

Abraham Offers Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

MEMORY VERSE

HEBREWS 11:17

“By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

Construction paper, crayons or markers, glue, large tongue depressors, and as many small prizes (pencils, erasers, stickers, etc.) as the number of children in your class.

Paper cups, markers, and stickers.

Large clear plastic cups, small bits of string and yarn, small pieces of fabric, cotton balls (pulled apart into smaller pieces), and dryer lint.

ATTENTION GRABBER!

Puppet Son

Draw the outline of a puffy man (gingerbread type figure). Let the kids color and cut out the man. Tape a tongue depressor on the back.

Ask if any of the children would like to receive a gift. Tell them that someone who loves his puppet and took great care to make it must give the puppet to you so that the whole class may have a gift. If someone who does not care about his puppet offers, then ask if it makes him a little sad to give up his puppet. If he says no, tell the class you will have to wait for someone who really likes his puppet.

Eventually you will get a taker. Pass out a gift (small prize) to each child. After the treats have been passed out, return the puppet to the child who gave it to you and explain that **faith surrenders all and waits on God.**

In our lesson today, we will see where Abraham gave to the Lord the most precious thing to him, his son. In it, we will learn how God provided a sacrifice for Abraham and see a beautiful picture of our Lord Jesus.

LESSON TIME!

Sometimes in our lives, God instructs us to do very difficult things. It is in these times that our true heart is revealed. We must make the decision to obey God's Word no matter what the cost. Today, we will be looking at a man that made such a decision, a man who surrendered all and waited for God to provide. **Faith surrenders all and waits on God.**

GENESIS 22:1

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

After waiting for so long for God's promised child, Abraham probably thought his greatest trials were over. Yet, another test of faith remained. In our difficult times, God can reveal Himself and His loving heart toward us. This test would reveal the growth and character God had built into Abraham's life. God had prepared Abraham for this time.

Has God ever tested your faith? Trials cause us to draw close to God and experience His comfort and help. Through trials, our Christian character is built, and we become more like Jesus. In fact, James tells us that we should rejoice in trials! (James 1:2,3)

GENESIS 22:2

And He said, "Take now 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."

Isaac was the beloved only child of Abraham, the child he had waited many years to receive. God had promised to make Abraham a great nation through Isaac. What would Abraham do now? Isaac was not married and did not have any of his own children. How would God's promises be fulfilled? Sometimes God may ask us to do things that we do not understand. May we, as Abraham, put our trust in the Lord. We can be sure God is working His plans for good in our lives.

God is asking Abraham to take his son Isaac and offer him on an altar as a burnt offering. In other words, he would be offered like a lamb, a ram, or a goat would be offered. Old Testament sacrifices were for the covering of people's sin. A person would confess his sins, and the guilt for those sins would be placed upon the innocent animal. The animal would be sacrificed, and the person would be forgiven his sin. God was asking Abraham to offer his son as a sacrifice.

This is a picture of what God the Father did for us when He sent His only Son to become the sacrifice once and for all for our sin. This is the first time that the word "love" is used in the Bible. This story allows us to see God's great love towards his Son Jesus, as He would watch Him die one day for the sins of the world. As you read about Abraham offering Isaac, keep in mind the beautiful picture of God sacrificing His only begotten Son Jesus for the sins of all the people in the world.