

ABRAHAM

“God Tests Abraham”

Series Objective

Students will:

- Know that we can trust God
- Understand that we should be patient as we wait for God to work out his plan in his time
- Recognize that God is able to overcome any obstacles that seem to get in the way of his promises
- Know that God has a plan and is in the process of carrying it out Series

Theme Verse:

“Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God...”

Deuteronomy 7:9

Lesson Objective

Students will:

- Learn that God sometimes asks us to do difficult things
- Know that God delights in obedient people
- Conclude that we must be prepared to obey whatever God asks of us

Lesson Passage: Genesis 22:1-18

Materials Needed: Frosted Mini-Wheats, pretzel sticks, picture of lamb, Hot Potato

Lesson Plan:

The Story: Read Genesis 22:1-18

Talking Points:

- How did God test Abraham? (Asked him to sacrifice Isaac)
- What made this a difficult test? (Isaac was Abraham’s only son, the son God had promised him in his old age)
- What did God mean by “sacrifice”? (Typically was a burnt offering of an animal, but here it would mean death to Isaac and his body being burnt on an altar, which is like a campfire)
- Did Abraham do what God asked him to do? (He started to do it)
- How did Abraham prepare for the sacrifice? (Cut wood, got the fire and servants, made a three day trip to the place of sacrifice, he tied Isaac up and laid him on the altar, prepared to kill him with the knife)
- Did Abraham sacrifice Isaac? (No)
- Why not? (An Angel of the Lord stopped him)
- Why did the Angel say Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac? (Because Abraham feared God)

- Did Abraham and Isaac still worship through sacrifice? (Yes)
- How? (God provided a Ram stuck in the brush, so they sacrificed the Ram in worship of God)
- What did Abraham name the place? (“The Lord Will Provide”)
- Why do you think he named the place “The Lord Will Provide”?
- What is Abraham’s reward from God for being willing to give everything to God? (Vs. 15-18)

The Story Retold:

- Make an “altar” using shredded wheat, pretzel sticks, and a picture of a lamb.
- Explain that in today’s day, we do not sacrifice to God by slaughtering an animal, because Jesus became our sacrificial lamb when he died on the cross for our sins.
- However, we do think about how we can give things up, or “sacrifice” them so that we can be closer to God.
- Discuss things you could give up or sacrifice to become closer to God.
- Use this time to talk about the following:
 - God always keeps His promises when we are faithful, even if it's not the way or the timing we expect.
 - Put God first and everything will work out in the long run.
 - We are never alone in our trials. God is always there.
 - Be a quick obey-er and you'll be blessed.

The Story and Me:

Hot Potato:

- Let the students stand in a circle and pass an object around the group.
- When someone says, "stop", the one holding the object must be able to quote the memory verse.
- If unable they must sit out the rest of the game.