

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. Is there anything in your life that you could not walk away from if God asked you to let go?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Genesis chapter 22 is one of the most perplexing and rich passages in the bible. It involves trust, sacrifice, and confusion. Read Genesis 22:1-3
 - a. Would you obey God if God asks you to do something that doesn't make sense?
 - b. What was Abraham's first response to God?
 - c. Does God tell Abraham where specifically he will go?
 - d. Compare this to Genesis 12:1. For the last 25 years or so, Abraham has been told that He is going to be the father of a nation. He has been told his son, Isaac, is the seed of this nation. Now, obeying this command would mean, the end of his dreams. The end of the promise. How did Abraham respond the next morning?
3. Pastor Ruben said, "God measures your faith and obedience by your willingness to do the small things. From the outside, it looks routine and is overlooked by others. But, God knows its significance, and it puts your life on a new trajectory." Abraham collected wood, saddled his beast, and went on a trip. What small things do you need to do to reflect obedience to God?
4. Read Genesis 22:4-8.
 - a. How many days did Abraham travel?
 - b. He had lots to think about these days. Why did Abraham say "we will come right back?"
 - c. What was he thinking?
 - d. Do you think Isaac knew what Abraham was doing?
 - e. What does this passage say about Abraham's relationship with Isaac?

5. Read Genesis 22:9-19.
 - a. What does Abraham tell his son?
 - b. Do you think Abraham was fully prepared to offer his son?
 - c. This passage is more than offering a son. At the core of it, it is Abraham's devotion to God. It's an ultimate trust and devotion to God, even when it doesn't make sense. What or who do you love more than God?
 - d. Are there any areas that you would NOT be willing to give up to God?
 - e. Why or why not?
6. Isaac and Jesus have much in common. In what ways is this story similar to the story of God sending His son into this world to die for our sins? See if you can find the similarities in each verse.

Read each verse, then stop and talk about the similarity between Isaac and Jesus. Please read the following verses: John 3:16; Hebrews 13:12; 1 Corinthians 15:3; John 19:17; John 1:29; Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 11:17-19; and 1 Corinthians 15:4.

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- God measures your faith and obedience by your willingness to do the small things. From the outside, it looks routine and is overlooked by others. Between you and God, it's pure worship.
- Our world does not need any more casual church attenders. We have plenty of those. We need Christians that are willing to do the ultimate sacrifice for the sake of Jesus Christ.
- **ISAAC & JESUS**
 1. Both sacrifices took place on the same mountain, in the same general location.
 2. Both were descendants of Abraham.
 3. Both stories involved a donkey on the way to a sacrifice.
 4. Both fulfilled promises.
 5. Both were the only son of their father.
 6. Both were loved by their fathers.
 7. Both had a 3-day experience.
 8. Both were accompanied by 2 men.
 9. Both carried their own wood.
 10. Both submitted to their father.
 11. Both were brought back from the dead.