



Why Don't I Have What I Want?
The Basics Part 3
"THE WAY You Build Culture"

November 16, 2025

Question: Five Reasons Why Don't I Have What I Want?

1. My Thinking
2. My Lifestyle
3. **My Culture**
4. My Unwillingness to Face Issues
5. My Unanswered Questions
 - (Q/A: The issues we avoid and why — politics, financial pressures, lack of support, and the fear of failure. We often hesitate to ask for help because it feels like admitting defeat.)

Culture Defined and Described

- Culture is the environment our choices create.
- It is what people experience when they live under our leadership or share life in our homes.
- Abraham's calling was not only to walk by faith but to build a culture of faith—one that would teach his family to honor God for generations.

Introduction – The Power of Group Culture

- Group culture is one of the most powerful forces on the planet.
- We sense its presence inside successful businesses, championship teams, and thriving families—and we sense when it's absent or toxic. We can even measure its impact on the bottom line.
- "A strong culture increases net income 756% over eleven years, according to a Harvard study of more than two hundred companies." — Daniel Coyle, The Culture Code



Note: The same is true in Scripture. Every home, tribe, and nation develops a culture—a set of shared habits, language, values, and expectations that shape behavior. Abraham’s family reveals how faith, compromise, and obedience can all become cultural patterns that either bless or burden generations.

Abraham Was Called to Lead a New Culture

Main Text – Genesis 18:17–19 (NIV)

- **“...Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do? Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.**
 - For **I have chosen him**, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just ...”
1. Abraham was invited into God’s consultation room. (Shall I hide from Abraham...)
 2. Abraham was called to be “great”
 3. Abraham was called to be powerful
 4. Abraham was called to be a link of blessing to many

Note: Culture Begins with What You Teach Your Household

- Abraham was the cultural leader (Who is the cultural leader in your family?)
- Abraham made faith in God, a main part of his cultural contribution (Gen. 15:6)
- Abraham instilled practical balance in his cultural leadership

Note: Abraham practically prepared for issues

- “When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he called out the 318 trained men born in his household and went in pursuit as far as Dan.”
- **Abraham didn’t just raise dependents—he developed trained people** who were loyal and prepared. His home modeled discipline, faith, and readiness.

Closing: How prepared is your family for the practical issues that could come up?

Next Time: Why don’t I have what I want? “The way you face your issues.