



The Grove

BIBLE CHAPEL

• TAMPA •

LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 04.13.25 Pulpit Curriculum

God Provides a Substitute: Abraham and the Ram in the Thicket

Main passage: Genesis 22

1) Abraham's Test

- Studying to ace the test:
 - Testing v tempting (James 1:13)- God tests to validate your faith; Satan tempts to destroy your faith.
 - Mental discipline (Heb. 11:19)- Apply biblical intelligence by going to the Scriptures.
 - God's Word- Get out of your feelings and into truth.
 - Warning to the analytical- Obey and submit to the Lord even when you don't understand.
 - Hard areas- God will often test you in the hard (sensitive) spot.
- A. How does Abraham's response to God's command challenge the way you understand the difference between being tested by God and being tempted by Satan?

- B. When faced with situations that don't make sense, do you trust God enough to obey Him? How do you let His Word guide your emotions more than the circumstances?

- C. What is one hard area in your life that God might be using to test your obedience and trust, and how can you take a step of faith this week to surrender it to Him?

2) Abraham's Faith

- Abraham displays a deep reliance and trust in God and His plan. Faith produces obedience. Abraham demonstrates radical faith: 1) We will worship and return to you (v. 5); 2) God will provide (v. 8, 14) (John 8:56); 3) Cords and ropes and binds Isaac to the altar (v. 9). Abraham's faith is an example to all believers, and he is the father of our faith (Acts 7; Rom. 4; Gal. 3:7, 18, 29; Gen. 15:6).
- D. What should Abraham's response teach us about the connection between faith and obedience? How does his confidence in God's provision shape our understanding of true trust in God? _____
- E. Do you genuinely believe that God will provide, even when the situation seems impossible? How are you resting in His character more than your understanding of the plan? _____



The Grove

BIBLE CHAPEL

• TAMPA •

3) Abraham's Obedience

Heb. 11:8-19; Rom. 1:5; 1 Thess. 1:3; James 2:22

- Sacrifice beyond obedience (v. 2)- God often asks us not only to obey but to sacrifice entirely for God and His purposes
 - Immediate response (v. 3)- Direct, complete, and total obedience that displays a heart dedicated to God and yieldedness to God
 - Obedience leads to blessing (v. 16-18)- When faith gives birth to obedience, that obedience and faithfulness then generate blessing.
- F. Do you have a heart that is willing to not only obey God but to sacrifice completely for Him— even when the cost is high? Confess the areas where your obedience is rooted in comfort and convenience rather than in trust and love for God.

G. What is one area where you can practice immediate, wholehearted obedience to God this week? _____

4) God Provides a Substitute

Is. 53:4-6; Jn 10:11; Rom. 3:23-26; Rom. 5:8; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pt 2:24; 1 Pt. 3:18

- Man is sinful, and death is required to pay for our treason. Forgiveness can only be achieved through blood being spilt. The sacrifices of the Old Testament were only a temporary fix. (Ezek. 18:4; Lev. 17:11; Heb. 9:22).
- Substitution- The Christian doctrine teaches that the only way for man to be free from his debt of sin is for a substitute to live and die and in his place.

H. How does the substitute provided for Isaac point forward to Jesus as our ultimate substitute? _____

5) Your Response

- God killed His Son to provide for our needed atonement. We cannot make our relationship with God right without the substitution of Christ. Jesus Christ is the Lamb who was slain to provide for our need for salvation.
- I. Does the reality of the weight of your sin and the depth of God's love shown through His substitution move your heart to gratitude, humility, and worship? Have you responded to God's substitution? List some ways you are thankful or may be convicted.

J. How can you live in response to the truth that Jesus became your substitute? How do you behold Jesus Christ? _____
