

Sermon #4: The God Who Calls - pt 4

31 May 2026

BREAKING THE ICE

- What impacted you most about this week's message?

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH

Read the Passage (Genesis 22:1-19)

1. What does verse 1 tell us about what God was doing to Abraham?
2. Read the following passages to learn why God tests us and what it can produce in us: Deuteronomy 8:2; James 1:2-4; Proverbs 17:3; Psalms 66:10
3. Now, consider what God asks of Abraham regarding this "test" (vs 2). (Reflect on Abraham's journey to this point as you consider God's command).
Note: It is important to remember the Ancient Near Eastern culture Abraham came from and the greater context of Genesis. The wickedness and rebellion of humanity at this point is great. The scattered nations are worshipping their own gods and many demand child-sacrifice as a normal part of worship. This would not have been a strange request at all to Abraham. However, consider how God uses this situation to reveal Himself as totally unique from the "gods" of the nations surrounding Abraham.
4. What do you learn about Abraham from the way he responds to God's request (vs 3-6)?
5. How does Abraham's response to his son, Isaac's, question hint at what Abraham hopes and believes about God (vs 7-8)?
6. Read verses 9-12. How do these verses reveal what Abraham's test was designed to discover?
7. What does this reveal about the importance and value God should have in our lives compared to anything else?
8. Once Abraham's reverence and faithfulness to God is revealed, what does God do for him in vs 13-14? What does this reveal about God?
9. What does God confirm for Abraham as a result of his faithfulness in this test? (vs 15-19)
10. Consider this whole story and discuss why God would have tested Abraham concerning his promised son, Isaac.

SEEING JESUS CHRIST

Abraham, a sinner, was asked to sacrifice his son for God, but then was provided a substitute. God, however, actually did sacrifice His own Son, even though Jesus was perfectly sinless. Abraham's example provided for us a type of what God would do for us through His One and only Son, Jesus. Jesus would bear our sin as a substitute for us, not a ram.

- **How does Jesus' substitutionary sacrifice for you move you to deeper faithfulness and trust in God when facing a test or trial?**

MAKING IT MATTER

1. What would be the equivalent sacrifice in your life to Abraham giving up Isaac?
2. How does clinging to or “demanding” that God protect this “Isaac” in your life reveal your heart toward God?
3. How do you need to fear/trust God that He is the One Who will truly provide what you need to follow Him?

PRAYING FOR GOD’S POWER

“This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him.” 1 John 5:14-15

When we pray according to God’s will it engages the power and guidance of God to bring about our transformation. If we apply these things in our own strength, then it is just legalistic obedience. But, when we humbly ask God to change us and empower us according to His will and by His Spirit, it becomes transformational AND it glorifies God.

1. Ask people to share one key, specific application from today’s lesson that they want God to bring about in their life. Then take time to pray for each other in these areas.