

Listen, watch, or read the sermon on the website if you missed it. Turn to the back for an outline of the sermon.

This week's reading in the 2015/16 reading plan includes: Genesis 34-41 & Mark 5-11

Ice Breaker: What was the most obvious way you have seen God provide for you in recent years?

1. Discuss anything that jumped out at you in your private devotions this week.
2. Do you find anything troubling about God's command that Abraham sacrifice Isaac?
 1. How does this scenario help you to trust God in situations that you really don't understand why he is doing (or allowing) what he is? Consider Proverbs 3:5
3. How would you describe God's larger purpose in this test of Abraham's faith?
 1. Together read 2 Cor 13:5, James 1:2-4, and 1 Peter 1:1-7
 2. Does this help you understand why God might put us in scenario's where we are "tested"?
4. Describe how the following were foreshadowed in this scene on mount Moriah: A giving Father, an obedient and loving Son, a substitutionary sacrifice, a resurrection unto life.
5. What did Abraham take away from this experience? Consider what he named the place in Genesis 22:14.
 1. What is the right reaction when we see our faith hold strong?
 2. Who gets the glory if we take credit for our faith?
6. Share with the group an area in your life where you are currently being challenged in your faith and can use prayer that God would provide sustaining strength to keep you from compromise or taking the easy road?
 1. Read Luke 22:31-32. What is the significance of this passage as it relates to Romans 8:33-35?
7. What is the effect on our faith when we only read or listen to what the Bible prescribes, agree with it as God's truth, but fail to adjust our lives to live accordingly?
 1. Read James 1:22-25 and James 2:18-23 as you consider your answer.

- I. God tested Abraham in an unimaginable way to prove Abraham's character. (vv 1-3)
- II. Abraham responded in immediate obedience. (vv 4-8)
- III. God provided a sacrifice to fulfill His promise. (vv 9-14)
- IV. God reminded Abraham of His promise that Abraham received by faith. (vv 15-19)
- V. God continued to work His will to keep His promise. (vv 20-23)

Sermon Idea: "God kept his promise by sacrificing His own Son and He will keep His promises to meet our every need."