

Wednesday Night Fellowship Discussion Guide

Genesis 22

6/16/21

Genesis 22:1–14

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ² He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

Passage Summary

God calls Abraham to take a step of faith by offering up his only son, Isaac, the son of promise to God through sacrifice. Abraham demonstrates his faith in God by following God’s command and offering up Isaac on a mountain in Moriah. As Abraham reaches out to take the knife to sacrifice his son God has an angel intervene and stops him. Rather than sacrificing his son, God shows Abraham a ram caught in the thicket which he sacrifices in the place of his son. Abraham calls the name of the place “The LORD will provide” and as a response to the faith of Abraham God declares that He will bless him, multiply his offspring, and bless them as well.

Discussion Questions

(These questions are intended to generate discussion and promote application. Don’t feel pressured to make it through all of them. The questions are made for the discussion leader, not the discussion leader for the questions.)

In Genesis 22:1 Scripture makes it clear that God desired to test Abraham. What was the purpose of the test for Abraham? (Cross-reference: Genesis 22:12; 22:15-18; Hebrews 11:17-19)

God spoke directly to Abraham in Genesis 22:1 – how does God speak to us today? Any Scripture which makes this clear?

What are some ways in your life that you believe God **HAS** tested you? What are some ways that God **MIGHT** test you?

God called Abraham to leave his place of security (his homeland, his relatives, etc.) to follow God. What are some places of security that God has or is calling you to take steps of faith?

God called Abraham to offer his only son up to God. What do you imagine might have been Abraham's reasons why he should NOT obey God?

Do you believe Abraham was truly intending to sacrifice Isaac?

God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son, what might have happened if Abraham failed the test? What are some difficult things God has asked you to sacrifice for Him? What is God's motive for asking you to sacrifice in such a manner?

In verse 14 Abraham names the place "The LORD will provide". In what specific ways has God provided for you?