

GOD, UNSETTLE ME!

Scripture used: [Genesis 11:31-32 \(NLT\)](#), [Genesis 12:1-5 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

Pastor Hurmon returned from a trip across the east coast, delivering a powerful sermon on the danger of settling. It's fine to stop and pause sometimes, but we don't want to settle at one level when God has called us onward. God has bigger plans for us than we can currently imagine. This is captured in the story of Terah, the father of Abraham. He was called to establish God's people in the land of Canaan. Unfortunately, Terah settled only part way to Canaan and never fulfilled God's purpose. Instead it was his son Abram who chose to unsettle himself and his family to complete the journey and establish the nation of Israel. Abram then became Abraham, the father of this nation. That's what it means to rise to the next level, and that is what God wants for each of us. In order to do that, we must unsettle ourselves!

KEY POINTS

- 1. God is inviting us all to unsettle ourselves, and rise to the next level.** We are all tempted to settle because it is easier than striving toward a higher calling that God puts in our heart. We must remember to trust in our God. The cost of the journey, no matter how hard, is always justified when we reach the destination that God has in store for us! This was literally true for Terah, who was supposed to go to Canaan. By stopping and then settling in Haran, he stopped short of fulfilling all that God intended for him to fulfill.
- 2. Watch out for the places in our lives where we tend to settle.** We face specific temptations and obstacles in our modern world. These become stumbling blocks, keeping us from the next level.
 - a. In the pursuit of other gods instead of the one true God.** There are many good things in this world that can be twisted into idols. We can begin to worship those things instead of God, the one object worthy of our faith. Some of us focus on good looks, or wealth, or power, or sex. Some of us focus on celebrities or politicians. Some of us focus on our families or dreams. We need to be untethered from worshipping these good things and be reminded that, as it says in [Matthew 6:33 \(NLT\)](#), we are called to seek God first. Only He is worthy of being the object of our prayers.
 - b. In the place of old hurts and grief.** We have all suffered in this broken world. We have been wounded by other people, and even by organizations such as the church. It's natural to grieve our losses, but sometimes we settle in this trauma. We stay fixed on the past, nursing our pain until the woundedness becomes a central part of our identity. When we keep grieving in a way that is not integrated with our future purpose, we can effectively stop living.
 - c. In the pleasures of comfort and convenience.** Modern life is comfortable. Many of us can reach a point where we don't have to worry about living from day to day. We get seduced by this environment, and it is harder to hear God's voice when He calls us to take part in His plan for redeeming this world.
- 3. When we settle, we start to decay and decline.** Terah didn't want to move beyond Haran. When he settled, he effectively decided there was nothing new beyond that small village. He couldn't imagine a bigger, more wonderful plan for himself and his family. Abram maintained a sense of curiosity, even at 75 years old. Unlike his father, Abram was still interested in Canaan. He wondered what was waiting for him and his family, based on what God promised him. He believed in those promises and wanted to unsettle himself in order to reach the next level.

DISCUSSION

- 1) HEAR** - What is one time in your life where you settled for something and you regretted it? Perhaps it was a relationship, a job, or a goal. Is there a time you refused to settle? What was the outcome?
- 2) UNDERSTAND** - There are many explanations and excuses that help us settle. We may worship things instead of God. We may fixate on past trauma. We may get trapped in a comfortable life. When we settle, we miss out on the opportunities that God has in store for us. Like Terah, we miss the chance to level up. God has great things in store for us. Prayerfully reflect on your life now. What are the circumstances of life or emotions that tend to tempt you to settle? Where are you settling? Where is God calling you to unsettle?
- 3) DO** - Pastor Hurmon gave us two specific things to do this week. First, pray "God, unsettle me!" Second, listen for God's voice of disruption. Like Abram when he became Abraham, we must activate our curiosity. Dream big dreams with God!