Genesis 12:1

Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you."

I remember twelve years ago, God changed my entire life, and He did so in an Abram like fashion. I always associate my story with God calling Abram (Abraham) out of the country he was living in, to a new country that he had never been before.

You see, I lived in California and a new job opportunity came up. With this new job, it involved traveling and living in other states for various times, anywhere from three months to three years. So I prayed about it and took the job. When I did I gave most of my things away and planned on traveling the rest of my life until I retired. I went from the West Coast to the East coast for three years, to a place I had never been before, just like Abram did, and over the next eight years lived in various states in the USA.

Also, over those years, God has blessed me big time. I paid my car off and all my bills off within the first year of starting the new job. I was able to purchase new keyboards for working on music, and a really nice computer to record my music on. I got to go to different places in the USA, and the company I worked for paid for it. I used to call it a working vacation because I was able to explore some of the USA while working.

Over the last twelve years I have released nine worship albums on Spotify, iTunes, etc.... and was able to complete and publish my first Christian novel. I also was able to go to Israel three times and have gotten married four years ago to wonderful, beautiful, Godly woman who I met at church. I have moved close to my son and grandkids in TX, and I am part of the worship team at the church I go to.... And it's still not over yet, because God still blesses me, and He is being glorified in it all!!!

Just like Abram, God told him to go, so he went, and we know that we have all been blessed simply because Abram (Abraham) was obedient to God's calling on his life. I to have been blessed with my obedience to God's calling on my life as well. But not just me, so many others have been blessed with me being able to do the things God has called me to do for His glory these past twelve years.

You see, for both Abram and me, God said to go, and when you read Abram's account in the bible, Abram never said or asked, *"Why God?"* and neither did I. I saw it as an adventure God had for me, going to places I had never been to before and seeing places I only saw on TV or in the movies.

But honestly, just as Abram had his trials and struggles, it has not been a cake walk the last twelve years for me either. No need to go into details, but simply God will call every believer to take that huge step of faith once in a while, and you can do one of three things.

- 1. You can ask, "Why God?" and sit and wait for Him to tell you why. But note that almost every time He will not tell you why when you ask Him. You won't find out until you do what He tells you to do.
- 2. Or you can say, "No" which usually involves excuses why you can't, and remember that giving God excuses is the same as saying "No" to God, just with more words.
- 3. Or the last option is that you can simply be obedient and go, or do what God tells you to do, with no questions asked.

Did you catch what I just said? Let me repeat it, "You can just do what God <u>tells</u> you to do". Notice I did not say what God "asks" you to do, but what God "tells" you to do. In pretty much all cases, God never asks someone, "can you" or "will you" do this or that for me? No, God is God, so He has every right to tell us what He wants us to do. The issue is not God telling us what He wants us to do, but rather what our response to His instructions to us are.

Isaiah 10:15 Shall the ax boast itself against him who chops with it? Or shall the saw exalt itself against him who saws with it? As if a rod could wield itself against those who lift it up, Or as if a staff could lift up, as if it were not wood!

Now, I know sometimes it's not easy doing what God says, because we have no idea how it can be accomplished. Some call it a lack of faith, which it is, but I also call it being human, which we all are, and everyone in the bible (Except Jesus) doubted or wondered how God was going to do something in their lives. But those we admire in the bible, even though they didn't understand or may have even worried, were obedient, and we see the results of them trusting and being obedient to God, and that's why we admire them.

Simply, be obedient to what God tells you to do, without question, and trust that God knows what He is doing, even when you don't, or can't even see how it can be accomplished.

Psalm 143:8 Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You.

Psalm 25:1-3 To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me. Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.