

ABRAHAM'S

• TRUST IN GOD •

Genesis 22:1-14 | Rev. Mike Van Prooyen

DISCUSS

1. Abraham's name first appeared in Genesis 12:1-3. God made an unconditional covenant with Abraham that has three components: land, seed, and blessing. But after 24 years at age 99, the promise of a seed and blessing have not appeared yet. Do you know that the Savior of the world would be coming from Abraham's seed? Did it ever occur to you how miraculous God's plan of salvation is? When someone you know comes to know the Lord as his or her Savior, how do you feel?
2. After many years and assurances from God that He would fulfill His promise to Abraham, what strange thing did God ask Abraham to do in chapter 22:1-14? What could Abraham have felt when he heard and understood that God was asking him to sacrifice his son whom he and his wife waited for so long to come? If God is all-knowing (omniscient), why would He ask Abraham to sacrifice his son knowing already that Abraham would listen and obey God?
3. Discuss the following biblical principles on how you should trust God:

Trust God even when you don't understand (v. 22:1-3). God tested Abraham's faith, but he didn't know that. How did he respond to God's command and instructions even if he didn't understand it? Is your response to God's command immediate or is it something that you think over for quite a while before you listen and follow? Do you trust God even when you don't understand and see how it plays out as you move forward in obedience?

Even what you treasure belongs to God (v. 2-9). Do you think that it was unfair to expect Abraham to give up what was so precious to him? How is this situation of Abraham and Isaac similar to God the Father and Jesus Christ? What is the biggest difference in their situations? Are you able to trust God for yourself because you belong to Him?

God is able to keep His promises (v. 5). What makes this verse significant in showing Abraham's great faith in God? What truth do you think Abraham's great faith was based on? Read Hebrews 11: 17-19. From this passage, what insight into what was going in Abraham's mind tells you of how great Abraham's faith in God was? Do you believe that God can perform on His promises? How is this trust being manifested in your life? How did the story conclude and how is it parallel to what God did for us because of His promise to save us from our sin?

God is able to meet your needs (v. 13-14). It took obedience for Abraham to see the provision of God and witness how God works. Do you believe that the Lord will provide? Is He there as your Provider in the exact time you need it? Share how God has provided for your needs.

Abraham's righteousness is equivalent to our faith in Jesus (Romans 4:19-25). How is Abraham's righteousness equivalent to our faith in Jesus? What is the message of the gospel?

REFLECT

Looking at yourself and how you understand what trust in God is about, do you trust God even if you don't understand His command? Do you trust Him that everything you have, including your own life, belongs to Him? Do you trust Him that he can keep His promises and provide for your needs? Do you trust that you are indeed a child of God because of your faith in Jesus Christ for your salvation?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for the life of Abraham that serves as an example for me to follow. Lord, please instill in me what real faith in You is all about. May I fully trust You for everything in my life. In Jesus' precious name. Amen.