

Sermon Study Guide



When God Tests Our Faith

January 31, 2021 | Ptr. JP Lim

Reflect

What life's test do you think could be the worst test that anyone could go through?

Read and Discuss

Scripture

Genesis 22:1-19

Discussion Questions

Life's tests are a significant part of a Christian's life. The Old Testament patriarch Abraham went through a critical test in his life when God asked him, "How important am I to you?" Read Genesis 22:1-19 and discuss the four reasons given of why God tests our faith in Him:

1. ***God tests our faith so we can examine what truly occupies our life's priority and allegiance (v. 1-2).*** How did Abraham prove that he trusted God? What are some instances you know of where Abraham did not trust God? What ultimate test did God give to Abraham to assess how important God was to him? Did God know that Abraham would pass the test? Whose benefit was the test for? Share an experience in your life that tested your faith in God. What did the test reveal about your life's priority and allegiance? How did that test strengthen your relationship with God?
2. ***God tests our faith for us to demonstrate trust in Him by living out absolute obedience (v. 3-8).*** What was Abraham's response after God talked to him? If you were in Abraham's shoes, how would you have felt and responded? What is the correlation between trust and obedience? When do you find it difficult to obey God? How does knowing God solidify your faith in Him?
3. ***God tests our faith for us to authenticate our reverential fear and undivided love for Him. (v. 9-12).*** How far did Abraham trust God? What

did it speak about Abraham's faith and obedience? What does loving God wholeheartedly mean to you? If God would call you or your son or daughter to serve Him full time, would you obey God? Why or why not?

4. ***God tests our faith for us to experience Him as our Provider and Promise-keeper (v. 13-19).*** What was the reason Abraham called the place where his faith in God was tested "The-LORDd-Will-Provide?" Share how you have witnessed firsthand that God indeed rewards faithful obedience. As your faith is tested, would you allow yourself to gain strength and confidence in facing it because you believe that God will provide only what is best for you? How do you know that God would provide for your needs?

Respond

In Walk: Warren Wiersbe said, "Our faith is not really tested until God asks us to bear the unbearable, do what seems unreasonable, and expect what seems impossible." God certainly does not test your faith for His benefit, because He already knows you and your spiritual maturity. He tests you to let you know whether you believe what you think you believe. In times of testing, would you ask "What can I get out of this?" instead of "How can I get out of this?" Is there anything in your life that will hold you back from trusting God? What should you do about it?

In Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for the important reminder of why You would allow my faith in You to be tested. Thank You that this test is really for my own good to examine what truly occupies my priority and where I place my allegiance. Help me be obedient to You, Lord, and may this obedience be one that demonstrates my trust in You. May I live out respect and undivided love for You. Thank You that You are my provider and promise-keeper. In Jesus' Name. Amen.