



S E R M O N G U I D E

Let It Go

Genesis 19:15-26

INTRODUCTION

What is entangling your life right now? What is holding you back? Many of us are getting in our own way of pursuing the life God has planned for us because we're allowing certain things or certain people to hold us back and keep their claws in us. But we must realize one thing: if we're going to follow after Jesus, we have to let go of everything else. In today's message, we're going to look at a passage in Scripture where the importance of letting go is magnified, and we're going to learn about the steps we can take to letting go of what's holding us back so that we can follow after our Heavenly Father with reckless abandon.

KEY POINTS

1. If you don't let go, you're destined for destruction.

When we fail to let go of things in our life that are hindering us, we are destined for destruction. This might seem harsh or blunt, but it is reality. Letting go is not easy, but it becomes possible when we understand why it is necessary. The reason Lot's wife and her family were in the situation they were in, that is having to flee Sodom, is because their existing (present) reality was destined for destruction.

It was time for them to cut their losses and let it go. And the same is true for us today. Sometimes we are holding on to things that God has already declared are over. Sometimes we keep people around that we know in our spirit are not in line with God's will for our lives.

If you want to avoid the destruction, the pain, the heartache, then you need to change roads. This one is destined for bad news. God has already decided it. But this destruction is avoidable; you just have to let it go and change the path you walk. There is never a better time to change that road than right now!

2. If you want to move ahead, you need to be clear about what the Lord has said.

God is already saying, "it's over." That part of your life is over. Continuing to talk to that person is over. Practicing that bad habit is over. The addiction that owns you is over. The places you continue to go back to are over. The story has already been written. We know it's over, the only question is, is it over NOW?

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You already know what that thing is for you. Whether it is an addiction, a person, a place you go back to. Whatever it is, you know what you need to let go of. And you know if you continue to keep it in your life, it will lead to destruction. But it doesn't have to. You can end it now. The choice is yours; either you can end it now, or God will end it eventually.

But when God ends it, the consequences are often much worse. A lot of times, when He removes these things, we hit rock bottom. We have no idea what to do. And sometimes these are the greatest comeback stories ever. But it is also some of the worst pain ever. You do not have to get that deep. It's over. You know it's over. But is it over now? You decide.

3. If you want to let go, you can't be salty.

Don't be like Lot's wife. She looked back, and she became salty. The text says, "she became a pillar of salt." Perhaps that's why some of you are so salty...because you keep looking back at what was and what couldn't have been rather than embracing what is and what will be. Don't let your past relationship make you salty. Don't let your ex cause you to become hard, cold, and callous. Lot's wife looked back and consequently, she became paralyzed and couldn't move forward.

You know you've become salty when anger, bitterness, and resentment set in. Have you ever met someone and wondered, "why is she so bitter? Why is he so hard?" I mean, you just met them, you haven't done anything to them, but they are so bitter, so hard, so suspicious. It's because something has happened in their past and they're still stuck there. They were hurt before and so they've resolved they're not going to let anyone else get close to them again and hurt them again. Time has past, but they haven't. It happened years ago, but in their mind, it's like it just happened yesterday.

So don't be like that. Don't stay salty. Don't let the bitterness and anger fester in your heart. Instead, let go of what is in the past and move forward toward what God has for you in the future. Trust me, what's behind you isn't nearly as great as what God has in store ahead.

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No Limits with Pastor Delman

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Is there something or someone you need to let go of that's holding you back? Who or what is it?
2. Do you feel like the Lord is clearly telling you to walk away from something but you're hesitating? If so, what's keeping you from obeying Him and following His lead?
3. Are you still salty about something that happened in your past? What's one step you can take this week to release some of the bitterness you've been harboring?
