



Why Don't I Have What I Want?
Part 4
"The Way You Face Your Issues"

November 23, 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.)

Introduction – When the Truth Catches Up

John 8:32 (NIV) “ –Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

- Every person must eventually confront what they've avoided.
- For Abraham, that moment came when God asked him to face the truth about his trust.
- Did he love the promise more than the Promise-Giver?
- Truth is not our enemy; it is the doorway to freedom.
- When we face truth, we grow.
- When we hide from it, we stay stuck.

Main Text: Genesis 22:1–2 (NIV)

- 1 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.
- 2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”



Statement: The truth you refuse to face will control your future.

I. Facing Truth Exposes Your Real Priorities

- God's test revealed where Abraham's affection truly rested.
- For years, the promise of Isaac was his joy; now it was his challenge.
- Facing truth forces us to admit what we hold tighter than God.

Note: Genesis 22:3 (NIV) “ –Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey...”

II. Facing Truth Requires You to Let Go of Control

- Abraham climbed the mountain without knowing the outcome.
- He had to release his plan and trust God's provision.
- Truth always demands surrender — letting go of the illusion that we can manage everything ourselves.

Note: Genesis 22:8 (NIV) “ –Abraham answered, ‘God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son. ‘And the two of them went on together.”

III. Facing Truth Reveals God's Faithfulness

- On the mountain of testing, God revealed His nature.
- Abraham's obedience opened the door for God's provision and a deeper revelation of His character.

Note: Genesis 22:13–14 (NIV) – “Abraham looked up and there in the thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns... So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide.”

Additional Reflection Texts

- **Psalm 139:23–24 (NIV)** “ –Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and **know my anxious thoughts**. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”
- **James 1:22–25 (NIV)** “ –Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says... whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it ... will be blessed in what they do.”

Closing Reflections to Take Home

1. What truth about yourself or your situation have you been avoiding, and why?
2. Which area—your thinking, lifestyle, culture, unwillingness to face issues, unanswered questions—most limits your growth right now?
3. What would obedience to God look like for you in that area today?
4. How has God proven Himself faithful when you finally faced a hard truth in the past?

Facing the truth about your issues may be hard, but freedom always follows honesty.

- Abraham’s journey began with thinking, was tested through living, was expanded through culture, and matured when he finally faced the truth about his issues.
- When you confront the truth about your thoughts, habits, and environment, you free yourself to walk in the promises of God.

Series Summary – The Basics Volume 1: Look at the Way You Think

Week	Focus	Key Verse	Big Truth
1	The Way You Think	Romans 12:2	You can’t move beyond how you think.
2	The Way You Live	Galatians 5:16	Your lifestyle determines your long-term blessing.
3	The Culture You Create	Genesis 18:19	Your choices shape the atmosphere others live in.



4	The Truth You Can't Face	John 8:32	Freedom begins where truth is faced.
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Next Time: Dealing with My Unanswered Questions