

## Major Tests of Our Faith – Lesson Three

### *Commands that Test Our Faith*

**Let's be honest... sometimes we find instructions or commands in scripture that are hard to follow.** We are not talking about whether one desires to follow – we are assuming that is a 'yes,' but simply acknowledging, some things are hard.

**Given the best-case scenario, our life moves forward without serious challenges to our faith...** but wait a minute... that sounds great, but not realistic. Life is full of challenges that we cannot always control, and then there is this; what is it that God requires of us, that is giving us our greatest challenge? How will we respond when it is what God commands that tests our faith the most?

1. Consider God's command to Abraham to offer his son as a sacrifice. (**Genesis 22:1-13**)  
Be prepared to discuss reasons why this was such a severe test of Abraham's faith.
  - a. What enabled Abraham to obey God even when he faced such a test?
2. Read **Luke 5:1-8**. Why would the command to "let down your nets" be a test to Peter's faith? *(there are several reasons one could list)*
  - a. What blessing followed his obedience?
3. Can you think of other individuals in scripture given commands that would have tested their faith?
4. Could there be times where the command to assemble for worship becomes a test of one's faith? *(Let's just ignore Covid (we know all too well about that one) and think about other situations that test our resolve to assemble.)*

5. How about the command to give liberally ... are there conditions where that could become a test of one's faith? *(list some of these conditions)*
6. In **Luke 17:3-5** Jesus gave a command that the apostles apparently thought was a test of faith. What was that command?
7. List some other commands that may on a day-to-day basis test our own faith.
8. In **Revelation 2:10** we find, "***Be faithful unto death.***"  
Would you consider this to be a challenge or test of faith?
9. Read **James 2:17, 20, 24, 26**.  
What does this teach about faith if it is without obedience? *(Don't neglect the context.)*

***SOUL SEARCHER...*** Think fairly and honestly

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It may be that whatever provides the major test of one person's faith will differ from that of another.

Let each of us ask: ***What command of the Lord is most difficult for me to obey?***

*(Once we answer this question, we'll know the area in which we must work the hardest to please Him.)*