



UPSTATE GROUP GUIDE

Through the Bible | *Jan. 27 - Feb. 2* | *Genesis 22:1-19*

Things to Know

Equipping U - Simpsonville

January 8-May 7 - [Click Here to Register!](#)

Equipping U - Haywood

January 8-May 7 - [Click Here to Register!](#)

Equipping U - Anderson

January 15-April 30 - [Click Here to Register!](#)

Studying God's Word *In Community*

*Reminder. Seek to understand and apply God's word, **not** rehash the sermon.*

Read

Read Genesis 22:1-19 and make observations about the text.

- What is God teaching us in the passage?
 - What does this reveal about who God is, what God has done, and how I should respond?
 - Which part of the text was most meaningful to you and why?
 - What do you need help understanding about this passage?
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Sermon Recap

- Genesis 22 teaches us how to read the Bible primarily as the revelation of Jesus Christ, not a moral guidebook. –This is a book pointing to Jesus! Yes, it offers moral guidance along the way, but it is primarily the revelation of Christ. If we forget this, stories like this one are really strange, distant, and hard to understand.
 - God’s plan to redeem, bless, and save humanity is only accomplished by the sacrifice of a son.
 - Inevitably, faith leads to obedience to God and action for God, even when it is exceptionally difficult to do so. We know this is true because “faith without works is dead.”
 - The providence of God means that everything works according to God's plan at all times, even if we don’t understand anything. This means that you can live with confidence, knowing that even if everything seems to be going wrong in your life, everything is going exactly right according to God's plan.
 - The Bible is written to show us Jesus. SO...The most significant question you must answer in your life is simple: Do you see him?
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Discussion Questions

1. The Testing of Abraham (Genesis 22:1-2)

- **Question: Why do you think God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice Isaac, and how does this foreshadow God’s plan of salvation through Christ?**
(Consider how Isaac, the promised son, parallels Jesus, the ultimate promised Son.)

2. Abraham’s Obedience (Genesis 22:3-6)

- **Question: What does Abraham’s immediate obedience teach us about faith in God’s character, even when His commands seem impossible to understand?**
(Reflect on how Abraham trusted God to provide, even as he carried out a difficult command.)

3. God’s Provision of the Substitute (Genesis 22:7-8, 13-14)

- **Question: When Isaac asked about the lamb for the offering, Abraham replied, “God will provide for himself the lamb.” How does this moment point forward to Christ as the Lamb of God?**

(Discuss the significance of God providing a ram as a substitute and how it illustrates the doctrine of substitutionary atonement.)

4. The Covenant and Blessing (Genesis 22:15-18)

- **Question:** How does God’s reaffirmation of His covenant with Abraham after this act of obedience point to the fulfillment of the promise in Christ?
(Explore how the promise of “offspring” and blessing for all nations connects to the gospel and Christ’s work.)

5. Worship and Trust in God’s Providence (Genesis 22:19)

- **Question:** Abraham named the place “The Lord Will Provide.” How can we cultivate a deeper trust in God’s providence in our lives, especially when faced with difficult trials?
(Consider how Abraham’s faith can encourage us to trust God’s ultimate plan, even when it involves sacrifice or waiting.)

Scripture

Genesis 22:1-19

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 2 He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. 5 Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy[a] will go over there and worship and come again to you.” 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” 8 Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

Genesis 22:1-19

9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide";[b] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." [c]

15 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his [d] enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." 19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

Living on Mission In Community

Before you close the group, answer this question:

How is God leading me to respond to His Word this week?

This is one of the most challenging texts in all of scripture. In the sacrifice of Isaac, we see God's providence highlighted but not before we see Abraham's faith tested. Abraham was obedient to God even when he couldn't see the end result. Where is God calling you to be obedient despite uncertainty?

Optional Breakout Questions

Consider making time at the end of the group to break out into groups of 2-4 (keep them gender specific). Have them answer these three questions about their weeks:

1. How did you feed yourself?
 - (What have you been doing to feed your spiritual life, and how is it going?)
2. How did you feed others?
 - (How did you share the gospel or gospel truth with someone this week?)
3. How did you feed your flesh?
 - (What sins did you struggle with this week? How can your friends hold you accountable?)

Leader Resources

If you are a leader and would like extra resources or a full curriculum guide, [CLICK HERE](#).

