**RISE UP** in 2021

March 14, 2021

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**The Lighthouse Effect**

**Faith of the Faithful**

Genesis 22



In this series, we are exploring times ‘when God uses ordinary people just like you to have extraordinary impact in the dark and stormy world around you.”

Lighthouses are ordinary buildings which were built in difficult places that have a significant impact on the world around them.

Ordinary things used in specific ways can have significant impact on the world around them.

Ordinary people used by God can have an extraordinary impact on the world around them.  
  
You might say:   
  
Ordinary + God = Extraordinary

Somewhere along the way, God was added to the equation and Abraham + God = Extraordinary.

6 (of the 12) tests of Abraham:

**Test Number 1**: God said Go!

*The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country….*

*So Abram went.*

Genesis 12:1-4

*Test Question:* Do I have faith in God with my future?

**Test Number 3**: Not Fair!

*Is not the whole land before you? Let’s part company. If you go to the left, I’ll go to the right; if you go to the right, I’ll go to the left.”*

Genesis 13:9

*Test Question:* Do I have faith in God’s provision … even if it seems unfair?

**Test Number 5**: Where is my son?

*And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”*

Genesis 15:3

*Test Question:* Do I have faith in God’s promises?

**Test Number 6**: Wait and wait and wait and …

*Then the Lord said to him, “Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there.*

Genesis 15:13

*Test Question:* Do I have faith in God when I have to wait?

**Test Number 7**: You want me to?

*This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised.*

Genesis 17:10

*Test Question:* Do I have faith in God to simply obey without understanding why?

**Test Number 12**: My only son

*Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”*

Genesis 22:2

*Test Question:* Does my faith in God put Him first, before anything else, in my life?

Your faithfulness shines light on the faithfulness of God.

Your faith is a gift of God

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

A small amount of faith plus God is all it takes for extraordinary to happen.

*… “Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”*

Matthew 17:20

*Grow your faith by:*

*Obey God’s Word*.

*“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”*

John 14:15

*“KNOW” the promises of God*.

Matthew 6:21, Psalm 23:1, Philippians 4:19, Philippians 1:6, James 1:5, Hebrews 13:5, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Philippians 4:7,  
1 John 1:9, Ephesians 4:15, Romans 8:28

*Trust in God’s promises.*

*“Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God.*

James 2:23