

## Beyond Devotional - Week 5

*Jessica Searles, and her husband Stephen, are actively working and preparing to plant The Pointe Church in Seattle, Washington.*

*"And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of the place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." – Genesis 22: 13-14*

We see it over and over again in the Bible-God taking impossible situations and providing solutions. God parts the Red Sea to rescue the Israelites when they seem to have hit a dead (no pun intended) end. Shadrack, Meshack, and Abendago are sentenced to death in a fiery furnace for worshipping God and they come out completely unscathed. When the Jewish people are sentenced to impending death, Esther wins favor with the king and helps bring freedom to her people. In the verses above, Abraham is also asked to do something impossible. Sacrifice his one and only, whose very existence proved that God does the impossible. In faith, Abraham follows God's command and ultimately, God provides and Abraham's son is spared.

Here is my question, dear friends. Do you really trust that God will provide? Do you live like you truly believe it?

If you identify as a Christian, you trust that God has provided forgiveness for your sin and eternal life. But do you trust Him when He asks you to do big, seemingly impossible things? Or do you choose to remain in your comfort zone-the space where you feel safe and can provide for yourself? Do you even risk praying to see if God will ask you to do something big or is that too scary?

Since moving to Seattle, I have seen God provide in impossible situation after impossible situation. I'm currently typing this in our house, weeks away from being able to live out my dream as a stay-at-home mom as my beautiful daughter sleeps in the other room. All of these things are evidences of God's provision in impossible situations. And here is what I have realized. You have to follow God into the impossible situations to see His radical provision.

As someone with a very strong aversion to change, I get it. My default is to choose the most comfortable, least scary choice. But oh, how I am thankful that God calls me to something more, that He has asked me to do impossible things and that I have said yes. I challenge you to do the same. Pray. Ask God what impossible thing He is asking of you. And then, go. Go and do the thing God is asking of you and see His radical provision for yourself.

**Jessica Searles – The Pointe Church**