

# FROM DEAD-END TO DELIVERANCE

## *The Six Phases of Faith, Part 6*

Pastor Ken Ritz \* December 1, 2019 \* New Life Vineyard Church

### ABRAHAM'S EXAMPLE OF FAITH

**PHASE 1: Dream (Age 75)** Genesis 12:1-3

- (God) *I will make you into a great nation...*

**PHASE 2: Decision** Genesis 12:4

- *So Abraham went, as the LORD had told him to...*

**PHASE 3: Delay (Age 86)** Genesis 16:1

- *Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children...*

**PHASE 4: Difficulty (Age 100)** Genesis 17:17 NLT

- *"How could I become a father at the age of 100?"*

**PHASE 5: Dead-end** Genesis 21:1-6; 22:1-12

- *Take your son, whom you love... sacrifice him...*

**PHASE 6: Deliverance!** Genesis 22:12-14

- (God) *"Do not lay a hand on the boy..." The LORD will provide...*

### WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU REACH A "DEAD-END"?

#### **1. Remember what God**

*This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.*  
Romans 4:17 NLT

#### **2. Rely on what God**

*When hope was dead within him, Abraham went on hoping in faith... He relied on the word of God... Romans 4:18 (Ph)*

*By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death. Hebrews 11:17-19*

*"Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." Genesis 22:5*

#### **3. Face the Facts**

*Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead... and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God... Romans 4:19-20*

*So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Cor. 4:18*

#### **4. Expect God to**

*But Abraham never doubted ... he praised God for this blessing even before it happened. He was completely sure that God was able to do anything He promised. Romans 4: 20 - 21 (LB)*

*But this happened so we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead! He has delivered us... He will deliver us again... On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us... 2 Corinthians 1:9-10*

#### **3 Kinds of Deliverance**

- ⇒ Circumstantial
- ⇒ Personal
- ⇒ Ultimate (Heaven)

*\* All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted*