those four things outlined in his story.

And this is really important so I'm going to just go for it and give you everything I've got just in case I never get invited back. So, this is a message you might want to watch back. And here's the question I want you to ask as I preach. Ask the Holy Spirit, "What chapter of God's story am I currently in?" Because it will help you. Because most people get saved and they think they've taken this leap of faith (that was a good leap, I felt that one). You take this leap of faith in your life, "Is this it, God?"

Well, no. God has more than salvation. He wants to sanctify you. So, God doesn't just call you, He commissions you. He doesn't just rescue you; He releases you. He doesn't just find you; He wants to make you fruitful and multiply. And God has a process and I'm hoping that you will see yourself in one of these chapters, that everyone will see yourself in one of these chapters I'm going to outline.

So, today I want to give you the four chapters of the process you might call the four legs of the table that God is preparing for you in the presence of your enemies. Alright? And the four chapters go like this. Let me start with number one. For those of you taking notes and for those who want to go to heaven—see now you'll take notes. We say at our church, "Note takers are history makers."

Called

Number one, the first step of the process is that God will call you. Someone say called. Why does God call you? Because where we are and where God is taking us are two completely different places.



In fact, before God calls you into a thing, He has to call you out of the old thing. In Genesis 12 God says to Abram, "Go from your country." We need to leave where we are to go where God is leading us.

You know, Peter, when he got out of the boat—all of us complain but he's the one who stepped out of the boat of security to step onto the waters of his destiny. And you have to leave what is secure to step into the unknown where feet may fail, keeping our eyes on Jesus.

And here's what I want you to know. The reason why you have to wait for God to call you is... I don't believe Peter stepped out on the waters; I believe Peter stepped out on a word from God. Because God's word is so pregnant with power.

When God speaks, His word changes things. And the Bible says God watches over His word to perform it. Do you have a word from God? As you are stepping into summer, you're stepping into a new season, do you have a word from God? Because His word will work if you allow it to do a work inside of you.

Before He calls you to "a thing"—He calls you "to Him"

You know, the reason why God calls you is, before He calls you to a thing He always calls you to Him. He's not necessarily calling you to a thing, the promise, but He's actually calling you to the Promise Giver.

And here is why. Because God calls Abram and here are some of the characteristics we learn about Abraham. Abraham was 75 years old. I don't know about you, come on. Anyone 75 or a little bit older in this place. Wave your hands in the air like you just care. Awesome. A few seasoned saints.

You know, 75, when I ask this question, "Are you planning to have a baby anytime soon?" Anyone 75? If you are, I want to see what is in your communion cup right now. But at 75 we're not really trying to have children. We are not winding up, we're winding down. We're now thinking about, "How can I leave a legacy for the next generation?"

And Abram finds himself in this situation that God has called him to be the father of many nations, but he's got a problem. He's old. He's got a second problem. His wife is barren. The Bible said that Sarah was actually childless because she was not able to conceive.

God doesn't call the qualified—He qualifies the called!



Can I tell you, when you look at your life and you feel that you are unqualified, when you look at your life and you feel like you don't have what it takes, you need to understand that God doesn't call the qualified—God qualifies the called. You need to know God called you, He's going to put inside of you everything that you need. God will equip you because He's both the Author and the Finisher of your faith. Come on. Anyone grateful here this morning that we serve a God who qualifies us with His Word when He calls us.

And that's important for you to know because some of you think you're too old. Some of you think it's too late. Can I tell you, you're not too old, it's not too late. You have what it takes because when God calls you, He doesn't call you to a thing, He calls you to Him because God is going to perform that thing on your behalf.

Oh, I need some of you to get it. Some of you haven't gotten it yet. You can come in here and you think the abortion disqualifies you. You think the fact that you had adultery disqualifies you from God's call. But no. When there is repentance there is always a way through this, there is always a resurrection power from the blood of Jesus Christ.

I don't know what you walked in here with that you think disqualifies you, what lies the enemy has been coming to torment you with today, but my Bible says that no weapon formed against me will prosper and every tongue that rises against me shall be condemned. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord. I'm telling you, the mistake that you make is not you being disqualified because the blood of Jesus is more than enough. His blood on the cross covered everything. And I'm so grateful for the blood of Jesus Christ. The promise of God is not based on your qualifications. It's actually based on His.

You know, when we moved from Australia we were gripped with our insecurities, so gripped with the inadequacy and fragility of our humanity. I knew God called and it is great to step out until you step out. Come on. Anyone ever stepped out on a job or a venture or a business and were like, "I don't have what it takes."

You know, we moved here and we didn't have a church, we didn't have much support. We had our whole savings that we saved for 10 years and we believed that God said, "If you build My house, I'll build your house." And God was faithful in that.

But in those moments when I looked and I was like, "God, this is not happening. COVID was happening. No one was coming. What's going on?" And in that moment I had to learn to keep my eyes on Jesus. And I tell you, when you step out on the call, God is calling you into a relationship with Him because He wants to perform it.



You ever noticed when Jesus called His disciples, you know what He said? He didn't say, "Go and make disciples," first. The first thing He said is, "Come, follow Me." Because God says, "I'm the One who is going to make you fishers of men."

If you've been walking this journey on your own know that God is calling you back into relationship with Him. That is the first step that God does in your life. Here's what He's calling you out of. He's calling you... Here's an acronym: FILTH. He's calling you out of the fear so you can make a trade for faith. He's calling you out of "I" insecurity, insecurity. He's calling you out of limited, limited thinking. He's calling you out of tradition, "This is the way I've always done it." He's calling you out of how you used to do it so you can step into a new day in Jesus' name. Amen?

And here's how the call went for Abram. God said, "Abram, you've been leaning onto these tents. Limited thinking. It's like a glass ceiling you can't break through." And I need you to get out from this ceiling so you can see Him. And some of you need to get out of the ceiling, the traditions, what people have said to you, the mistakes you have made, to answer the call, Because God's calling you into greater things.

I want to tell you how great our God is. He said to Abram, "Hey, count the stars in the sky." Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco... he's counting the stars. He can't count them because what God wants to do in your life is enumerable, it's immeasurable, it's incalculable. See, no eye has seen nor ear has heard. That's why God called you to Him. Because He wants to do exceedingly, abundantly, above. Can I get an amen in this place?

I need you to know. Do you know how many stars? Astronomers calculate that there are six sextillion stars. Do you know if you take a million stars times it by 1,000 that's a billion. You times a billion stars by another thousand, that's a trillion—Elon Musk right there. Hello. And if you double that you get sextillion. That's six of those multiplied. And God says, "I want to do that much in your life—all that you can ask, think, or imagine."

And here's why He calls you into relationship with Him, because here's how good our God is. You can take an apple, I'm sure, cut it half and count how many seeds come out of that apple. True? Here's what God can do. He can take one of those seeds out of the apple and He can tell you how many apples are going to come out of that one seed. Clap your hands if you know God is good in this place. Amen.

Connected

So, He will call you to Him then, number two, God wants to connect you. Someone say connect. Connect. So, Genesis 12: 1 says this:



"The Lord had said to Abram," step one, "'Go from your country,'" step two, I need you to leave, "'your people...'"

Your people... My question is: Did Abram do this? Did he leave his people? Because in order for God to connect you to a new thing, we're going to have to say no to the old thing. Watch this. Three verses later, Genesis 12:4, God says, "...leave your people":

"So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and..."

Who went with him? And Lot. Look at me. It's very hard to step into the more that God has for you while you are carrying a Lot. And a lot of you are carrying a lot of hurt, hangups, misconceptions, thoughts of how it should have happened, and you're missing what God wants to do in the new thing because you aren't disconnected from the old thing. Let me say it like this. You're carrying mindsets. You're carrying hurts. And you've got to leave those things.

I know it's really hard to leave family. We had to leave Australia to come all the way here to America—one of the hardest decisions we've ever had to do. It was extra hard because when we were about to leave, my eldest sister had already left years ago to move to Jamaica and do her life.

So, now we hear from God and we're leaving my parents and we're leaving at a time when my dad was possibly in the late stages of prostate cancer. And so we didn't know how long dad had left.

You know, because they were God fearing people. They prayed and said, "Look. We know this is the call of God on your life. You need to obey God." So, we left the shores of Australia and we land here in America: me, my wife, and our four children.

Three months later, after landing, I get a text from my dad on WhatsApp. And it says, "Mom's dead." And I'm like, "Huh?" Like, "Make this nicer, Dad." I'm sure he was processing it in his mind with what happened with mom's death. But she died suddenly. It was heart failure. We didn't expect it.

And can I tell you that moment was when I was starting to question, "Did I hear God? Should I have left? Should I have come over?" And I realize that a lot of people don't leave family. In Spanish we say family is familia, familia. We don't leave because things are familiar.

And as we go back to the story of Abraham I think I can see something in the reason why Abraham didn't leave and he took Lot with him. And I believe it's the same reason a lot of us won't let go of the old thing and step into the new thing. Watch this. Verse 27 of chapter 11 says this:



"This is the account of Terah."

Now, Abram's father, his name was Terah. Everyone say Terah. He:

"was the father of Abram, Nahor, Haran;" he had three boys, "and Haran," one of his sons, "was the father of Lot. But Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, the land of his birth, while his father, Terah, was still living."

So he's experiencing some loss. And that's tough as I said, I personally get it. But, meanwhile, it says in verse 29:

"Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Micah. ...But Sarai was unable to become pregnant and had no children."

Verse 31:

"One day Terah took his son Abram, his daughter-in-law Sarai, and his grandson Lot," because Lot's dad, Haran, had actually died, "and moved away from Ur of the Chaldeans."

And they were heading to this place called the land of Canaan. Now the land of Canaan, you would know this, is also known as the Promised Land. So, the call wasn't actually given to Moses, it was actually given to Abraham's father, Terah, way back in Genesis. And the Bible says instead:

"they stopped," short of the Promised Land in this place called Haran, and they did what? "they settled there."

I wonder how many of us have ever settled short of the Promised Land because we were no longer in slavery, a place of not enough, but we settled for just enough, when God has more than enough. That will preach.

"Terah lived for 205 years and died while still in Haran. Genesis 11:26-32 (NLT) You know, some of the promises of God are only on the other side of our separation from the old thing. The place that he settled in? Terah. Interestingly, what was the son's name who died? His name was what? Haran. What was the name of the place they settled in short of the Promised Land? Haran.

Do Not Settle In A Place Of Sadness!



You see, many of us settle in a place of sadness because it reminds us of an old season when God said, "I need you to forget the former things. Behold, I am doing a new thing." And I know it's really hard to let go of the old things.

In fact, when my mom died, we were all here in America. We had taken all we had to move here. And, in fact, my wife couldn't come. My kids couldn't come. I had to fly back all by myself to Australia and do mom's funeral.

I was so sad on that trip. And I remember God speaking to me on the plane. He said, "Terrance, two things. Number one: Remember that unless a seed falls to the ground and dies it will never be a fruit. And your mother's life was a seed that has been planted in the ground and been planted in your life. Now, her life should bear fruit through you and the next generation."

He also said, "When you are running a race there is a baton." Just like the baton was passed from your former pastor to your current pastor, Pastor Aaron, God is passing a baton from one generation to the next.

And I believe, prophetically, here this morning some of you have settled in a place of sadness. You've lost someone. Maybe you lost an opportunity. Maybe you lost some innocence and you've settled in that place of sadness. But like God said to Joshua, "Moses, my servant, is dead. Now is your time to pick up your baton and run your race."

I believe that there are some people in here who need a word from God that God is saying, "You are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, you need to lace up your boots, you need to put on your backpack, it's time to ride into the promises of God."

Come on. Is there anyone here at Traders Point who is grateful that God always has a fresh start? It's a new season. It's a new day. You can let go. And here's what God is saying, God's saying, "They ran their race and now they are watching and they are cheering you on."

It's time to get up. It's time to run again. Don't settle in that place because the promises of God are actually not predicated on feelings. Feelings are real, but they are not always real. God wants you to walk by faith and not by sight. My question is: Why is Lot with Abraham? Well for this reason. Lot had lost his dad. So, what's the one thing that Lot wants? A father. Abraham and Sarah were barren. What's the one thing that they want? A son.



See, many times our desires can stop us from being obedient to God and I believe that sometimes our desire to belong is stronger than our willingness to obey. But if we'll be obedient, on the other side of that obedience, I believe, is going to be some great joy. And watch this. Genesis 13:14 says:

"The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him..."

Now, question. Did God speak to Abraham before Lot left or after Lot left. After. See, some of you are waiting on a word from God and God is waiting for you to obey the last instruction that He gave you. So, God is not being silent. He's just saying, "If you'd obey the last thing, I will speak again and give you the next instruction." Because when you do obey God, God says:

"Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever."

On the other side of disconnecting from the old thing, disconnecting and deleting that number you know you need to delete... Come on. You know who I'm talking to right now. Stop sliding into the DMs and slide into the Word. Amen. On the other side of that I believe that God says, "Here's is a great blessing that is available for you."

Some of you have to let go of that partnership. Some of you have to let go of that membership to that website that you get on every single night. That ship that you are on is a slave ship that is not taking you to God's destination.

But God wants to break off the old things. Every chain is broken in this place right now according to the word of God and you are free and you are stepping into a new season in Jesus' name.

Can I say if you are willing to let go of the familiar God will lead you into the fruitful. There is a blessing on the other side of your obedience. If you believe that, clap your hands one more time. Amen.

Maybe for you that's finding a new group of people because every time you hang out with the old group, they tell you who you are not. They discourage you. The suck courage. Maybe you need to find a group here at Traders Point where they can speak life into you.

Step one of the process is: God will call you. Step two: He will connect you. Step three... And this, they say, is where most Christians get stuck because we understand what it means to be called: Salvation. We understand what it means to be connected: We'll find a group.



Consecrated

But few of us will go deep enough to get consecrated and get rooted in Christ. This is where you take some time to allow God to deal with the stuff that is hidden that you can't really see.

Going back to that foundational Scripture, Genesis 12 says this: God said, "Go." Step one. "Leave your people..." Step two. I've got some divine connections. But step three: "I need you to leave your father's household," which represents my ideas over God's ideas, which represents my will over God's will.

Can I tell you what consecration is? Consecration is when you take your life out of your hands and you place it in God's hands. Do you know what the opposite of that is? It's called desecration. It's where we get tired of waiting on God and we start to take things in our own hands. And we always mess them up. And we see this happen. I don't know if that's you here today, but God is saying, "I want to consecrate you. I want to lift you up for a higher purpose."

Let's read the Scripture in Genesis 16:

"Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; so she said to Abram, 'The Lord has kept me from having children.'"

Eyes up. You have to be very careful what you go blaming on God. Because if you wrongly diagnose the problem, you'll wrongly prescribe the solution. And what's the solution she now prescribes because she thinks God is holding out on her? (And this is a lie of the enemy. He told Eve, "Maybe God is holding out on you. You will be like God if you eat from that." If you believe a lie, something in you will die.)

And we go back to the Scriptures and it says:

"'Go, sleep with my slave;' she says, 'perhaps I can build a family through her.'"

Perhaps who? See, Sarai has now taken things into her hand. But let me ask you a question. Who was the one who said He was going to fulfill the promise? Was it God's responsibility or was it Abram's? It was God's. He said, "I will bless you. I will make your name great."

And as soon as we take things out of God's hands and try to do them within our own strength, we will desecrate the promises of God. Have you taken things into your own hands? What have you taken into your own hands that is messing it up?



And so the Bible says:

"Abram agreed to what Sarai said,"

Just look at me for a second. Men, you know full well your wife has been telling you to do a lot of things. And you don't listen to her ever. But Abraham decides this one time he's going to listen to his wife? Come on, ladies. Don't leave me hanging. Come on. Abraham is acting the fool. And it says:

"Abram had been living in Caanan ten years,"

So, he's actually in the Promised Land now, 10 years in the Promised Land, but still no promise. Do you know you can be in the Promised Land but you still have to wait on God to fulfill what He said? But some of us get tired and we take things into our own hands.

And:

"Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave, Hagar, and gave her to her husband to be his wife. He slept with Hagar, and she conceived." Genesis 16:1-4 (NIV)

She conceived and birthed a son. His name was Ishmael. Can I tell you when you get impatient you will try to birth through performance and self-will that which God wanted to do by faith.

God says, "This is not going to be by works. What I'm trying to do in your life can only be achieved and received by faith. Someone say faith. And so, I don't know what you are touching with your own hands but God says that you need to trust Him with it.

This is the mistake Eve made, "Hey, Eve. Don't touch the tree. Trust Him with the tree." "Hey, Uzzah. Don't touch the ark. Trust Me with the ark." "Hey, David. Don't touch Bathsheba. That's not yours to touch. You need to trust Me that I will satisfy the desires of your heart."

What are you touching where God says you need to trust Him with that very thing? Take your hands off this one. This is not something you work for. This is a covenant blessing that God wants to do. And here's the covenant blessing that He wants to speak into your life. You know, when God blessed Abraham, he received the blessing of God, simply, it says in Genesis 15:6:

"Abram," did what? "Abraham believed."



Man, you know when God gave a promise to Noah, "Here's My promise. I'll never flood the earth." It was a picture of what? A rainbow. In fact, you know when Abraham got the covenant promise from God, the covenant was actually circumcision.

If I was Abraham I'd be like, "God, Noah got a rainbow." I mean it should have been easier. That was the result of it. But the true blessing that Abraham received from God was a covenant. The substance of it, the sign, was circumcision.

But the covenant was this, he received the same thing his grandsons: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob received. And the Bible says that Jacob wrestled God for the promise, the blessing. And he said, "God, I'm not going to let You go until You bless me." And the Bible says he was blessed. The angel left. But here's my question: What was the blessing? What was the blessing that Jacob received? The blessing was actually a name change from Jacob, deceiver to Israel, nation. And the same thing that God did for his grandson, He actually did to Abram. If we read about his wife... God always changes your name, because when you change your name you change the narrative. He changed Jacob to Israel, Saul to Paul, Abram to Abraham. Watch how he did it to Sarah in Genesis 18:

"God also said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.'"

Watch this. How do you get from the name Sarai to the name Sarah? You'd have to remove what? Remove the "i" and put in the "h". Let me speak prophetically to you here this morning. I believe that God has been doing this and will continue to sanctify us by removing the "i". I will make this happen in my own strength. I am going to do this." God says, "If you will do this and remove..." watch this, this is Traders Point, "If you will make the trade from "i" to "h" which represents the Holy Spirit..."

In fact that letter "h" in Hebrew is actually the word Ruha. Hold your hand up to your mouth, up like this, hold your hand up like this [palm facing forward in front of one's mouth]. Everyone go, "Hah." See, some of you need a breath mint.

But that hah is the breath of God. It's the same breath that breathed over Jesus as He rose again. It's the same breath that God breathed into the dirt when He formed the dirt and He breathed the life giving breath into Adam. And a dirty thing and a dead thing came back to life.



And I believe here at Traders Point that God is breathing a fresh wind into His people here at Traders Point and you will see the impossible. Chains are going to get broken off of your life because God is about to breathe again in Jesus' name. Do you believe that here this morning. That's what He did for Sarai and He also did it for Abram. As we look in Genesis 17, verse 5:

"No longer will you be called Abram;"

Men. Look at me. God is about to do a name change in your life and you get from Abram and we get to the part where it says in verse 5:

"No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be," what? "Abraham..."

The breath. To get there you've got to double the "a".

God is about to release a double portion over the men of this church. There is a reason. If you serve you will reap. And you've been sowing, turning up for Men's Night. By turning into the house of God, God is going to release a double portion and He's going to put the fresh breath of God in your life. If you believe that, clap your hands in this place. Amen.

So, in the steps of the process where do you find yourself? Some of you, you are answering the call. Some of you, you are getting connected and reconnected to God. Some of you, you are in the process of consecration. I know it hurts. But God is not mad at you. God is consecrating you. God is consecrating His call.

Commissioned

And the final step is called commission, commission. I like to break it down into two words: co mission. When God sends you out, He doesn't send you alone. [singing] "He's faithful through every season" yes you are Jesus, "so why would He fail now?"

Some of you think that the steps you have walked through have disqualified you from God's love. No, no. Before God calls you to a thing, He calls you to Him. And you've got to understand God's not sending you out alone.

And some of us have settled for a God who just tells me what to do and I have to go and make it happen in my own strength. But, no. God has taken out the "I". It's a commission. That's why when Jesus called the disciples He said, "Come follow Me."



See, a travel agent tells you what to do. A tour guide walks with you because they know the way to go. And Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." And watch this. In Genesis 12:1, our foundational Scripture again, God says four things. He says, "Go, answer the call." Two, "Leave your people, connect with Me." Three, "Leave your father's household." And four, "Go to the land I will show you."

Here's the reason why we've got to walk with Jesus. Because He knows the way. In fact, the Bible says He is the way.

And in Genesis 22, going back to Abram's story we see the process through the promise you cannot do it without Jesus.

"Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Genesis 22:2 (NIV)

He says, "Take your son, your only son Isaac..." Now, think about this. This is Genesis 22. In Genesis 15 and 12 we realize that Abraham did have another son. Isaac wasn't the only son. He actually birthed something out of his own will; it's called an Ishmael. And when you take life matters into your own hand you will birth an Ishmael.

In fact, I believe that there are some women in here who are dating your Ishmael. So, you got tired of waiting on God, but God has a Boaz for you. Come on. He's not a broke-az. He's not a cheap-az. Come on. He's your Boaz. Amen. Amen. But you've got to wait on the Lord. Ooh. Thank you Jesus. That was not in my notes. Praise the Lord.

I think it's important that God doesn't hide the fact that Ishmael was birthed because God is so good that only the Messiah can take your mess and make a miracle out of the mess. And God wants you to know you can come in here dirty, damaged, broken and He says, "I will still accept you." Because He doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies those who He calls. And God wants to qualify you. His grace is enough. His grace is enough.

He says, "Take your son whom you love, Isaac. I know you love this son of yours. And go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him to me as a burnt offering on the mount," that who will show you? "That I will show you."

See, if you are not walking with Jesus you won't be able to see what He is showing you. See, some of you are waiting for God to speak and God's not quiet. Again, He's waiting for you to obey the last word He spoke so you can do what He's asked you to do.



Verse 10 says:

"Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, 'Abraham! Abraham!' 'Here I am,' he replied. 'Do not lay a hand on the boy,' he said."

Now watch this. If he was not walking with God then he would have ended up sacrificing his son, Isaac, the promise from God, because he was living on a word that God said and not on the word that God is saying.

Some of us only have the word that God said while we were a child. God is a speaking God. And when we walk with God we will hear what God is saying. Can I tell you the promise of God for your inheritance, for your influence, for the land, for the legacy is not just predicated on a process. Watch this. It's a person.

I came to introduce you not just to principle. See, the person of Jesus gets you to heaven. The principles of Jesus gets heaven to earth. We've got to understand that He says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Watch this. And he says:

"Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son," Abraham looked up,

Everyone say look up. Maybe this is moment at Traders Point to look up and start to see what God sees again. And He says, "Look up,":

"and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by his horns." Genesis 22:10-14 (NIV)

Right here we're about to see what I believe is a symbol of the beautiful, substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ. This is Traders Point. And it's still Traders Point. It's still the point where I can trade my mess for His miracles, my sorrows for His joys, my sin for salvation. Because the Bible says that the lamb... Why a lamb?

Well, you've got to remember John the Baptist when he was about to baptize he says, "Hey, wait, you see Him over there? That's Jesus. That's the Lamb of God that was slain before the foundations of the earth."

And you've got to remember what they did with the lamb. The Bible said in the Old Testament when they sinned the High Priest would get a lamb and he would inspect the lamb three times over four days to make sure it was spotless, blameless, nothing missing.



And if it was he would lean on the lamb and confess the sins of the people and there would be an imputing of the sins of the people onto the lamb and the imputing of the righteousness of the lamb to the people. And they would be atoned for temporarily.

And then God is sitting there working out, "How will I do this not temporarily but permanently for My people?" And the Bible says that when Jesus turned up on the scene, He was the Lamb.

And the Bible said that King Herod inspected Him, "I find nothing wrong with this man." Caiaphas, the High Priest inspected Him, "I find nothing wrong with this man." Religion, politics, the kings of the day inspected Him three times and they said, "I find nothing wrong with this Jesus, let Him go."

And the Bible says that because He was the one who was without spot, without blemish, sinless. He's the One who can take away the sins of the world. Come on. Is anyone grateful here this morning that Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who was slain before the foundations of the earth.

Can I do you one better? He's not just a lamb. If you read the Scripture, it didn't say lamb. It said ram. Why ram? Because He's not just the Lamb of God. A ram is a mature lamb. Jesus Christ is the one who, what He did on the cross was so perfect, so whole, so complete that every sin, every shame, every pain that I walked in here with has been covered under the name of Jesus.

I'm so thankful that the blood of the Lamb has covered my past, my present, and my future. This is why I worship the King of kings. He is the Lamb of God that was slain before the foundation of the earth.

And the Bible says that this ram was caught where? In a thicket. Do you know what a thicket is? A thicket is a thorny bush. Why, Lord, a thorny bush? Well, you've got to remember, you've got to go back to Genesis to understand the meaning.

In Genesis the Bible said because Adam and Eve had sinned God said, "I need to curse the ground. Instead of producing fruit and vegetation, it's going to produce thorns and thistles." Thorns are a picture of the curse.

Now watch this. When Jesus, the Lamb of God, hung on the cross 2,000 years ago (we sang about it in the second song) He has on His head a crown of... thorns. Look at this. What a picture of God reversing the curse that was on Adam and Eve and the Lamb of God taking every curse.



And I wanted to tell you every generational curse in this place, broken. Every barrenness, broken in this place. Shame broken in this place. This is the place where I can trade my guilt for the grace of God. This is still Traders Point where I come every single week and I pick up something that helps build the next step of my journey.

And this morning you might be here, "I need this Jesus." Can I tell you the process into the promise is that number one: God will call you. He will say, "Hey, I'm not calling you to a thing, I'm calling you to meet Me first."

Then He's going to start to connect you to form some new relationships. Maybe your first step is to join First Step after the service today. If it's on, the service now.

Then He will consecrate you through a process. Maybe for some of you that's... You've thought about Rooted, you've thought about getting deeper. This is your moment to put your roots down. You need to go on this commission with Jesus who says, "Hey, I'm here with you."

The Pathway to the Promise is a Person = Jesus

See the process is not just a promise, it's a person. His name is Jesus. And you cannot take step two, three, or four without taking the first step, which is to receive and to answer the call of the Father saying, "Hey, hey. Come close."

If you are here today and you've never accepted Jesus, with every eye closed and every head bowed, all those watching online, if you'd close your eyes, Abraham received the promise simply by believing. And it doesn't change here today. The Bible says, "If you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth you shall be saved."

I'm about to lead you in the most important prayer, it's a prayer of salvation. If you are here today and you've never accepted Jesus... Hear me. Maybe you once accepted Him but you took things in your own hands and you walked away from God or life caused you to walk away, today is your day to come back home.

I'm going to lead you in a prayer and if you want me to include you in this prayer... Now one more time, every eye closed, no one looking around, just by a show of hands, would you lift that hand and say, "Yes, Terrence, include me in this prayer. I need this Jesus." Come on. Lift those hands up high. No one is looking around.



I see that hand. One hand, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five—there are just hands going up all across this room. I'm sure at every campus as well. And can I tell you, if I didn't see your hand, God sees your heart. So, you can pop that hand down right now. And church, can we all pray this prayer in agreement together with those praying it for the first time.

Let's say this together. Let's say:

Dear God,

Come on, every voice lifted.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to find me and forgive me. Today I repent of walking my own way and today I follow You. Come on. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Make me a new creation. Christ is my firm foundation. I am saved, I am sanctified, and I'm all Yours. In Jesus's name.

And if you believe that and receive Him would you clap your hands in this place. And thank God for all those great decisions here this morning.

