

# Small Group Bible Study

## Foreshadow Week 1

### Main Theme

This series explores how the Old Testament points to Jesus and the gospel long before His birth. In the story of Abraham and Isaac, we discover that what first looks like a story about faith is actually revealing God's plan for redemption that would ultimately be fulfilled through Jesus.

### Opening Prayer

God, open our eyes to see what You have been showing through Scripture all along. Help us understand Your Word and see how it points to Jesus. Amen.

### ICEBREAKER QUESTION

- What is something you once thought was just a random detail, but later realized was actually really important? What helped you see it differently?

### SCRIPTURE STUDY

#### Read Genesis 22:1-8

God asks Abraham to do something incredibly difficult. Isaac was the son God had promised, the fulfillment of the covenant. Yet Abraham responds in obedience and trust.

As the story unfolds, Isaac notices something missing from the sacrifice. Abraham's response becomes one of the most powerful statements in the entire story: "God himself will provide the lamb."

- What stands out to you about Abraham's response when God calls him?
- What details in this passage reveal Abraham's faith and trust in God?
- Why do you think Isaac asks about the lamb, and what does Abraham's answer reveal about his perspective?
- What does this story reveal about trusting God when we do not understand His plan?
- When have you had to trust God before you could see the outcome?

#### 2. Read Genesis 22:9-14

As Abraham prepares to sacrifice Isaac, God intervenes and provides a ram to take Isaac's place. The sacrifice that seemed unavoidable is replaced with a substitute.

Abraham names the place “The Lord Will Provide,” recognizing that God had made a way. This moment becomes one of the clearest foreshadows of the gospel in the Old Testament.

- What emotions or tension do you feel when reading this part of the story?
- What does the ram in the thicket represent in this moment?
- Why do you think Abraham named the place “The Lord Will Provide”?
- How does this moment demonstrate both God’s justice and mercy?
- What does this passage teach us about God providing what we cannot provide ourselves?

## **2. Read John 3:16; John 19:16-18**

The story of Abraham and Isaac points forward to a greater sacrifice. Just as Isaac was Abraham’s beloved son, Jesus is described as God’s one and only Son. But unlike Isaac, Jesus would not be spared.

Jesus carried the instrument of His own death, willingly submitting to the Father’s plan. What Abraham was asked to do but ultimately did not have to complete, God Himself would do for the sake of the world.

- What similarities do you notice between Isaac carrying the wood and Jesus carrying the cross?
- Why is it significant that Jesus willingly submitted to the Father’s plan?
- How does the connection between these stories deepen your understanding of the gospel?
- What does this reveal about the cost of our redemption?
- How does knowing God was willing to give His Son affect the way you understand His love?

## **SERMON RECAP QUESTIONS**

- What stood out most to you about the idea that the Old Testament has been pointing to Jesus the entire time?
- What detail in the story of Abraham and Isaac most clearly pointed you toward Jesus?
- How does seeing Jesus in the Old Testament strengthen your confidence that the entire Bible tells one unified story?
- If someone asked you to explain the gospel using the story of Abraham and Isaac, what would you say?

## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

- What part of your life is hardest to trust God with right now, and how does the story of Abraham remind you that God is faithful to provide?

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Jesus, thank You for being the Lamb who took our place. Help us trust Your plan and see Your presence throughout all of Scripture. Amen.