

Lesson #15--ABRAHAM'S TEST

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 22:1-19

TO HELP US STUDY:

1. Where did God tell Abraham to take Isaac? _____
2. What did he tell Abraham to do? _____
3. Who and what did Abraham take with him? _____
4. What question did Isaac ask? _____
5. Abraham answered? _____
6. After Abraham prepared the altar, what did he do to Isaac? _____
7. As Abraham raised his knife to kill his son, what happened? _____
8. Was God pleased with Abraham? _____ Why? _____
9. Where did Abraham find a sacrifice? _____
10. How can we show our trust in God? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: Young ones - James 2:26, "Faith apart from works is dead."
Older ones - James 2:21-23

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT: James in his New Testament book used this story to illustrate his teaching. What truth was he teaching? In a two-page paper on "My Faith" tell what the truth is and how it applies in actual practice in your life.

TO HELP PARENTS TEACH: TECHNIQUES OF GOOD STORYTELLING --#3

If you have been telling these Bible stories to pre-school children, especially to two-to-four-year-old children, you are fully aware of what a challenging task this is. How do you hold their attention long enough to tell a complete story? How do you get the ideas across to their little minds with their limited experience and verbal ability? It can be done. But doing it takes some special skill and insight.

To begin with, trim out all the difficult names of people and places. Instead of saying that Abraham took Isaac to Moriah, tell your very young child that Abraham took his son to a mountain far away from home.

Concentrate on things the child knows in his own experience. This means spending very little time on abstract ideas and most of your time on the physical details of the story. Use a little imagination and describe the donkey, his heavy load of wood, the dusty road, the rocky mountain, the coarse and cruel ropes that bound Isaac's hands and feet. If the story happens to mention "animals," get very specific and talk about the cows and sheep and camels and goats and donkeys. This is a world that delights an average three-year-old. If you can show the child a Bible story book with good pictures, you have an added hold on the child's mind and interest. Pictures tell a child more than all our words.

FOR ADULT STUDY: James 2:14-26; Romans 4; Galatians 5:6; Hebrews 11; Revelation 2:19; 14:13; Matthew 5:47-48