



Lesson 12: Abraham's Faith

Scriptural Basis:



Genesis 21:1-8; 22:1-19

Overview:

God, who delivered on His promise to provide Abraham and Sarah a son, turns around and asks Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham, who had to wait 25 years for God to miraculously deliver on His promise to provide a son, obediently followed God's instruction. Abraham took Isaac to Moriah, a place that would later house Solomon's Temple. At the last moment, God stopped Abraham from killing his son, and provided a ram for the sacrifice.

Things to consider:

God instructed Abraham to take his only son to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering. Isaac noticed that when they went to worship, there was wood, and fire, but no lamb. Abraham assured Isaac that God would provide for Himself the lamb.

Abraham had faith, because he believed God would be faithful. And God did not disappoint. Though it must have been hard (heart-wrenching) for Abraham during this ordeal, he clung to the hope that God is a God of mercy and love, and works all things together for the good of those who love him (Romans 8:28).

Though it is horrific for us to think about the idea of human sacrifice, it was common in Abraham's day. And this account of God stopping Abraham's hand from killing His son demonstrates that He is not pleased by human sacrifice, but He does demand our obedience (1 Samuel 15:22).

Bible Study for Preparation:



Read Genesis 21:1-8; 22:1-19. The first-born holds much significance in scripture, and of course Abraham's first-born holds extra significance because of the circumstances of his birth. Yet, when told to give up his first-born son, Abraham obeys, simply with the knowledge in his heart that "God will provide." Contemplate the importance we have in trusting everything, including our most cherished, prized, precious possessions to God. God desires that we cherish Him more.

Teaching the lesson:

- A: Review (Lesson 1- Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and the saving of Lot and his daughters)
- B: Activity –
- C. Video
- D. Additional activity