




MAYFAIRKIDS

JESUS IS THE LAMB GOD HAS PROVIDED

“WHO IS JESUS?” FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 5, September 15



JESUS IS THE LAMB GOD HAS PROVIDED

“Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

JOHN 1:29B

For years, Abraham and Sarah waited, prayed, and hoped. At last, God blessed them with a son. They named him Isaac, which means “he laughs.” Oh, the laughter! First laughter of disbelief that such an old man and old woman could have a son, but then laughter of joy and thanksgiving! Isaac was the son of the promise, the son who would make Abraham the father of many nations. Finally God’s promises seemed to be setting into motion. Abraham probably gazed at the stars every night and thought about his future grandchildren and the blessings they were promised.

Then God did something surprising: he tested Abraham.

“Abraham!” God spoke.

“Here I am,” Abraham replied.

“Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will show you” (Genesis 22:2).

Now Abraham had built many altars and burned many sacrifices to worship God. But sacrifice his son? His only son? The son of the promise?

It must have seemed unthinkable, but Abraham reasoned that if Isaac did die, God could raise him from the dead (Hebrews 11:19). Talk about incredible faith!

The next morning Abraham got up early and obediently headed out on a three-day journey to the mountain with his dear son Isaac. When they reached Moriah, he told his servants to stay with the donkey while he and Isaac went up to worship, saying they would be back.

Abraham put the wood on Isaac's back and they started climbing.

"Father," Isaac asked, "where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

"God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son" (Genesis 22:8).

They continued on until they reached the place God had told him about. Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood. Still no lamb.

Then Abraham bound Isaac and laid him on the altar. Isaac, being much younger and stronger than his

father, probably could have resisted him, but that's not what we see in the Bible. Instead, he obediently submitted to his father's will.

Abraham took the knife and raised it to slay his son.

"Abraham! Abraham!" the angel of the Lord called out. "Do not lay a hand on the boy! Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son" (22:12).

What relief they must have felt! And nearby there was a ram, caught by its horns in the thicket. A substitute—a merciful substitute! Abraham grabbed the ram and sacrificed it on the altar instead of his son. Then Abraham named the place "The Lord Will Provide."

The Lord had provided a ram to sacrifice instead of Isaac. Isaac could live.

Many years later God's Son, his only Son, would carry the wood of the cross on his back—the cross that would become a place of sacrifice. He would do it willingly, as Isaac did. Only God would not spare him as he spared Isaac. There would be no ram in the thicket, no other way to atone but through the flesh of God himself. Jesus is the lamb that Abraham believed God would provide, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.



REFLECT

1. How many similarities can you find between the story of Abraham and Isaac and the death of Jesus?
2. What is one major difference between the story of Abraham and the death of Jesus? See Matthew 26:53 and Romans 8:32.
3. Read John 1:29. What do you think the people of Jesus's day thought when they heard this?
4. What did Abraham name the mountain, and what was/is the significance of that name?



PRESCHOOL QUESTIONS:

1. "Ram" is the name for a male sheep. Can you think of a name of Jesus that is similar? [Hint: Read John 1:29]
2. Isaac was not killed in this story. How is this different from the story of Jesus on the cross?
3. Abraham named the mountain "The Lord Will Provide." What does it mean to provide? Who did God provide to take away our sins?

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 22:1-19; HEBREWS 11:17-19

KEY VERSE JOHN 1:29B