

- I. The Faith of Abraham
  - A. In Genesis 22:5-8, why is Abraham so confident that he and Isaac would both return if Abraham intends to kill Isaac?
  - B. Why would God want Abraham to kill Isaac, especially when later in the OT we find out that God hates child sacrifice? Why is Abraham lauded for being willing to kill his own son (because isn't that usually a bad thing)?
  - C. In what ways does God test us? How can we encourage faith in each other during these trials?
- II. Our faith
  - A. What are the promises of God for us, today? How does the faith today differ from Abraham's faith, and how is it the same?
  - B. How do we nurture genuine faith in ourselves and in others? How can we recognize "junk" faith before crisis causes it to fail?
  - C. What sacrifices does God require of us today? How can we pursue these things together?
- III. Whispering Jesus' Name
  - A. Read 22:14. Why is it significant that Abraham and Isaac travel to the same mountains where Jesus would later be crucified? Why do so many of the powerful acts of God occur in a single place in the world?
  - B. When we read verses 16-18, we remember that God did not withhold his only Son from us. Why does Jesus' life so closely parallel so much of the Old Testament—what is the significance?
  - C. In what ways can we encourage each other to read more of the Old Testament as we go through this series?