

# 15. Abraham's Faith is Tested (Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19)

## Connect

- What are you thankful for today?
- How have you seen God working in your life this past week?
- What difficulties are you experiencing in life? How may we help?
- How did you apply last session's discovery? What happened?
- With whom did you share last session's discovery with? What was their response?

## Instructions:

Please use the following steps to guide your discovery of God's truth in the passages below. Need to review the [Group Guidelines](#)?

## Discover

**Step 1**-Participants take turns reading sections of the passage (clarify new words/terms)

**Step 2**-One person reads the entire passage out loud while the rest listen

**Step 3**-A participant retells the passage in his/her own words (others add their thoughts)

## **Abraham's Faith is Tested (Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19)**

### **Genesis 21:1-7**

**1**The lord kept his word and did for Sarah exactly what he had promised. **2**She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would. **3**And Abraham named their son Isaac. **4**Eight days after Isaac was born, Abraham circumcised him as God had commanded. **5**Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. **6**And Sarah declared, "God has brought me laughter. All who hear about this will laugh with me. **7**Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse a baby? Yet I have given Abraham a son in his old age!"

### **Genesis 22:1-19**

**1**Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am." **2**"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you." **3**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 for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. **4**On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. **5**"Stay here with the

donkey,” Abraham told the servants. “The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back.” **6**So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac’s shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, **7**Isaac turned to Abraham and said, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “We have the fire and the wood,” the boy said, “but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?” **8**“God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham answered. And they both walked on together. **9**When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. **10**And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. **11**At that moment the angel of the lord called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes,” Abraham replied. “Here I am!” **12**“Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.” **13**Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. **14**Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means “the lord will provide”). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: “On the mountain of the lord it will be provided.” **15**Then the angel of the lord called again to Abraham from heaven. **16**“This is what the lord says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your son, your only son, I swear by my own name that **17**I will

**certainly bless you. I will multiply your descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will conquer the cities of their enemies. 18And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me.” 19Then they returned to the servants and traveled back to Beersheba, where Abraham continued to live.**

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## **Ask/Answer:**

- What does this passage mean?
- What do you like/not like about this passage?
- How does this passage change the way you see God/people?

## **Respond: If this is true...**

- How should it change the way you live?
- With whom will you share today's discovery?