

<b>Topic</b>	Remembering
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Good morning FBC and welcome to the last service of the year. And before we start the sermon proper few things I thought we should do, Christmas just came in went and I thought, you know, it was a great service and in particular the Christmas worship item was fantastic. So, we want to ask you to do a favor if you can, that worship, we are recording this right now on a Saturday morning. And as of today, there's 666 views already. So I'd like to ask everybody to sort of blast that video to everyone you know. I've sent it to some people, I've sent it to people who are not Christian they've come back, they were touched. I've sent it to Christians who are struggling and they've come back and they've been touched. So this is a way where we can take the good news out to everyone, is a fantastic music video. I thought the team did such a great job. It's just so well done on so many levels and it's from the heart and the words of song speaks to the heart. So take that video and the, send it out that it go viral. Let people be touched, not because you want to make FBC well-known, but because you want the Lord's name to really just be declared all over the world.

Here's the second thing to pick up and it is you know, I like to talk about behind the scenes and this year has been a year where most of our sermons, if not all, except for the beginning have gone onto recording and editing. And sometimes people don't realize it takes a lot of work, much than you realize. For example, I'm recording this right now on a Saturday morning, one day before service and this is the second time we are recording. At the back, there is Malcolm, there is John. They come very early and they just work. And a lot of things to do. You do a recording and you have to stitch it together. Sometimes things go wrong. Sometimes, you know, you have technical issues, you have to reshoot, the sound goes wrong and then you have to do editing post editing. So I think we sort of sometimes have a tendency to take things for granted.

So I wanted to just roll call out the people have just done so much. Of course we have John and Mel anchoring the team, Luke, Amanda, Michelle E, Michelle Maui and Brother Fong at the camera's right now. So I would like to thank them for all their work they have done. And, you know, just be grateful for the whole media team. So today, right now, I want to say one more thing at this time last year, at this moment last year, at 2019 you would have seen or experienced hopes like this. So just think back, and some people have said, you know, it was a bad year and 2020 we hope for a better year, things get better. We were hopeful and then 2020 came hit us like a train, hit us like unprecedented before and already Time Magazine is calling it the worst year ever, not the worst year in a decade, not the worst year in the worst year period. You know sometimes they call this watershed moments. They call this disruption, or we just call this a milestone. A bad milestone.

So we have to end the year, but just reflecting on what the year did to us as believers and how the Lord wants us to go into 2021 and we're going to tie this service with the watch night service. So if you are tuned in this morning, do tune into the watch night service because they are going to go hand-in-hand. This year we spent a lot of time on the Book of Genesis. In fact, it's probably been the longest we've been

doing it. We did it before the lockdown began in March, I remember in February or maybe January we started it and we have literally taken a whole year to do Genesis. Why is that so?

So, because the beginning has a lot of things to teach us about life. And so we're going to end the year game by reflecting on Genesis. We're going to look at few key things that patriarch fathers did to teach us about milestones in life and how it can apply to how we handle this year.

So what are we going to do right now before we start on the sermon, is we just go on to wrap up a little bit on Genesis and we have done doing Genesis chapter two chapter, and I also had the opportunity to look at some key themes. Let me give you a few key themes. One thing I think for Christians, discovering your true identity is something I think we understate. It is critical to moving on in life. Who you think you are versus who God things you are. And that's really the first part of this tree parter we did when we look at how Jacob struggled and wrestled with God. You are known by God more than you know him or yourself.

We all always like to talk about knowing God, experiencing God, desiring God, but the starting point is really, you are known by God. And we should, you know, one day really do a sermon series on this. This is one of the most profound understated truths. God knows you better than yourself and God wants you to be a better self and that is the work of the Holy Spirit.

The second thing we did look at was that **our identities very much shaped by family relationship**. The core of the Bible is really about relationships. And Genesis is really a story about 10 generations and their relationships with one another and how good God use them. And there's a particular motive we picked up in the last sermon on this, there is the older brother and younger brother motive. And why does God favor the younger brother? Because he is disadvantaged. He doesn't get a double portion of inheritance. He's often the weaker person, and that's very much the same as in life. God has his heart for those who are disadvantaged, God has his heart on those who are weaker. God has his heart on those who are basically abused and poorer. That is a heart of the God. And God really is a God who favors with grace, the younger brother over the older brother.

And today we're going to look at something else. We're going to look at memories. And this year we got a lot of bad memories. And we can take in a way that maybe shapes us not in a right way for 2021. So really I want to look at this year, how we process 2020 and all the memories we had with it. And we're going to just look at this in three ways.

1. **What we choose** to remember shapes our identity.
2. **How you remember** reinforces that identity.
3. **Why milestones** in our life directs our identity.

Let me explain a little bit about milestones. There are two ways of looking at milestones. One of it is that, you know, life, you know, you graduate and that is one milestone. Some of us get married. That's another milestone. You retire, that is another milestone. You get a job that is another milestone. So another one is like the way you plan a job, right? I mean, I'm an architect. All of you are working. Understand this, you map out. There are milestones that arrive to your objective, but sometimes something slams right across this and disrupts it. That's what 2020 did, in technology they call it innovation disruption. Where technology comes in a completely just throws everything off balance. I'll give you a simple example.

Wikipedia. When Wikipedia came in, it completely obliterated the encyclopedia market. Encyclopedia Britannica, older people know this, the whole market just literally collapsed. Why nobody expected people would like to write free and uploaded into Wikipedia. So nowadays you ask your kids, you know, you know, you ask for something. They will tell you let me Wikipedia it. It has become part of the English language.

So, we're looking at disruptions. Milestones in life that disrupts it and 2020 really did it. Now how did our patriarch fathers respond to things like this? And Genesis had a few major disruptive milestones. And some of them will be even bigger than what we're having in bit of COVID-19. They built altars, now that is something new. We're going to look at tree alters. Noah's altar, Abraham's altar and Jacob's altar. How did he do it? Let me just give you three texts. And there are three very significant events in Genesis and in life. Genesis 8:18 to 20

18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. 19 All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

So imagine, you know, like finally the vaccine works and you can get out. You don't need to wear a mask. You be saying, hallelujah, great. Let's go to the movies man. And Noah cramped in an arc 40 days, 40 nights. Before they are being ridiculed, seeing the whole world just submerged in water. He comes out. What do he do? Did he sort of, let's go jogging man. Let's take a stretch. What does he do?

20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it.

So that's the first altar. Here's the next one? Abraham. Alright, famous story. And it is how God took him from a land. He was a man or Ur. He has his gods. He has his culture, he has his family there. And what the Genesis 12 tells us

6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem.

So, let me give you bit of recap. God says, go. I will make you a blessing to all the nations, you know, I'm going to make your descendants so and so forth and then to add for good favor, as you know, Genesis 11 at 12, 11 says your wife is barren. So he doesn't know, you know, how is this going tenderness happen. You know you are planning, you have a goal and milestone. None of these rules applied to Abraham. He just went and he wasn't even sure where he was going. God didn't give him a clear goal. No clear milestones on the way. He just went and as he you traveled a land he came to the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. It is in enemy territory. The great tree of Moreh is a place of idolatry. We will pick that up later.

At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

So Moses makes a point to pick it up. He's right in bad territory. And what happens.

7 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land."

Imagine you're on a journey you want to arrive at where a place of nice beach, clean air, good weather, and arrive. Instead, you arrive at a ghetto. You arrive a place with gang fights. You are in a place of danger and then God says, yeah, well you have arrived. First pit stop. What does he do? Does he shake his head? Does he see what. You know, this can't be it, I left Ur for this. What does he do?

So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

That's a milestone.

And here's the last story we know this happens with Jacob. Genesis 35, right after God had wrestled with him and it says in verse three,

3 Then come, let us go up to Bethel where I will bill an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me wherever I have gone."

And how was this altar looking like. There is a description of it.

Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it. He also poured oil on it. 15 Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

And here again, another milestone. What is the milestone? God changed his name. God made him into from Jacob to Israel. So let's recap a little bit into, this milestone business that God made the patriarchs do but let's go first on the first point, **what you choose to remember shapes your identity**. What do you remember in 2020. Some people bad memories. Some people poor memory is better than bad memory because you want to suppress them. Psychology teaches us that. Some of us have got really bad bitter of memories from our childhood. Some people feel in 2020 they were betrayed. They have a lot of pain, anger and these memories after what shape you. So bad memories do that. You get angry, you get bitter, you feel you were played out or you were cheated, or you hurt and you don't know how to deal with it. And we were going through a series on forgiveness. You bury it inside, these bad memories shape you. You take on what we call the victim persona.

What's your identity, your identity as a victim, everyone had in for you. God abandoned you and Christians are hypocrites. A lot of people have that. A lot of people have the victim identity. Then we say, let's not do bad memories. Let's have good memories. Really good memories, good memories have a problem because when those good memories are taken away from you you also get bitter. Simple things like, you know, the virus took away our chance to watch a movie, worship in church, go to concerts, just group and we get, you know, we long for that. And when we started this whole stay at home thing in March who would expect that in December we will still huddling in third or fourth wave. So we are all at breaking point. And we long back for these good memories, they are not there. They make us better. Some people have good memories to families. They have fathers, mothers, wives, sons, brother. They love very deeply and sometimes, you know, bad things happen in life. Those good memories are taken away. We struggle with that.

So how do we process memories in a way that helps us. Let's look at what an altar does. The altar does two things in terms of memories;

1. It reminds of the occasion of an encounter with God. So the first thing, what a memory is. The memory has God in the picture. That's important. A lot of time when we process our memories, God is not in it. I just think of all the bad things or think about all the good things, where is God oh Thank God if it is a good thing or bad thing, why God, but on occasion he has an encounter with God. That's one, right? All three of it have an encounter with God.
2. It also tells us of the place. The place of the encounter. Let's just go and see what his memories do in the three patriarchs.

Number one, Noah built an altar to remember when he came out of the Ark, this is a milestone. What is this huge disruption? The whole world got wiped out and rebooted in such a sense. He came out, he built an altar to remember that.

Abraham, what happened? God took him, basically an idol worshiper in Ur with his family, with his culture with a wife who was barren, gave him a promise which any human being would say, you know what, that is hard to believe. But he went in faith, when he arrived at a place, which of all things was the worst place to be in, a dangerous place God tells you, you have arrived and what does he do? He built an altar.

And of course the story of Jacob, we all know that. There is Jacob the deceiver, Jacob the manipulator, and on that fateful day on that milestone day, it all ended.

Let me give you three milestones, which I think are for me are very real in my walk. I hope is real for you and what I think Genesis spoken to me and I think we can apply these to 2020. And this sort of go global right, from Noah is big and then when it comes to Jacob it is personal. What is Noah? The whole world change. Whole world change. He comes out. There's no one else and what is Noah looking at? Noah is looking at a new beginning and in a few days' time you and I will step out into 2021. It is a new beginning and you can imagine no one looking out there, you think, wow, fantastic. I think fear uncertainty, but one thing God is with him because Noah is known as a man who walks with God.

And so he builds in altar to say God don't forsake me as I enter this new world. New beginning new year walk with me as I walked with you and we looked into 2021. On one hand vaccines seems to be rolling out, on the other hand, the virus strain 10 times worse trepidation. It is very easy to take the baggage of 2020 and go into 2021 to say, you know, it's going to be a bad year, not hopeful about it. But as Noah walked with God, as we enter 2021 walking with God. It is a new beginning but you say, you know, Arnold know what do you mean by new beginning, all cliché words. And so Abraham's altar is important as mentioned. He went on a journey where he didn't really know where he was going, completely goes against business, teachings, no clear milestones. He had a clear objective, but God showed him enough. God guided him every way. It wasn't a random journey and with Abraham it's a new direction.

He arrives at his land with danger, with Canaanite, the descendants of the son of Noah who really, really hated God and God says you have arrived. And so the Lord is asking us next year, what direction are we

going to take in our life, in our work, in our walk in God in church, in our family, in personal issues and personal direction. I think something we need to reflect on, right? Either that we just going to enter the new year, doing the same thing as we did in 2020 and expecting different results. That's madness, right? Madness is there. You keep doing the same thing over and over again, and expecting different results.

And God is challenging us in this milestone of this unbelievably difficult year. There has to be new directions. We all have to take in our walk; spiritually and in a coppice holistically every aspect of life. And to do that, what must we do? Jacob's altar is helpful to us to have a new direction in his new year, which is a new beginning. We need to remember yearly, daily, we are always trying to be a new person. We always trying to struggle to move from being Jacob the deceiver to being Israel, God is with you, you wrestle with God and the devil wants us to going back to all our old selves. I struggled with that. You struggle with that. We enter the New Year remembering this, we struggle, we wrestle, we do it and as we do it, God reveals new directions and gives us new beginnings.

One of the stories you get a lot this year is about airline pilots and attendants. Why? Because they were the, probably the most hard hit. And, uh, you get a lot on the net and on TV, on a media. And here's this interesting, this happening all over many countries, because is he a stall vendor or is he a pilot? I mean what is his real identity. That's really what this series is about. What is your real identity? And what we need to remember is this, God is shaping us. Our real identity is in Christ. We are trying to be a new person. My identity isn't defined by my job. My identity isn't defined by my past or the bad memories. My identity isn't defined but what people want me to be, my identity is in Christ. I'm a new person. I have a new direction and there is a new beginning for me in 2021.

So what do you choose to remember this year will help you shape the next year. Let's go through again. Next point now.

Secondly. It is easy to say let's remember, but remembering takes time, remembering takes effort. So how do we remember to reinforce this identity, an identity which is helpful and healthy for spiritual walk. For example, in, you know, watches, some people keep watches, not just because they are very expensive. Peter showed a 1 million watch that day on Christmas service. This watch could only be a few ringgits and the value of it isn't in that the watch you put and you can walk around and show everybody that wow this expensive watches is personal, this is memorabilia. One thing about human beings. We like to keep memories. Why? Those memories help us to remember occasions. Help us remember people, things that we treasure.

Let me just give you an example. This is a business card. This card has been in my wallet for close to 30 years. You can tell it because you look at the number of the phone here. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. There was a time where there were only seven digits. This was a name of a girl that I asked for her phone number at a time, and she scribbled the number there. I was very thankful, after some time of pursuing she then became my wife, from seven digit it went to eight digit. I kept this card with me as a memory, you know of how I first met my wife, the occasion where I met my wife and I also can remember the place where I met my wife. Remember this, it's not just the occasion and the place, but this card, this business card, which is frayed. If I left it outside on a desk, you would think is rubbish. It has no value. And so it is with altars, where the altars are really just a pile of rocks. Any other visitor looking by, traveler

would have just kicked it over, but to the patriarchs they were helping them remember. Understand there is a keyword, we need to help ourselves remember. They call this rhythms in life. We need rituals, we need objects, we need things, that's why we keep memories, memorabilia. They help us remember, and that's a discipline. They help us remember occasions which are important in our spiritual journey.

So let's just look at the story of Abraham and see what did the story tell us. So we were told here from there he went on towards the hills, East of Bethel. Now this is after he arrives at Canaan. And then as he moves on, he moves on to Bethel and there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. Now, the term calling on the name of Lord is found in Genesis 4. Basically, it is meaning I know you in a relationship. Now after that, there is a gap between chapter 12 and Genesis 13. What happens? He struggles like we all struggle in a new journey. Where does he go? He decides to go to Egypt because there is a feminine. He screws up there. He lies about his wife. Does all sorts of things and gets kicked out in not so many words and as his travels back, meandering, not sure about his direction in life like a lot of us did this year. Some of us lost our jobs, we had family issues. We don't know who we are anymore. We get lost. And look at what you says

*From the Negev he went from place to place.*

He is lost.

*until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tend had been earlier. And where he had first built an altar.*

What happened? He remembered and very likely the pile of stones was still there. And then what does he do? Then Abraham called on the name of the Lord. He is saying, God I strayed. I thought I was very smart by going to Egypt, tried to maneuver, like, you know, this Jacob tendency probably came from Abraham and caused so much trouble, but now I come back, I see this pile of rocks. I remember your faithfulness. I call on your name. That's the first thing, what the altar does.

Number two, when he recalls, he responds in worship. Look at what Jacob does.

*Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it.*

Noah did the same thing. He took the finest animals. He put a burnt offering. Remembering is not enough, is how you remember and hear the patriarchs remember, with reverence worship. Ah, Lord God, I call on your name. I offer up a worship to you. What does that do? It helps you to reinforce your identity, especially when you're going through a bad phase. Again this year, all the reports are saying mental health issues are on the rise because people get cooped up you lose your job, you get pressured, you struggle. A lot of people struggle. And after a while they feel worthless, they say, you know what? I can't get a job, I've been hurt. I'm hopeless, I'm useless. No, you can say my identity is this and that but you don't understand my pain. So let me show you a story about a verse in the New Testament. A person who understands what you're going through and what he was, he was a slave. You don't get worse than a slave. 1-Corinthians 7:23 says

Where you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you – although if you can gain your freedom, do so.

Paul is not unsympathetic. Yes. But he says,

For the one who has a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ slave.

Free or not free, same identity, but here's is what's interesting.

You were bought at a price.

That's a slave language.

Do not become slaves of human beings. You have bought at a price. This is your identity. This is not your identity.

You were bought at price. You see a slave remember the day they were bought at a market, he is trying to pull them back to another memory. One memory is there, the memory of the cross. This is your identity do not become slave. And a lot of us are stuck in this. So we not, may not be building altars of stones, but the New Testament teaches us to build another kind of altar, the altar in the heart, an altar that gives us the discipline of remembering who we really are. So, when Jesus says do this in remembrance of me, is to help us many ways to remind ourselves who we truly are that we are not slaves or others. We are not who we are because what people say or because I lost my job or because I went to a lot of pain or other people seem to more blessings than me or other people have relationships that work and mine don't. I was bought at a price. Next Sunday, we will break bread and it will be significant. It will be the first breaking of bread of the year. So I just want to see what happens when you do it again in our series of forgiveness this year. A lot of pain, unforgiveness.

You might have a lot unforgiveness and a lot of people. You know, a lot, bitterness does not mention names and you can say, you know what I can't forgive. I can't forgive. But when you break bread, when you take the altar, come to the altar of the Lord, come to the altar in your heart, you say this, I remember the blood of Christ poured out for me, the body bruised for my sins. I can forgive all those very difficult. It can be anything else. I struggle with my sins. I may be an elder at a church, but I admit I struggle. This year is anything we learn vulnerability is important. I have my own issues. And I had to remind myself I'm a new person. I'm a hypocrite in many areas. I struggle, I do not dispute it, but we are vulnerable. We come to the altar with vulnerability. We tell ourselves we need to be a new person, and we say O Lord we struggle with this since, take us in a new direction in this area. Teach us to change. Remember the cross, remember how Jesus died for our sins. He paid the price and there is a new beginning for me, and there is a new direction for me, because I'm a new person and by grace we will fall and fall again and we will come back to the altar, we come back to the altar because we are broken people and we renew ourselves. And that's communion is so important.



Let me just wrap up with this to say why milestones in our life direct our identity. Because identity in the end really is about purpose. So let me ask you, what's your purpose in life? Some people felt, you know, my purpose was to build an airline industry, to build hotels, suddenly everything wipes out. It challenges you again. So, who do you think you are? That's really how we should close this series. Some people say that I'm called to do this. I'm called to be an elder, you dare say that, you are called to be senior pastor, I am called to build this business. How do you really know? And it's interesting, right? So let's go back to this and talk about purpose really is about how you see your future self.

A lot of us have a certain view of our future self. And here's the interesting, what the statistics show us, is really fascinating. This is Dr. Daniel Gilbert, a Harvard professor. He's got a Ted Talk about your future self, fascinating and this is what he says.

You will be able to articulate your future self. I hope to do this and then you set milestones. To get to my future self this, I need to change in these areas or if I want to still be the same person, I need to maintain this. We all have a sense of your future self. Now what's interesting from Daniel Gilbert statistic is that 10 years from now, they have done the research. If they asked you, were you the person you thought you were 10 years ago, 99% of the statistics will say what they see no. Isn't it interesting? No. Watch Ted Talk it is really fascinating. That means we are all trying to find purpose, trying to direct it but 10 years from now, you would say it didn't quite work out. Here's one look at what 2020 did to everybody's purpose, completely obliterated it.

One year, just changed the course of history and so Abraham is interesting. Because Abraham life is one of a journey, but here's another thing about milestones. You see, because as we age, right, our, our goals change, fallen man if they are centered on selves, keep changing the goals as they get older. What is important to you 10 years before is not the same now. So the Abraham story is an interesting story. Let's go through what he was doing.

Number one, the key thing you learn in Hebrews, he went out not knowing where he was going. He does where. Did Abraham plan, in 10 years this is my future self. He didn't, he did only one thing. God said he was going to be a blessing. And he walked on in that. There was a goal, it wasn't random, but he did not micromanage it and went on his own path. That's where scripture is very clear. So let me just break it down a little bit. You see the altar has another place. The other thing of importance, is not just the occasion is the place. Why is that important? What's so important about the place. Let's just give it a bit of breakdown.

The first altar you see Abraham built three altars. The first altar he built, Shechem, again enemy territory, right next to the great tree of Moreh. Then he moves to Bethel and later on he goes to Hebron. Everywhere he goes, he builds an altar. Why? He is claiming that place as the kingdom of God. Where he is that is the kingdom of God. Where you are is the kingdom of God, in FBC kingdom of God, at home Kingdom of God. This is what he's saying. He is proclaiming that place as kingdom. One of the key great themes of Genesis. That's how you look at milestones in life, wherever your desires change or things change or virus hits you. You say, where I am Lord? This occasion I am? This place I am. This trouble I am, the kingdom of God is here if realize I'm a new person, new direction, new beginning, and that has power. Look at what the text says later on.

It says, the tree is mentioned twice. I just highlighted again, the great tree of Moreh, it is mentioned again in Genesis 35 and look at what he says

So they gave Jacob all the foreign because they had and the rings in their ears.

That's giving up idolatry, giving up all the idols in your life that holds you from being the new person you're meant to be.

And Jacob buried them under the oak at Shechem.

This tree is where the Canaanites worship. He is not just declaring figuratively this place is a kingdom of God, it comes with power. He's saying this, you know, I'm entering 2021, I'm in a place which is difficult, but the kingdom of God is here and because of the gospel, because of the power Christ resurrected, I will break all these idols that make me bitter, angry, defeated, hurtful, spiteful and shape my identity. I will break this and I will say I will not be a slave to others. I was bought at a price. And I think if you really look at it deeply, it is just so powerful. You know, next year, if the vaccine works, what Dr Anthony Fauci says, normalcy will come in second half and then the World Economic Forum calls this the great reset. The world will never be the same, online, sanitation, business brick to click the world will reset in sustainability reset in a way we do our business. How about us? What do milestones teach us? What do the patriarchs teach us? It's not so much the great reset that's important.

What is this practice of building a milestone, building an altar to remember the place, remember the occasion to tell us the kingdom of God is there, is not a great reset it is the great commission. The great commission is everywhere you and I go, whether it's too far away lands or whether it's your job or whether it's your home, where you are if you bring your pain and your struggles and your bitterness to people around them, that's not the great commission because the great commission is tied to what the Abrahamic covenant. You're supposed to be a blessing to the nations and everywhere Abraham went he built an altar to remind himself, he will be a blessing and he was a blessing as he went for Morab to Bethel to Hebron. And when he was at a great tree of oak, he broke that curse of the tree, it was idolatry. And that's what we are supposed to do. To break idols around, to put our impact in this post COVID world.

So there's altering and altering. Altaring the practice of building altars, remembering milestones. As we altar God is altering us. Quickly, I won't go through it. We know the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. Read it up. Land, very nice Abraham told Lot you take it. Why? Because God had altered him. Take the good land. It doesn't matter. My altars in my heart, the Lord is with me. And so what happens the Lord then promised Abraham, because your faithfulness. And so what he did, he built an altar to the Lord. You know, we're going to move to the new year. It may be a difficult year for us. Let me just challenge you. What is your role in FBC? What is its role as a believer, is a new beginning is a new direction for us. Will you and I be a new person for the Lord.