

Genesis 22

1. After these things. Had to go through some things to get to this point.
 - a. God gives him a test. What is the purpose of such tests?
 - b. God won't give you a test He hasn't prepared you for in advance.
 - c. Test designed to prove. Difference between testing from God and temptation from the enemy.
 - d. Abraham's response is powerful.....whatever He has for Abraham, his response is I'm ready and available.
 - e. Many of us would rather avoid the test phase of the journey.
 - f. This story should encourage us in our own tests. How? Tests are easy when you already know the answers (application, my college example).
2. A lot of symbolism in this story.
 - a. Isaac is a type of Christ, the child of promise
 - b. Moriah, commentary states this is a mountain range around Jerusalem....Calvary is the highest peak.
 - c. The place is chosen by God.
 - d. Observations, applications
 - i. He calls Abraham to go higher (purpose of the test).
 - ii. When he gets there, he will receive further instructions.
 - iii. There is a higher place He wants us to be, but we have to be willing to sacrifice to get there.
3. Took two witnesses with him. He didn't go alone.
 - a. Notice he took what he needed for when he got there, wood. He gathered it before he got there. Boy you guys better get this one!!!
 - b. Remember, he's on his way to sacrifice to the Lord.
 - c. Brings Isaac along too.....never leave home without the promises.
 - d. Abraham's response to bad news or the test.
 - i. Rose up.
 - ii. Took what he needed.
 - iii. Obeyed the Word
 - e. Don't be surprised if after your break through you face another test. But you are ready and equipped to pass it. 1 Cor 10:13.
4. 3 day journey when he sees the place in the distance.
 - a. Wasn't there yet but he could see it in the future or distance. Have to look up from where you are now to see it.
 - b. Still not there yet....but closer
 - c. Moriah – is the preparation and path you take to get to the far off place. God is not being mean, He is preparing and providing and revealing.
5. Left two behind. Some who started the trip may not be with you now.
 - a. Let go of any distractions, may need to leave some people/things behind in order to worship. Can't minister to them further until you get there first.
 - b. One purpose of going higher in worship is to go back to those people left behind!
 - c. Whatever he left behind, he didn't need any way to make it; but held on to the promise.
 - d. What he needed to get started, he didn't need in order to finish.

- e. Speaks faith which is a critical tool. Easier to do when it is connected to the promise... "we".
 - i. We're coming back from this. Man that might preach!!!
6. A picture of Calvary.
 - a. Father lays the burden upon the Son.
 - b. Isaac willingly carries the wood/cross up the hill.....he's not alone though. His Father is with him. Application?
 - c. Notice they are also got some fire now and they are taking that with them as well, before they get there. Wood = cross, fire = Holy Spirit??? Just a thought.
7. Isaac is about 37 we think, old enough to know that something they need is missing.
 - a. He couldn't see the Lamb, knew it was missing. Why could he not see the Lamb yet?
 - b. Really can't worship unless you have the Lamb...critical part of the process.
 - c. Application.....a lot. People today still try and worship without involving the Lamb.
8. Abraham speaks faith. God will provide. He speaks it. What will He provide? Application?
 - a. After speaking faith, the word, they both continue to move forward.
 - b. You can keep going if you know and believe that God will provide.
 - c. He didn't know how God would do it, just that He would do it.
9. Despite this test, he prepares an altar for worship.
 - a. Isaac a willing sacrifice.
 - b. Worship rather than complain.
 - c. Every time he did what God required, he got closer to where God wanted him to be.
 - d. Laid the wood in order for worship. Application, you can do something good out of order or incorrectly.
10. Stretched his hands in obedience. He didn't hold back in order to get God's best.
11. God shows up just in time. Never late.
12. Fear and respect for God, willing to give back what God blessed him with.
 - a. Remember it was only a test. God didn't want to take Isaac, just wanted to see if he would give him up. God let him keep it and gave him more.
13. After the trial, looks up and sees something he never saw before. Deeper revelation.
 - a. A substitute to take the place of his son.
 - b. Looking back but really looking into the future.
 - c. God supplies, you just need to get there.
 - d. When he got to the place and met God, he met the ram. He didn't meet the ram until he met God.
 - e. God supplies, you just get there.
 - f. Purpose of test....believe that God will provide. Isaac was bound, miracle was tied up but keep reading because in the end, it was released. Is your Isaac bound?
14. You'll see it on this mount. He'll be seen in the mount. Got there and got a deeper revelation.
15. Confirmation. If we are his seed, we should be enjoying the promises.
16. Results of his obedience and reward for not holding back. Don't hold back.
 - a. The place must be important.
 - b. Any place else, and he would have missed it. How did he find himself in this place? Application.
17. Confirmation again of a greater blessing and promises.
18. Obedience to the voice of God has its rewards. What is God telling you/us?
19. He returned to the people who were waiting for him. Application.
 - a. Can you see Jesus in it (John 8:53-59)

20. Abraham's relatives start enjoying the blessings; he experiences the start of increase.

Final points:

Easier to obey when we believe God will provide.

He won't ask you to do something that you're not already prepared to accomplish. You get the answers in advance.

Every time he obeyed, he got closer to where God reveals and provides.