



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD  
Living Faith Chapel, Calgary

Bible Study

September 24, 2013

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**Theme: Moving Forward**

**Topic: Moving forward by sacrifice**

**Text: 1 Samuel 1: 9 - 28**

**Introduction:**

**What is sacrifice?**

The act of giving up something that you want to keep especially in order to get something else or to help someone (Merriam-Webber Encyclopedia).

**Abraham:**

Abraham was willing to go to any length with God; he left his people, kindred and moved to the land God was going to show him. When he had issues with Lot, he asked Lot to choose the place where he would prefer to settle in first; without considering the fact that he was the one who brought him there or that he was older than Lot.

When the issue of a child came up, he trusted God. The Bible said that he hoped against hope, even when Hagar had Ishmael and God told him to let Ishmael and Hagar go, he did, though it was painful. No wonder it was easy for him to pass the test of sacrificing Isaac; after Abraham passed that test, God swore to Abraham and he became very great.

It is easy to identify ourselves with Father Abraham today but most of the prices he paid to become the friend of God; most of us are not willing to pay that price.

**Hannah:**

Hannah was a woman who was barren for some time, but when the pain of barrenness was becoming too difficult for her to bear, she made a vow to God. She vowed to give the child back to God. It was a vow that looked quite difficult to keep but she kept her vow. For a lot of us today, sending our children to school for the first time, watching them go to college or get married brings about a lot of emotion. But this woman gave her much awaited son to God at a very tender age and she visited him once a year whenever the family went to Shiloh. The Bible recorded that, God blessed Hannah with many more children.

**Ruth: Ruth 1: 14-18, 4:13-22**

Ruth was a young Moabite woman who had lost her husband but was willing to give up her family, her gods and everything she was identified with to follow her mother-in-law. She had never been to the land before but she was not going to let her mother-in-law go. She looked after her mother-in-law, who in turn saw to it that she was properly settled. Ruth later became the great grandmother of David.

#### Solomon: 2 Chronicles 1:1-12

Solomon was born by Bathsheba but God loved him irrespective of the circumstances of his birth. God chose him to take over from King David. He probably did not have support from the other children but because he needed wisdom on how to rule the people of God, he offered a thousand burnt offerings and that action moved God to action. God gave him what he asked for and the ones he did not ask for God also added to him. The Bible recorded that during his rule, gold and silver was like stones in Jerusalem. Solomon also had the most peaceful reign in the whole of Israel, because he did not fight any war.

#### Jesus:

Jesus is God's only son, but He was willing to take the form of a man and to die on the cross of Calvary for the sake of You and I. He sacrificed all. Dying on the cross was a thing of shame but Jesus was willing to pay the ultimate price. He was bruised, pierced, chastised and eventually died; he became poor that we might be rich. He is now seated on the right side of God, far above principality and powers and all power and authority in heaven, on earth and underneath the earth has been given to Him.

However, it is sad that most of us are not willing to sacrifice anything. It is impossible to move forward without sacrifice. For us to see the miraculous happen in our churches today, for us to see changes in our lives and in the lives of our children, there is a need for sacrifice.

We need to sacrifice time in prayer, fasting, giving for us to see these changes. There is a need to sacrifice sleep for us to see changes in our generation. Brethren, for us to move forward in any aspect of life there is a need for sacrifice 'Easy come, easy go', nothing comes easy, if we desire to move forward in our Christian walk; we need to pay the price, a University degree does not come easily, wealth is not gotten in a day, breakthroughs do not just happen, it takes time; effort and hard work. Becoming the best is not cheap. Gehazi tried to get rich in a day; he got what he did not bargain for (leprosy). The rich young ruler also failed the test of giving.

Some people have given up their jobs, worldly pursuit, houses, cars, pleasure to serve God, to answer a higher call or to go full time in the service of God, what are you willing to give up? Matthew 19:29, Psalms 50:5

#### Conclusion:

What are we willing to give up to move forward, pride, self or our all.