

The Big Test! Abraham & Isaac

"The Bible Series" Week One

"God can do more through one man or woman who is 100% committed than He can do through 100 men who are 90% committed." (Page 50 of The Making of a Leader by Bobby Clinton)

Can God trust you to trust Him?

Abraham's Test Genesis 22 New Living Translation (NLT)

Sometime 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. ¹⁸ And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me."

Sunday, March 3, 2013

He gives you a test so he can also give you a _____.

Can God trust you to trust Him?

Will you trust God with what matters most to you?

Will you accept His sacrifice instead of your own?

Call to Action:

Consider being baptized as a symbol of your acceptance of God's sacrifice in your place. We'll have our next baptisms here on Easter Sunday, March 31st and we'd love to see you take that next step. Just email anyone on staff at Mike@PhosChurch.com, Meredith@PhosChurch.com, Laura@PhosChurch.com, Julie@PhosChurch.com or Jeff@PhosChurch.com. Or you can call the church line at 502.408.4731 to set up a time to discuss your next steps.