

## When God Calls Your Name

January 10 & 11, 2009

Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am." Genesis chapter 22, verse 1 (17)

- God prepares you for every test he gives you.
- Obedience proves my faith.
- I can't obey unless I am listening.
- All testing has a purpose.
- God's testing is to build us up not beat us down.
- **IN 2009 GOD WILL TEST YOUR FAITH AND OBEDIENCE!**

"Take your son, your only son-yes, Isaac, whom you love so much-and go to the land of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you. "

Genesis chapter 22, verses 1-2 (17)

- *"I will cause you to become the father of a great nation."*  
Genesis chapter 12, verse 2 (10)
- God often asks from us those things we love the most.
- God knows where the idols are in my life.
- God also understands what its like to sacrifice something he loved.
- *Since God did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't God, who gave us Christ, also give us everything else?* Romans chapter 8, verse 32 (862)
- *"which I will show you"* God does give me the answers until I need them, so stay close to him.
- **SOMETIMES FAITH IS NOT LOGICAL.**

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son Isaac. Then he chopped wood to build a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place where God had told him to go. Genesis chapter 22, verses 3 (17)

- **FAITH AND OBEDIENCE ARE INTENTIONAL-** *Got up early, saddled his donkey, called his servants, woke up Isaac, chopped wood.*
- The trip that Abraham was taking was about 50 miles to Mt Moriah.
- My obedience brings blessing into the lives of those around me.
- Obedience is not without struggle.
- Can you imagine the struggle that Abraham was facing the entire trip?
- What intentional steps of obedience are you taking?
- What steps do you need to start taking?

On the third day of the journey, Abraham saw the place in the distance. "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the young men. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back." Genesis chapter 22, verses 4-5 (17)

- ✓ "worship"- always involved a sacrifice through a burnt offering.
- ✓ "worship"- always involved acts of love.
- ✓ *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.*

Romans chapter 12, verse 1 (866)

- ✓ Worship is right, when God is pleased
- ✓ **SOMETIMES OBEDIENCE MEANS YOU GO IT ALONE.**
- ✓ And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew chapter 28, verse 20 (760)

So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the knife and the fire. As the two of them walked on together, Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son," Abraham replied. "We have the wood and the fire," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together. Genesis chapter 22, verses 6-8 (17)

- ❖ “*Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders*”- *Of whom does this remind us?*
- ❖ Despite not knowing how it would work out Abraham had confidence in God’s provision.
- ❖ God’s faithfulness in the past and his promises for the future is why I can live with confidence. Abraham believed God’s promises about Isaac’s future.
- ❖ **I CAN FULLY TRUST GOD WITH EVERYTHING!**

When they arrived at the place where God had told Abraham to go, he built an altar and placed the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac up and laid him on the altar over the wood. And Abraham took the knife and lifted it up to kill his son as a sacrifice to the LORD. At that moment the angel of the LORD shouted to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Yes," he answered. "I'm listening." "Lay down the knife," the angel said. "Do not hurt the boy in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld even your beloved son from me." Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering on the altar in place of his son. Genesis chapter 22, verses 9-13 (17)

- ❖ Notice how Abraham carries out everything God asks of him.
- ❖ **Partial Obedience = Disobedience**
- ❖ **Partial Faithfulness = Unfaithfulness**

Abraham named the place "The LORD Will Provide." This name has now become a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." Genesis chapter 22, verses 14 (17)

- As a Christ follower don’t underestimate how your faith and obedience are connected to God’s provision.
- If Abraham choose not obey he would have missed out on God’s provision.
- “*On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.*” – this is the same mountain that 1000’s of years later upon which Jesus Christ was sacrificed for our sins.