***The Offering of Isaac***

Abraham was called by God to leave everything behind and God would build a new nation of his descendants. As part of Abraham’s adventure in being faithful, God had promised him a son even though Abraham was 100 years old. Today’s text shares a narrative that is revered by Christians, Jews, and Muslims. To help us give proper background to our narrative, we should answer these questions”

* **Did Abraham and Sarai, his wife, trust that God would do as he said in Genesis 12 in giving them a son?**
* **How did God fulfill his promise?**
* **What is the impact of Abraham and Sarah’s decisions today?**

**Question Grouping #1**

God tests Abraham’s faith by asking him to give up the most precious thing in his life, his son Isaac.

*Genesis 22:1-5*

**God test was to ask Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac. Based on our study last week (Genesis 12), what is significant about Isaac that might make this sacrifice hard for Abraham?**

**What do we discover about Abraham’s character even before his test takes place?**

**Why would God ask someone to sacrifice his or her child?**

**How do you think Abraham felt when God asked him to do this? What are some things that Abraham might be thinking about the night before and morning of the sacrifice?**

**Is there anything important of the location of Moriah where Abraham is to take Isaac to sacrifice? Read 2 Chronicles 3:1.**

**Question Grouping #2**

Abraham’s test and God’s faithfulness to provide.

Genesis 22:6-14

**What evidences do you find of Abraham’s faith before the final test is required (before Abraham raised the knife to his son)?**

**What is the purpose of sacrifice?**

**Why do you think Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac? What support do you have for thoughts?**

**Question Grouping #3**

The Children of Abraham

Genesis 22:15-19; John 3:16

**Why do you think God told Abraham to sacrifice his son in the first place?**

**How is faithfulness central to this narrative?**

**What do you think the main point of this story is? (Or, what do you think this story is supposed to teach us about God?)**

**How does John 3:16 speak to today’s study? Can one be faithful to someone without truly loving that person?**

**Wrap Up**

**God did not tell Abraham why he desired Isaac as a sacrifice. What does that omission of “why” teach us about our response to God’s requests? (i.e What can we learn from Abraham’s response to God’s request?)**

**How can we respond in obedience to God like Abraham when we don’t like what He is asking us to do?**

**How might Romans 12:1 give you an Abraham- like mindset in your daily life?**