

## Lord, You Want Me To Do What? Genesis 17

### Introduction

#### A. God's Call [1]

1. Command (1a): walk before me
2. Consequence (1b): you will be blameless (integrity)

#### B. God's Covenant Promises For Abram [2-8]

1. To be fruitful (many nations)
2. Forever (an everlasting covenant)
3. That as a new person (Abraham),  
for you and your descendants
4. I will be your God
5. And I give you a place (Canaan)

#### C. Circumcision: The Sign of God's Covenant [9-14]

1. Circumcision is a cutting off a part of that member of the body through which God's promise will be fulfilled.
2. The point of this graphic and permanent sign is that we can never achieve God blessings, even the blessings guaranteed by His promises (covenant),  
*by our own power.*

3. As Genesis 1 and 2 taught us that the maleness and femaleness and the union of a man and a woman as husband and wife is at its core, spiritual.  
It is not primarily about:  
biology, or  
psychology, or  
sociology, but  
theology

4. Circumcision affirms that sexuality is about our relationship with God!
  - a. Fertility (blessing) is a gift from El Shaddai, a consequence of His unmerited favor (grace) and a means by which we receive even more of His blessings. It is not merely a biological outcome or result of human action.
  - b. Circumcision of the heart
    - 1) Deuteronomy 30:6
    - 2) Romans 2:28-29

#### D. God's Covenant Promises For Sarai [15-16]

1. To be a new person (Sarah)
2. To be fruitful (a son, many nations)

#### E. Abraham's Unbelief [17]

#### F. God's Covenant With Isaac [18-22]

1. Blessing for Ishmael
2. Covenant for Isaac

#### G. Obedience [23-27]

### Conclusion

Romans 12:1-2