**COUNTER**

Message #5 “One Thing!”

Scripture: Genesis 22, Mark 10:21

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*Heb. 11:17-19 “By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, 18 even though God had said to him, ‘It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.’ 19 Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.”*

*Mark 10:17-22 “As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. ‘Good teacher,’ he asked, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ 18 ‘Why do you call me good?’ Jesus answered. ‘No one is good — except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.' 20 ‘Teacher,’ he declared, ‘all these I have kept since I was a boy.’ 21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. ‘One thing you lack,’ He said. ‘Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’*

*22 At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.”*

**THREE BARRIERS TO SURRENDER**

**#1. FEAR- Can I trust God?**

How do I know God loves me?

#1. He says He loves you. (Psalm 145:9)

#2. You are never out of His sight. (Psalm 139:3)

#3. He cares for every detail of your life. (Matt. 10:30)

#4. He gave you the capacity to enjoy all kinds of good things. (1 Tim. 6:17b)

#5. He has good plans for your life. (Jer. 29:11)

#6. He forgives you. (Psalm 86:5)

#7. He is lovingly patient with you. (Psalm 145:8)

*Romans 5:8 “God proves His love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.”*

**Big Thought:** Every believer comes to the point where they have to decide will I trust Him or not.

**#2. STUBBORNNESS- Admitting our limitations.**

*“The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven’t yet come to the end of themselves. We’re still trying to give orders, and interfering with*

*God’s work within us.” -AW Tozer*

**Big Thought:** Every believer has to come to the point where they settle who is going to be God in their life.

**#3. APPETITES- Being driven by SELF.**

*Heb. 12:14-17 “Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. 16 See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. 17 Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.”*

**Big Truth:** Every believer decides if they will wait for God’s best or accept a counterfeit.

**BIG TRUTH: Often in our spiritual journey, the battle over one thing is a symbol of a**

**much deeper work of surrender that needs to take place.**

*“The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become - because He made us. He invented all the different people that you and I were intended to be…it is when I turn to Christ, when I give up myself to His personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own.” -C.S. Lewis*

**THE COUNTER INTUITIVE TRUTH:**

“VICTORY COMES THROUGH SURRENDER. SURRENDER DOESN’T WEAKEN YOU; IT STRENGTHENS YOU.”

“The greatness of a man’s power is the measure of his surrender.” -William Booth (founder of Salvation Army)