"The Abraham Code: Walking in Faith, Leading with Power" A Leadership Blueprint for Men of God

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Preamble

Every great man of God must answer the call, walk the journey, and lead with unwavering faith. *The Abraham Code* is more than just a study of a biblical patriarch—it's a blueprint for men in leadership who desire to walk in faith and lead with power. Abraham's life was marked by highs and lows, victories and failures, but through it all, he remained in the grip of God's grace. His story is our story. His struggles mirror our own, and his faith walk sets a precedent for every man called to lead in the name of the Lord.

This book is for the man who has heard God's voice but struggles with the next step. It is for the leader who has made mistakes but still desires to finish strong. It is for the father, the pastor, the mentor, and the brother who seek to leave a lasting legacy of faith.

Like Abraham, you will face seasons of testing, moments of decision, and times of uncertainty. But God's promises are sure, and His calling is irrevocable. This is your invitation to embrace *The Abraham Code*—to walk in faith and lead with power.

Dedication

This book is dedicated to every man who has ever wrestled with his calling, questioned his purpose, or wondered if he has what it takes to lead.

To the pastors, preachers, and mentors who pour into others while carrying their own burdens—may this book strengthen your resolve.

To the fathers, grandfathers, and brothers raising up the next generation of godly men—may you find wisdom in these pages.

And to my wife and family, whose prayers and love fuel my journey—this is for you.

Why This Book?

Leadership is a journey, not a destination. Every man called by God must learn to navigate the road of faith, endure the trials of obedience, and trust in the promises of the Almighty. *The Abraham Code* was birthed from a desire to see men of God rise to the occasion, embrace their divine assignment, and walk boldly in the leadership God has placed upon them.

Too many men today are struggling to balance faith, family, and leadership. We face distractions, detours, and difficulties that threaten to derail our mission. Abraham's life offers timeless lessons that speak directly to our challenges. Through his victories and missteps, we see the faithfulness of God at work.

This book is a call to action. It is an invitation to step into your divine assignment, reclaim your spiritual authority, and lead with conviction. If you've ever questioned your ability to lead, doubted your faith, or wrestled with your obedience—this book is for you.

Let's walk in faith. Let's lead with power. Let's unlock *The Abraham Code*.

CHAPTER ONE

The Call: When God Says Move

Genesis 12:1

Have you ever had God tell you to move? Not just a little nudge or a casual suggestion, but a deep, undeniable call to step away from everything familiar? That's exactly what happened to Abram. Genesis 12:1 says, "The LORD had said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

1. When God Calls, It Requires Obedience

When God called Abram, He didn't give him a road map. He didn't lay out all the details. He simply said, "Go." And Abram had a decision to make—stay in the comfort of what he knew or step into the unknown by faith. That's the first thing about God's call: it requires obedience without all the answers.

I've been there. Maybe you have too. You hear God say, "Trust me. Step out." But fear creeps in. What about my job? My family? My security? That's the challenge of faith—it demands trust before clarity. Abram had to leave behind his homeland, his people, and all the security he knew. And yet, he moved because he trusted the One who called him.

Reflection: What would be the hardest thing for you to leave behind if God called you to step out in faith today?

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2. When God Calls, He Has a Promise

God didn't just tell Abram to leave—He made him a promise. "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; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:2-3)

Three times, God says "I will." That means the weight of the call wasn't on Abram's ability but on God's faithfulness. When God calls, He also provides.

That's a word for somebody today! You may not see the full picture, but if God called you, He will make a way. He will direct you, sustain you, and protect you. Abram wasn't just stepping into uncertainty—he was stepping into divine purpose.

Reflection: Can you think of a time when God provided for you in an unexpected way? How does that encourage you to trust Him now?

3. When God Calls, There Are Obstacles

It would be nice if answering God's call meant smooth sailing, but let's be real—that's not how faith works. Genesis 12:4-5 tells us that Abram obeyed, but he didn't travel light. He brought his wife, his nephew Lot, and all his possessions. That meant the journey wasn't quick or easy.

Sometimes, we slow ourselves down because we carry things God never told us to bring. We hold onto relationships, habits, or fears that make the journey harder. Abram had faith, but he also had baggage. And some of that baggage—like Lot—would later cause problems.

Reflection: What are you carrying that might be slowing you down in your walk with God?

4. Practical Steps for the Man of God

If we're going to be men who move when God calls, here are five practices we need to implement:

- Cultivate a Listening Ear Spend daily time in prayer and the Word so you can recognize God's voice.
- 2. **Obey Immediately** Delayed obedience is disobedience. When God speaks, move!
- 3. **Travel Light** Let go of unnecessary burdens, distractions, and relationships that hinder your obedience.
- 4. **Trust God's Provision** Believe that if He called you, He will sustain you.
- 5. **Stay the Course** Challenges will come, but a man of God keeps moving in faith.

5. When God Calls, It's About More Than You

Abram's obedience wasn't just for him—it was for generations to come. Through his family line, God would bring Jesus, the Savior of the world. That means Abram's "yes" impacted eternity.

What if your obedience today is the key to someone else's breakthrough? What if your willingness to step out in faith changes the

destiny of your children, your community, or even generations after you? So here's the challenge: If God says move—will you go?

CHAPTER TWO

The Journey: Walking by Faith, Not by Sight

Genesis 12:6-9

Walking in Faith When the Way is Unclear

Brother, let's talk about what it really means to walk by faith and not by

sight. Leadership—especially spiritual leadership—often feels like

stepping into unknown territory, just like Abram did. God calls you to a

place, gives you a promise, and yet, when you get there, it doesn't look

anything like what you expected. Sound familiar?

Abram arrived in Canaan only to find that the land was already

occupied. No "Welcome, Abram" signs. No real estate agent ready to

hand him the deed. Just the Canaanites-strangers, pagans, and

landowners who weren't expecting him. And yet, this was the place

where God called him to be.

Finding the Tree in the Middle of Trouble

Genesis 12:6 tells us that Abram stopped at the great tree of Moreh at

Shechem. This tree, my brother, is a picture of the cross in the middle

of a difficult situation. When things don't make sense, when the road

ahead looks blocked, when you're surrounded by opposition—you run

to the cross. That's where we seek God for direction. That's where He

speaks.

And guess what? God did speak. He showed up and made a promise—

this land would belong to Abram's descendants. Now, at this point,

Abram had no children. He was 75 years old, and Sarai was barren. The

promise seemed impossible, but faith doesn't rely on logic. Faith

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believes in what God has spoken, even when the circumstances don't match.

Building Altars Along the Journey

In response to God's word, Abram built an altar. Why? Because an altar is a place of remembrance. It's a place where we stop and acknowledge, "God met me here." Brother, do you have places in your life where you can look back and say, *God met me here*? Maybe it was a time when He delivered you, provided for you, or gave you clarity in a moment of confusion. We need those spiritual markers along our journey.

Let me ask you:

- 1. Where is the altar in your home?
- 2. Where is the place where you regularly stop and give thanks?

Pitching Your Tent Near the House of God

After worshiping, Abram moved again. He pitched his tent between Bethel (which means "House of God") and Ai (a place of ruin). Brother, we all live between those two realities—the presence of God and the pull of destruction. Where you "pitch your tent" matters. Do you live near the presence of God? Do you surround yourself with worship, the Word, and godly counsel? Or are you too close to the things that lead to ruin?

Abram built another altar at Bethel because he was becoming a convinced worshiper. He didn't just worship when he first heard from God—he kept worshiping along the journey. That's leadership. People

are watching how you handle the journey. Do you keep seeking God when things get tough? Do you remain faithful even when you don't yet see the promise fulfilled?

Evangelism Through Worship

Abram's life of worship was a testimony. The Canaanites saw this man set up altars to a God they did not know. His faithfulness in worship was a witness. Brother, your devotion to God—your consistency in prayer, your passion for worship, your trust in God's promises—preaches louder than any sermon. This is what we call evangelism through worship. People are watching how you lead, how you serve, and how you walk by faith.

Praxis: 5 Ways to Strengthen Your Ministry

- Seek God at the Crossroad Moments Like Abram at the tree of Moreh, always return to the cross when you're uncertain. Make prayer your first response, not your last resort.
- 2. **Build Altars of Remembrance** Keep a journal, set aside sacred spaces, or create moments where you reflect on God's faithfulness. Encourage those you lead to do the same.
- 3. **Position Yourself Near God's Presence** Just as Abram pitched his tent near Bethel, ensure your life is anchored in worship, the Word, and godly community. Guard against drifting toward destruction.
- 4. **Live as a Worshipper, Not Just a Leader** Leadership isn't just about strategy; it's about devotion. When you live a lifestyle

of worship, those around you will see the authenticity of your faith.

5. Let Your Life Be Your Greatest Sermon – Abram didn't have to explain his faith to the Canaanites—his actions spoke for him. Lead in such a way that your worship, obedience, and trust in God make people hungry for Him.

Brother, your journey isn't just about reaching a destination—it's about who you become along the way. Walk in faith. Keep building altars. Keep trusting the promises of God, even when they don't yet make sense. You are called, chosen, and positioned for impact. Keep leading well. Amen.

CHAPTER THREE

The Test: When the Struggle Gets Real

Genesis 12:10-18

Have you ever been in a place where you knew God called you to be, but then everything started falling apart? Have you ever trusted God, stepped out in faith, and then faced a famine—maybe not a literal one, but a season where nothing seemed to be working, and your faith felt tested at every turn? Brother, let me tell you, I know what that feels like. And if you walk with God long enough, you will too. Abram, the father of faith, had to walk through this same struggle, and his story teaches us

When the Famine Hits: Fear or Faith?

what happens when fear replaces faith.

Genesis 12:10 says, "Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe."

Here's the thing—God wasn't caught off guard by the famine. He allowed it for two reasons: to judge the Canaanites and to test Abram. The famine was never meant to destroy Abram; it was meant to develop him. But instead of waiting on God, Abram panicked.

I get it. When things get tough, fear creeps in. But hear me clearly—faith and fear cannot coexist. Fear will always lead you away from God's best. That's what happened to Abram. Instead of trusting God, he ran to Egypt. He chose human logic over divine direction, and when you do that, you're bound to make a mess.

Question: Have you ever faced a "famine"—a time when trusting God felt impossible? What did you do? Did you stay, or did you run?

What Unbelief Will Make You Do

Genesis 12:11-13 tells us that as Abram was about to enter Egypt, he came up with a plan. Instead of relying on God, he relied on a lie. He told Sarai to say she was his sister so that he wouldn't be killed.

Fear made Abram selfish. He was willing to sacrifice his wife to save himself. That's what fear does—it makes you look out for yourself at the expense of others. It makes you question God's promises. It leads you to make decisions that hurt the very people you're supposed to protect.

Listen, fear will cause you to:

- Abandon what God has promised.
- Seek your own way out instead of waiting on God.
- Put others in situations where they have to compromise their faith.

Are you letting fear dictate your decisions? Are you choosing convenience over conviction?

When Your Flesh Takes Control

Genesis 12:14-16 tells us what happens when Abram follows his flesh instead of his faith. Pharaoh takes Sarai into his house, and Abram

benefits from the lie. He gets wealth, livestock, and servants—but at what cost?

When your flesh is in control, you:

- Make choices that dishonor God.
- Hurt the people closest to you.
- Compromise your witness to the world.

Abram should have trusted God to protect him, but instead, he trusted his own scheme. And once you go down that road, you always end up deeper than you intended to go.

Question: How often do you let your own desires dictate your actions instead of trusting God's direction?

How God Shows Up in Our Mess

Genesis 12:17-20 shows how God steps in to clean up Abram's mess. God strikes Pharaoh's household with disease, and Pharaoh, of all people, rebukes Abram! Imagine that—an unbelieving king calling out a man of faith for his lack of integrity.

Here's what we learn from this:

- God will protect His promises, even when we mess up.
- Sometimes, He uses unbelievers to correct believers.
- He will never forsake us, even when we fail.

Abram left Egypt with more than he had when he came in—not because of his own wisdom, but because of God's faithfulness. Even when we fail, God is still faithful.

Question: What does this story teach you about God's grace? Have you ever seen God bless you despite your mistakes?

5 Areas of Praxis for Growth

- Develop a Habit of Waiting on God When trials come, resist the urge to run. Stay where God has placed you and watch Him work.
- 2. **Prioritize Faith Over Fear** Memorize scriptures that reinforce God's faithfulness. (James 1:2-4, Hebrews 11:6)
- 3. **Guard Your Integrity** Be honest in all things. A lie may seem like an easy way out, but it always leads to bigger problems.
- 4. **Trust God in Your Famine** Your struggle is not a sign of God's absence but of His refinement. Stay faithful!
- 5. **Learn from Your Mistakes** When you fall short, repent, and let God use it to grow your faith.

Conclusion

Brother, life will bring famines. That's a guarantee. The question is—will you trust God in the famine, or will you run to Egypt? Will you believe that He's working even when you can't see it? If you hold on just a little while longer, you'll see that God's promises are worth the wait. Trust the process. Trust the plan. Trust the Provider. Amen.

CHAPTER FOUR

The Exit Strategy: Leaving Egypt, Returning to God

Genesis 13:1-4

I have learned that sometimes, in order to follow God fully, I have to make a clean break from the things that keep me bound. Egypt represents the old life—the life of compromise, disobedience, and misplaced trust. But when God calls, there is only one direction to go:

forward.

Abram's story is a perfect example of what it means to make up your mind to follow God. He had gone down to Egypt, a place of worldly security, only to find that it cost him more than he ever imagined. He lost his integrity, his witness, and even his wife for a time. But God, in His mercy, didn't leave him there. Instead, He gave Abram an opportunity to get up and get out.

The Call to Leave Egypt

Genesis 13:1 says, So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. Notice the direction: up. Egypt had been a low point, but Abram was now moving toward higher ground—toward the place where God had spoken to him before.

Egypt is a place of bondage. It promises wealth, security, and pleasure, but the cost is far greater than what it offers. 1 John 2:15-16 warns us not to love the things of the world because they are fleeting and deceptive. Abram had experienced firsthand what it meant to trust in

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human solutions instead of divine provision, and now he was done with it.

The truth is, God always provides a way out for those who are willing to return. 1 Corinthians 10:13 reminds us that *God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear, but when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.* Abram's way out was to go back to where he first encountered God.

From Egypt to the Negev

Abram didn't get to return to comfort immediately. God led him into the Negev—a dry, barren place. It was nothing like Egypt, where there had been plenty. But here's what I've learned: the world may offer temporary satisfaction, but true joy and peace come from obedience to God, even if the road is rough.

Sometimes God has to take us through dry places to refresh our faith. The desert is a place of refining, a place where our dependence on God is tested and strengthened. For Abram, this journey was a necessary step toward Bethel, the place of his first altar.

Returning to Bethel: The Place of Worship

Genesis 13:3-4 tells us that Abram journeyed back to Bethel, to the place where his tent had been earlier and where he had first built an altar. This was the place where God had spoken to him, the place where he had worshiped freely. Now, after his detour in Egypt, he was back where he belonged.

There is something powerful about returning to the place where you first encountered God. It's a reminder of His faithfulness, His calling, and His unchanging love. When Abram returned, he called on the name of the Lord. He was no longer bound by fear, compromise, or misplaced trust. He was free.

This is what repentance looks like. It's not just feeling bad about where you've been; it's making a deliberate choice to go back to where God is. It's worshiping Him again in spirit and in truth, knowing that His mercy has made a way.

The Call to Biblical Manhood: Five Ways to Live It Out

- Reject the World's False Security Like Abram, we must recognize that the world's promises of success and safety are empty. True security is found in trusting God's plan and provision.
- 2. **Lead with Integrity** Abram learned the hard way that compromising integrity leads to loss. Biblical manhood means leading with honesty, character, and faithfulness.
- 3. **Embrace the Refining Process** The desert experiences are not punishments; they are training grounds. God uses trials to shape us into men who trust Him completely.
- 4. **Return to the Altar** True strength is found in worship. A godly man prioritizes prayer, devotion, and seeking God's direction.

5. Walk in Restoration – No matter how far we have strayed, God's covenant remains. A man of faith acknowledges his failures but also walks boldly in the grace and calling of God.

Abram's journey reminds us that failure is not final. The question is: when God calls you to leave Egypt, will you go? The exit strategy is clear—turn back to God, walk in obedience, and reclaim the life He has designed for you.

CHAPTER FIVE

The Divide: Two Types of Men, Two Paths

Genesis 13:6-18

Fellas, let's be real—life is a constant battle between choosing what's

right and what feels right. Every man walking this earth is on one of two

paths: the path of obedience to God or the path of chasing after the

world. It's not a gray area; it's black and white. Abram and Lot show us

this truth in Genesis 13, and their story forces us to look in the mirror

and ask: What kind of man am I becoming?

When Success Breeds Struggle

Abram and Lot had been through a lot together. They left Egypt with

wealth, flocks, and influence. But with success came tension. Their

herds grew too large, and their people started to clash. The abundance

they had gained was now threatening to divide them. Ever been there?

When your blessings start feeling like burdens? When your success

creates conflict instead of peace?

Men, let's not fool ourselves—wealth, influence, and power can easily

shift our focus from God to self. The question is: will we handle our

blessings with wisdom and humility, or will we let them corrupt us like

Lot did?

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The Danger of Selfish Choices

Abram, the elder and spiritual leader, had every right to choose first. But instead, he let Lot pick. And what did Lot do? He lifted his eyes and saw the lush, fertile land near Sodom. It looked good. It looked easy. It looked prosperous. But he never stopped to ask, "Is this where God wants me?"

How many times have we chased the better job, the bigger house, the next promotion, without considering what it will do to our faith? Lot saw opportunity, but he didn't see the danger. He pitched his tent near Sodom—a wicked city—and before long, he wasn't just near Sodom; he was in it. Men, where we set up our tents today determines where we'll be tomorrow.

The Reward of Obedience

Abram, on the other hand, stayed in Canaan, where God had placed him. And because he stayed faithful, God reaffirmed His promise to bless him. Abram didn't chase prosperity; he chased obedience. And in return, God gave him more than he could have ever imagined.

Here's the reality: The man who trusts God and walks in obedience may not always have the flashiest life, but he will always have the favor of God. And that is worth more than anything the world can offer.

What Kind of Man Will You Be?

Brothers, it's decision time. Are you going to be the kind of man who chooses based on what looks good, or the kind of man who seeks God first? Will you be like Lot, chasing after the world and losing yourself in the process? Or will you be like Abram, trusting God and walking in faith?

Five Praxis Ideas to Help You Be the Right Kind of Man:

- 1. Daily Tent Check Ask yourself: "Where am I pitching my tent?" Are your choices leading you toward God or toward Sodom?
- Spiritual Headship Take responsibility for leading in faith.
 Pray with your family. Guide them in righteousness.
- 3. Wisdom Over Wealth Before making career or financial decisions, seek God's direction. Just because it looks good doesn't mean it's from God.
- 4. **Accountability Matters** Surround yourself with godly men who will challenge you and keep you on the right path.
- 5. **Altar Building** Like Abram, create moments of worship and surrender in your life. Whether through prayer, fasting, or time in the Word, regularly dedicate yourself to God.

Men, it's time to choose our path. Where will you set your tent? Who will you serve? The decision is yours.

CHAPTER SIX

The Calling of God to Abram: A Covenant and a Commitment Genesis 15:1-16

Let's take a journey back to a quiet moment between God and a man named Abram. This wasn't just any conversation; this was a divine encounter that would change history. Abram had already stepped out on faith when he left his homeland, trusting God's direction. But here, in Genesis 15, we see God making a promise—a covenant—that would not only impact Abram's life but shape the destiny of nations.

God Speaks and Reassures

After everything Abram had been through, the Lord showed up in a vision and spoke:

"Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."

Here's the first powerful truth we see—God speaks. The same God who called Abram out of his homeland now speaks reassurance over his life. And He still speaks to us today. God communicates through His Word, through circumstances, through wise counsel, and most importantly, through His Spirit. He knows our fears, our uncertainties, and He reminds us: *Do not be afraid. I am your shield.*

A Deep Longing and a Divine Promise

Abram, despite all the blessings, still carried a deep longing in his heart—he had no son. He poured out his heart to God:

"O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son?" (Genesis 15:2)

Abram wanted to know if his servant, Eliezer, would be his heir. But God had bigger plans. He took Abram outside and told him to look at the stars:

"Your descendants will be like that—too many to count."

What a moment! God was stretching Abram's vision beyond his circumstances. He was calling him to believe in something greater. And what did Abram do? He believed. And because of that faith, God declared him righteous. Not because of works, but because he trusted in God's promise. This same principle applies to us—our righteousness before God comes by faith in Christ, not by our own efforts.

The Covenant Sealed in Blood

Now, something unusual happens. Abram asks for assurance, and God responds by instructing him to prepare a sacrifice. Abram obeys, cutting the animals in half and waiting. Then, as the sun sets, a deep sleep falls on Abram, and he has a terrifying vision. God reveals that his descendants will suffer in slavery for 400 years, but He will deliver them and bring them back to this land.

Then, in the darkness, something remarkable happens—Abram sees a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passing between the sacrificed pieces. This was God Himself ratifying the covenant! In those days, when two people made a covenant, they would walk between the pieces of the sacrifice as a way of saying, "If I break this covenant, may I be

like these animals." But notice—Abram didn't walk through. Only God did. This was a one-sided promise, completely dependent on God's faithfulness, not Abram's.

And that's the beauty of God's covenant—it's not based on our ability to keep it. It's based on His grace. The same God who made a covenant with Abram has made a new covenant with us through Jesus Christ, sealed with His own blood on the cross.

Five Areas of Praxis for Men

How do we apply this to our lives? Here are five key areas of practice for men seeking to walk in the calling of God:

- Listen for God's Voice Just as God spoke to Abram, He still speaks today. Spend time in His Word, in prayer, and in reflection. Be sensitive to His leading.
- 2. **Trust God's Promises** Abram believed God, even when he couldn't see the full picture. As men, we must stand firm on God's promises, especially in times of uncertainty.
- 3. **Lead with Faith, Not Fear** God told Abram, "*Do not be afraid.*" Fear can cripple us, but faith moves us forward. Whether in our families, careers, or ministries, we must lead courageously.
- 4. **Obey Even When It Doesn't Make Sense** Abram prepared the sacrifice as God instructed, even before he understood the full picture. Obedience positions us for divine encounters.

5. **Rest in God's Covenant, Not Your Performance** – God's promise to Abram didn't depend on Abram's perfection but on God's faithfulness. Likewise, our standing with God is based on Christ's finished work, not our own efforts.

Brothers, just like Abram, we are called to a journey of faith. God has a plan, a purpose, and a promise for each of us. Trust Him, obey Him, and walk boldly in your calling!

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Detour: When Disobedience Costs You

GENESIS 16:1-16

Brothers, let's talk straight—walking with God means trusting Him

even when the road gets long and rough. Genesis 16 gives us a real-life

cautionary tale. Abram, a man chosen by God, made a costly mistake

when he chose compromise over covenant and human reasoning over

divine revelation. And we can learn from it. Today, I want us to walk

through five key lessons that will help us stay the course and avoid

detours that lead to destruction.

Abram and Sarai had a promise from God, but when the waiting got

hard, they took matters into their own hands. Sarai came up with a plan,

and Abram went along with it instead of standing firm.

Brothers, this is where we often mess up. When God speaks, we have to

trust His timing, even when it doesn't make sense. Abram should have

remembered that God's word is sure and steadfast. Like Adam before

him, he listened to his wife instead of waiting on God.

Let's reflect:

What promises of God have you struggled to wait for?

Have you ever compromised because you got impatient?

How can you develop stronger faith in waiting on God?

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When things went sideways, Sarai blamed Abram. And what did he do? Instead of taking responsibility, he backed off and told her to handle it. That led to more pain and brokenness.

Men, let's be real—too many times we avoid tough conversations and let things slide, thinking problems will solve themselves. But leadership is about responsibility, not retreat. Abram should have spoken up from the start, and when things got messy, he should have stepped up, not stepped back.

Think about it:

- Have you ever chosen compromise over conviction?
- What were the consequences of your passivity?
- How can you cultivate godly courage in decision-making?

Hagar got caught in the crossfire of Abram and Sarai's bad choices. She ended up mistreated and on the run.

Brothers, as men of God, we are called to protect, not neglect. Abram failed here—he didn't stand up for his wife or Hagar. A real man of God shields those under his care instead of allowing division and harm.

Ask yourself:

- How do you handle conflict in your relationships?
- Do you step up to protect, or do you allow division to fester?
- How can you be a protector in your home and community?

Even in the middle of the mess, God didn't abandon Hagar. He met her in the wilderness with grace and a promise.

Here's the good news—failure is not final. If we turn back to God, He is faithful to restore us. 1 John 1:9 reminds us, "IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS." If you've taken a wrong turn, it's time to realign with God's will.

Think about this:

- Have you ever felt like your mistakes disqualified you?
- What steps can you take to realign with God?
- How does God's grace encourage you to walk faithfully?

Abram's choice had lasting consequences. Hagar's son, Ishmael, would become a great nation, but his existence brought division and strife into the family. God was merciful, but the pain of disobedience lingered.

Brothers, choosing convenience over obedience might feel like the easy way out, but it will cost you in the long run. Let's be men who trust God fully, even when obedience is hard.

Reflect on this:

- Have you ever chosen convenience over obedience?
- What were the long-term consequences of that choice?
- How can you develop deeper trust in God's ways?

Genesis 16 is a powerful reminder that our choices matter. If we want to be faithful men of the covenant, we must commit to these five principles:

- Stand on God's Promises Trust in His Word even when the wait is long.
- 2. **Lead with Conviction** Be a man of firm, godly decisions.
- 3. **Protect, Don't Exploit** Care for those under your leadership.
- 4. **Repent and Realign** Return to God when you fail.
- 5. Choose Obedience Over Convenience Follow God even when it's hard.

Let's not take unnecessary detours. Instead, let's be steadfast, faithful, and obedient to the Lord in all things. Are you ready to step up and walk in covenant faithfulness today?

CHAPTER EIGHT

The Mark: Walking in the Covenant Like a King Genesis 17:9-14 [pg.31]

I remember the day God spoke to Abraham like it was yesterday. The weight of His words, the depth of His call—it wasn't just a casual conversation. It was a covenant. And this covenant wasn't just about land or blessings; it was about identity. It was about walking in obedience with God, marked as His chosen ones.

God looked at Abraham and said, "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations." And just like that, the command was given—circumcision was to be the sign of this covenant. Every male, born in the household or brought into it, had to bear this mark. It wasn't just a cultural practice; it was a divine declaration.

I can only imagine the questions running through Abraham's mind. Why something so drastic? Why this particular mark? But when you walk with God, sometimes obedience comes before understanding. Circumcision was an outward sign of an inward commitment, a foreshadowing of what God would ultimately do in our hearts. Later, Paul would write about the circumcision of the heart (Romans 2:25-29), explaining that true righteousness comes from within.

Abraham obeyed. He didn't hesitate. That very day, he circumcised every male in his household, including his son Ishmael. Imagine the scene—grown men, young boys, even the servants. Everyone who was

under Abraham's care was included. Because in God's kingdom,

obedience is not selective.

But this covenant wasn't just for the men. God had a promise for Sarah

too. He changed her name from Sarai to Sarah, marking her with a new

identity. She wasn't just a wife; she was a mother of nations. From her

would come kings and peoples. Her barrenness was about to be

overshadowed by God's promise.

And then there was laughter—Abraham's laughter. Not of disbelief, but

of sheer amazement. A hundred-year-old man and a ninety-year-old

woman were going to have a child? It was too good to be true! But God

assured him, "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall

call his name Isaac." And just like that, the covenant was sealed, not just

with Abraham, but with his future generations.

Ishmael wasn't forgotten. God heard Abraham's heart. Though Ishmael

was not the child of the covenant, God still blessed him. He would father

twelve princes and become a great nation. But the everlasting covenant?

That would come through Isaac.

What does all of this mean for us today? The mark of God's covenant is

still required—but now it's not physical circumcision; it's the

circumcision of our hearts. To belong to God, we must allow Him to cut

away sin, pride, and anything that keeps us from walking fully in His

will (Colossians 2:11-12).

Praxis Points: Applying the Covenant to Our Lives

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- 1. **Obedience Before Understanding** Abraham didn't delay obedience, even when the command was difficult. What is God asking you to do today that requires immediate obedience?
- 2. **Identity in God's Promise** Just as God changed Sarah's name, He has given us a new identity in Christ. Are you walking in the fullness of who God says you are, or are you still clinging to the old name?
- 3. God's Plan May Not Be Your Plan Abraham wanted Ishmael to be the promise, but God had other plans. Have you ever wanted something so badly that you struggled to accept God's "No"? Trust that His plan is better.
- 4. **The Heart Must Be Marked** True covenant living requires a heart that is surrendered to God. Is there an area in your life that needs to be spiritually circumcised?
- 5. **Rejoice in the Impossible** Abraham laughed in awe at God's promise. Are you still trusting God for something that seems impossible? Take a moment to rejoice in faith, knowing that He is able.

Walking in covenant means living set apart, marked by obedience, and trusting God even when the path doesn't make sense. Like Abraham, like Sarah, we are called to bear the mark of faith, not in the flesh, but in our hearts.

CHAPTER NINE

The Promise: When God Births the Impossible

Genesis 18:1-15

Brothers, let me tell you something-when God shows up, things

change. We see that in the life of Abraham, a man just like us, striving

to walk with God, lead his household, and trust in the impossible. God

visited him, made a promise, and showed him what true faith, humility,

and leadership look like. And the good news? He wants to do the same

in our lives today. Let's take a journey through this passage and see what

we, as men of God, can learn and apply right now.

The Picture of Humility

"Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as

he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. So he lifted his eyes

and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he

saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to

the ground." (Genesis 18:1-2)

Abraham recognized God when He came. He didn't just sit there; he

moved. He ran to Him and bowed in humility. Brothers, do we have

homes where God is welcome? If the Lord showed up today, would we

recognize Him, or would we be too distracted? It's time to make sure

our homes are places of worship, where God feels invited, not ignored.

• Start each day with prayer in your home.

• Create an atmosphere where God's Word is honored.

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- Lead your family in regular Bible reading and discussion.
- Remove distractions that hinder your spiritual focus.
- Speak words of faith over your household.

The Picture of Hospitality

"My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree." (Genesis 18:3-4)

Abraham didn't just recognize God—he wanted Him to stay. He didn't sit back and let Sarah do all the work; he stepped up and served. Too often, men leave the work of ministry to their wives. But Abraham led the way. He showed love, honor, and respect through hospitality. We must be the same way—inviting the presence of God and serving with joy.

- Be the first to welcome guests into your home.
- Show kindness to strangers and church members.
- Serve your family with acts of love, not just words.
- Make sure your home is a place of peace and rest.
- Offer your time and energy to serve others in need.

The Picture of Household Offerings

"So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, 'Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes.' And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it." (Genesis 18:6-7)

Abraham didn't bring leftovers to God—he gave the best. He involved his family in the act of service. Brothers, we must lead by example, showing our wives and children what it means to honor God with our best. Whether it's in our giving, our time, or our talents, we must set the standard.

- Make time for God in your schedule first, before anything else.
- Lead your family in generosity—giving to church and those in need.
- Use your skills and talents for God's glory.
- Encourage your children to serve the Lord with you.
- Always approach worship with excellence, not mediocrity.

A Divine Promise

"Then they said to him, 'Where is Sarah your wife?' So he said, 'Here, in the tent.' And He said, 'I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.'" (Genesis 18:9-10)

God made a promise to Abraham that seemed impossible. But the Lord specializes in doing what man cannot. Maybe you're facing an impossible situation—whether in your marriage, your finances, or your calling. Let me encourage you: God still keeps His promises. He is faithful, and He will do what He said.

- Speak God's promises over your life and family.
- Write down what God has told you and revisit it often.
- Refuse to give in to doubt or fear.
- Surround yourself with faith-filled men who will encourage you.
- Praise God in advance, before you see the promise fulfilled.

A Daughter's Doubt and a Man's Faith

"Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?' And the LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD?'" (Genesis 18:12-14)

Sarah doubted, but Abraham stood as a man of faith. Men, we must be the ones who hold onto faith when everyone else is wavering. The question God asked is the same one He asks us today: *Is anything too hard for the LORD?* No! Whatever you're facing, God is able.

- Pray bold prayers, believing God for the impossible.
- Encourage your wife and children with words of faith.
- Stand firm when others are doubting.
- Lead your family through difficult seasons with confidence.
- Never stop expecting God to move.

Final Encouragement

Brothers, Abraham wasn't perfect, but he was a man who walked with God, welcomed Him into his home, and trusted Him even when the promise seemed impossible. We are called to do the same. Let's be men of humility, hospitality, generosity, faith, and leadership. Let's make our homes places where God is welcome, our families are led in righteousness, and our lives reflect the glory of God.

God still births the impossible. And He's not finished with you yet.

CHAPTER TEN

The Reckoning: When a City Falls, When a Man Stands

Genesis 19:1-12

There comes a time when God has had enough. Sin may run rampant, people may turn a blind eye, and cities may thrive in wickedness, but eventually, the judgment of the Lord arrives. That's exactly what we see in the story of Sodom. And in the middle of it all, we find Lot—a man

who should have known better but got too close to the fire.

I've got to ask myself, how often do we play around with sin? How often do we linger in places we shouldn't be? Lot's story is one of compromise, conviction, and ultimately, God's mercy. Let's walk through it together.

Lot's Initiation

That evening, two angels arrived at Sodom, and where was Lot? Sitting at the entrance of the city (Genesis 19:1). That was the place where leaders handled business, judged disputes, and made decisions. Lot

wasn't just living in Sodom—he had status in Sodom!

But here's the thing: he hadn't been completely swallowed by its wickedness. He still had some decency left. He saw the angels and immediately showed them hospitality. That tells me something: you can be in the wrong place and still have a right heart. But make no mistake, when you get too close to sin, it will start rubbing off on you.

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I wonder, why did Lot stay in Sodom? He had every opportunity to leave, but something about that city kept him there. Maybe he got comfortable. Maybe he thought he could handle it. Have you ever convinced yourself that you could live on the edge of sin without falling in? Let me tell you, it's only a matter of time.

Lot's Invitation

When Lot saw these strangers, he knew they needed protection. He invited them into his home, gave them food, and tried to shield them from the horrors of Sodom (Genesis 19:2-3). Now, that seems noble, right? But here's the problem—why is he trying to protect others from a city he himself refuses to leave?

That's like a Christian saying, "I don't want my kids to be influenced by this world," while indulging in everything the world has to offer. Lot wanted to do right, but he also wanted to stay where he was. He knew Sodom was wicked, but he had made peace with living among the wicked. How many of us are guilty of that same contradiction?

Lot's Intercession

Then came the moment of crisis. The men of Sodom surrounded Lot's house and demanded to have their way with the visitors (Genesis 19:4-5). It's hard to even imagine the level of depravity in that city. And here's where Lot truly breaks my heart—he tries to negotiate with evil. Instead of standing firm, he offers up his own daughters in a desperate attempt to appease the mob (Genesis 19:6-8).

I want to shake him and say, "Lot, what are you doing?" But then I realize, we do the same thing. We try to make deals with sin. We justify compromise. We think we can keep a little bit of the world without it taking over our lives. But sin is never satisfied with a little. It always demands more.

Sodomite Interrogation

Then something chilling happens. The very people Lot had been living among turned on him (Genesis 19:9). They sneered, "Who do you think you are?" See, Lot thought he could blend in, but when push came to shove, the city made it clear—he didn't belong. And that's a hard lesson for any believer: The world will tolerate you until you start standing for righteousness. Then it will push back.

If you're living for Christ, don't expect the world to welcome you with open arms. Sooner or later, it's going to demand your loyalty. And if you don't bow, it will turn on you. But here's the good news—when Lot was out of options, God stepped in. The angels pulled him inside, shut the door, and struck the wicked men with blindness (Genesis 19:10-11). Because even when Lot was weak, God was still strong.

The Takeaway

Lot's story is a warning. It's a reminder that we can't live on the edge of sin and expect to remain untouched. It's a call to examine our lives, to make sure we're not compromising our faith for the sake of comfort. And it's a promise—God is still merciful, even when we mess up.

Praxis Points: Living in the Light of Lot's Mistakes

- 1. Check Your Proximity Are you living too close to sin? What environments, relationships, or habits are pulling you away from God?
- 2. **Stop Negotiating with Evil** Sin doesn't make deals. If you give it an inch, it will take a mile. Stand firm in your convictions.
- 3. **Hospitality with Wisdom** It's good to care for others, but not at the expense of your faith or your family. Know your boundaries.
- 4. **Recognize When It's Time to Leave** If you're in a place (physically, emotionally, or spiritually) that is corrupting you, get out before it's too late.
- 5. **Trust in God's Deliverance** Even if you've made mistakes, God's grace is bigger. He can pull you out and set you on the right path.

Lot's story could have ended in complete disaster, but God's mercy made a way out. The question is—will we take the way of escape, or will we linger too long?

CHAPTER ELEVEN

The Crossroads: Leaving the Place You Love for the God You Serve Genesis 19:12-27

Life is full of crossroads—those moments when we must choose between staying where we're comfortable and following God into the unknown. Lot found himself at such a moment in Genesis 19. He had settled in Sodom, built a life there, and raised his family in its culture. But when destruction was imminent, he hesitated. Why? Because his heart was still tied to the place God was calling him to leave.

Lot's story reminds us of a fundamental truth: You cannot serve two masters. Jesus said, "For you will hate one and love the other" (Matthew 6:24). Lot wanted salvation, but he also wanted Sodom. And that inner conflict nearly cost him everything.

Lot's Witness Was Weak

When the angels told Lot to warn his family, he went to his sons-in-law and pleaded, "Get up, get out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city!" But they laughed at him. They thought he was joking.

Why? Because Lot had lived so long in Sodom that his words carried no weight. His witness was weak. He had blended in too well, compromised too much, and now, when it really mattered, nobody took him seriously.

The Lesson? It's hard to convince others to leave a life of sin when you've been living comfortably in it yourself.

- Lot tried to share God's warning, but his credibility was gone.
- He had a message of salvation, but nobody believed him.
- His influence was so weak that those closest to him perished in the very judgment he tried to warn them about.

What a tragedy! His family had access to salvation, but because Lot had lived with one foot in Sodom and one foot in faith, they tripped over his testimony and refused to listen.

Lot's Hesitation Almost Cost Him Everything

Morning came, and the angels urged Lot: "Hurry! Take your wife and your daughters and get out!" But Lot hesitated. He lingered. He was still trying to hold onto a life God was telling him to leave behind.

Let that sink in: The city was about to be destroyed, and Lot was still second-guessing. He had grown attached to Sodom. Sin had wrapped itself around his heart so tightly that even in the face of destruction, he wasn't ready to let go.

And so, in an act of divine mercy, the angels grabbed him and his family by the hands and *dragged* them out of the city.

The Lesson? Sometimes, God has to pull us out of situations we don't have the strength—or sense—to leave on our own.

- Lot knew what God said, but he struggled to obey.
- He was so entangled in Sodom's ways that he couldn't walk away willingly.

• God's mercy intervened, rescuing him despite his hesitation.

How often do we do the same? We know God is calling us to leave something behind—a relationship, a habit, a mindset—but we hesitate. We rationalize. We tell ourselves, "Maybe it's not that bad." But delayed obedience is disobedience.

Lot's Wife Looked Back

As they fled, the angels gave one simple instruction: "Do not look back." But Lot's wife did. And in that moment, she turned into a pillar of salt.

Why did she look back? Because her heart was still in Sodom. Physically, she was leaving, but emotionally, she was clinging to what she had lost. And that divided heart cost her life.

The Lesson? Looking back at what God told you to leave behind will only lead to destruction.

- Lot's wife was too attached to the past to step into her future.
- She was willing to obey outwardly, but inwardly, she resisted.
- In the end, her divided heart sealed her fate.

Jesus later referenced this moment in Luke 17:32, saying, "Remember Lot's wife." It's a warning for us all: Don't let your love for the world keep you from the salvation God is offering.

Praxis Points: Applying Lot's Story to Our Lives

- 1. **Evaluate Your Witness** Does your life reflect your faith? Are the people around you taking your walk with God seriously, or do they see you as someone who blends into the world?
- 2. **Move When God Says Move** When God calls you out of a place, don't hesitate. Whether it's a toxic relationship, a sinful habit, or a complacent mindset—when God says go, *go*.
- 3. **Trust God, Not Your Comfort Zone** Lot was scared to go to the mountains and asked for an easier way out. But faith requires trusting God beyond what feels safe and familiar.
- Stop Looking Back You cannot step into what God has for you while clinging to what He told you to leave behind. Move forward without regret.
- 5. **Don't Make God Drag You** Lot had to be pulled out of danger. But what if he had obeyed immediately? Save yourself unnecessary hardship by trusting God the first time.

Conclusion:

The Call to Leave Sodom

Lot's story is a warning and a wake-up call. You can't hold onto both God and the world. At some point, you have to choose.

What is your Sodom? What is that place, habit, or mindset that God is calling you to walk away from? And when He tells you to leave, will you hesitate—or will you obey?

The choice is yours. But remember: Delayed obedience can cost you everything.

CHAPTER TWELVE

The Slip: When You Fall, But God Still Calls Genesis 20:1-17

Let me tell you, if there's one thing I know for sure, it's that every believer—no matter how strong, how faithful, or how long they've been walking with God—will have moments where they slip. Temptation is real, and the pull of our old ways can creep up when we least expect it. That's what makes today's lesson so powerful. Abraham, the father of faith, found himself in a familiar place of failure. But the beauty of his story is that even when we fall, God's call on our lives doesn't change. Let's walk through his journey together and see what we can learn.

The Journey Toward Sin

Genesis 20:1

Abraham was on the move again. He left where he was and ended up in Gerar, a region that wasn't exactly God's promised land for him. Now, this might not seem like a big deal at first, but that's how sin works—it starts subtly. Abraham wasn't outright rebelling against God, but he was drifting. He was moving toward Egypt, both physically and spiritually, even though he had already learned that Egypt was a place of compromise.

And isn't that just like us? We start looking back at the places God has delivered us from. We get restless. Discontentment creeps in, and before we know it, we're heading right back into the very situations that once had us bound.

The Subtle Slide into Sin

Genesis 20:2

Once Abraham was in Gerar, he fell into an old habit. He told the local king, Abimelech, that Sarah was his sister instead of his wife. Sound familiar? He did the same thing back in Egypt (Genesis 12:10-15). This was a pattern for him—when fear showed up, he resorted to deception.

Now, why did he do it? Self-preservation. He was afraid the king would kill him to take Sarah for himself. So instead of trusting God, Abraham took matters into his own hands, choosing deceit over faith.

How many times do we do that? When pressure hits, we go back to old habits. Fear makes us forget what God has already brought us through. We make excuses, telling ourselves it's just a little white lie, just a small compromise. But small compromises can have big consequences.

God's Intervention

Genesis 20:3-7

Here's where the story takes a turn. Abraham messed up, but God stepped in. He appeared to Abimelech in a dream, warning him not to touch Sarah. Even though Abraham had failed, God was still protecting him and his wife. Isn't that grace? Even in our worst moments, God covers us.

What's even more interesting is that Abimelech, a pagan king, had more integrity in this moment than Abraham did! He hadn't touched Sarah

because he believed what Abraham told him. And yet, God still intervened to prevent him from sinning.

The World's Conviction

Genesis 20:8-13

The next morning, Abimelech called Abraham out. He confronted him, asking, "Why did you do this? What were you thinking?" That had to be humbling. Here was a man of the world rebuking a man of God.

And yet, sometimes God uses unexpected people to hold us accountable. Abraham had to face the reality of his actions. He tried to justify himself, but at the end of the day, he had to own up to his lack of faith and honesty.

How often do we find ourselves in the same place? We mess up, and God allows the consequences to catch up with us. And it's uncomfortable! But it's also necessary. Conviction is a gift. It's God's way of getting us back on track.

The Blessing After the Slip

Genesis 20:14-18

Here's the crazy part: even after all of this, Abraham still walked away blessed. Abimelech gave him sheep, cattle, and servants. He even gave him land to live on! But why? Because God was still working through Abraham, despite his failure.

And then, in a final act of grace, Abraham—who had been the cause of this whole mess—prayed for Abimelech's household, and God healed

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them. That's redemption. Abraham was still called to be a blessing, even though he had messed up.

This is good news for us. Your mistakes don't cancel your calling. God can still use you. He's still working through you. And if you turn back to Him, He will restore you and even use you to bless others.

5 Points of Importance for us:

Praxis Point 1: Pay attention to your drift. Sin often starts with small compromises before it becomes full-blown disobedience.

Praxis Point 2: Fear will make you forget faith. When you feel afraid, remind yourself of God's past faithfulness.

Praxis Point 3: God's grace protects us, even when we don't deserve it. Trust that He is always working behind the scenes on your behalf.

Praxis Point 4: When you're confronted with your sin, don't make excuses. Own it, repent, and move forward in obedience.

Praxis Point 5: Your failures don't define you—God's faithfulness does. Keep walking with Him, and He will restore what's broken.

Conclusion: When You Fall, But God Still Calls

So, what's the takeaway? Abraham's story reminds us that even the strongest believers fall short. But God's grace is greater than our failures. If you've slipped, don't stay down. Acknowledge it, turn back to God, and trust Him to keep leading you forward.

Now, take a moment and reflect:

- What's one area where you've been drifting?
- How has fear caused you to compromise your faith?
- Where have you seen God's grace cover you, even in your mistakes?

Remember, even when you fall, God's call on your life is still standing. So get up, repent, and keep moving forward. His grace has got you!

Meet the Author

Rev. Dr. Angulus Dion Wilson, PhD, DMin, is a devoted servant of the Lord who heeded the call to Gospel ministry in 1991. Alongside his beloved wife, Sharon Wilson, he joyfully embraced the responsibility of raising their three sons with love and care. His unwavering dedication to guiding individuals towards a personal relationship with Jesus Christ has led him on a fulfilling journey in both National and International ministry for over three decades.

As a University Pastor and church planter, Dr. Wilson has been instrumental in establishing congregations across North America. His pursuit of knowledge and higher education has seen him graduate from esteemed institutions. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Fresno Pacific University, a Master's Degree in Spiritual Formation and Evangelism from Wheaton College, and a Master of Arts for Christian Leadership from Birmingham Theological Seminary. Furthermore, he has earned a Doctorate of Philosophy from Ecclesia University of Divinity and a Doctorate of Ministry from Azusa Pacific University.

Pastor Wilson's spiritual journey was enriched during his time as an associate minister at Sardis Baptist Church, under the leadership of Dr. Sam Pettigrue, from 2004 to 2006. Subsequently, he founded New Beginnings Baptist Church with Pastor Pedttirue's blessing, continuing his mission to make disciples and equip students for ministry work.

Driven by his passion for nurturing leaders and fostering Christian service, Dr. Wilson takes the initiative in developing International Bible Schools, conferences, and seminars. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with esteemed institutions like Wheaton College, Samford University, Warner Pacific University, and Fresno Pacific University. Dr. Wilson finds great fulfillment in traveling internationally with students, spreading the word of God through preaching and teaching at various networks, mission agencies, and biblical conferences.

Above all, Angulus possesses an ardent commitment to exploring new frontiers where the message of the gospel can reach those in need. His role as a trusted shepherd on the journey and servant of the Kingdom has made him a guiding light in sharing the good news with a hurting world.