

# Do Not Settle: Follow the Holy Spirit Into God's Promise

God often leads us forward before He reveals every detail of the journey. The question is whether we will continue following Him when remaining where we are feels easier.

In a recent teaching, Apostle Jim Raley used the journey of Terah and Abraham to illustrate the spiritual danger of becoming comfortable somewhere God never intended us to remain.

Genesis 11 says Terah left Ur intending to travel to Canaan. Yet when his family reached Haran, "they settled there." Terah eventually died in the place where he had stopped.

"He died in the place that he was only supposed to pass through," Raley said. "That's the tragedy. When we settle, we die in the in-between place."

## When Comfort Replaces Calling

Raley described Canaan as a picture of God's promise and Haran as the comfortable place between where someone started and where God is leading.

Settling does not always mean abandoning our faith or falling into obvious sin. It can happen when we quietly accept less than what God has placed in our hearts.

"Comfortable can become a casket," Raley said. "Permanent can become a prison."



## ***Order Jim Raley's Book, "The Realm of No Explanation" on !***

The restlessness believers feel in these seasons is not necessarily unhealthy dissatisfaction. It may be the Holy Spirit reminding us that our assignment is unfinished.

"It's the Holy Spirit's way of saying, 'You're not done yet,'" Raley said. "It's the Holy Spirit's way of saying, 'I'm not finished with you. Don't settle.'"

Following God may require us to surrender familiar routines, limiting beliefs or relationships that keep us spiritually stagnant. It does not always mean changing jobs, churches or locations. Sometimes it means giving God our complete obedience exactly where He has placed us.

## **Opposition Is Not Always a Stop Sign**

Past disappointment can make remaining in Haran appear safer. A failed attempt may convince us that God's promise was never meant for us.

Raley rejected that conclusion.

"Your scars are not your disqualification," he said. "Your scars become your potential."

Believers should also expect resistance when they begin moving in faith. Opposition does not automatically mean we have misunderstood God.

"You've been looking at opposition like it's a stop sign," Raley said. "It's not a stop sign. It's a confirmation."

## **Take the Next Step**

We do not need to see the entire journey before obeying. We

simply need enough faith to take the next step.

Raley encouraged believers to identify the fears, wounds and voices keeping them settled. He also urged them to seek Christian community filled with people who are pursuing God's purposes.

"Haran is not my home," Raley declared. "I am called to Canaan. I am called to the promise."

The Holy Spirit is still leading us. Our past cannot cancel God's calling, and temporary resistance cannot overturn His promise. It is time to rise, obey and move forward.

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