

# Main Lesson, Activity & Discussion Questions

Ages 5–11 | Read-Aloud Lesson | Scripture-Centered | Apologetics-Rich | Christ-Centered

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## LESSON OVERVIEW

**Week #:** 10

**Date:** March 8, 2026

**Lesson Title:** Isaac & God's Faithfulness

**Primary Scripture Passage(s):** Genesis 22:1–19

**Bible Timeline Placement:** After God gives Abraham the promised son Isaac, before the birth of Jacob and Esau.

**Big Idea:** God is faithful and will always provide what we truly need.

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## MEMORY VERSE

*"So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, 'On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.'" Genesis 22:14*

**Explanation:** Abraham learned that God sees our need and provides at just the right time.

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## SETTING THE SCENE (INTRODUCTION)

Before we begin today's lesson, let's remember what the Bible is.

The Bible is God's true and trustworthy Word. It is not just one book. It is made up of 66 books. It was written by more than 40 different human authors. It was written over about 1,500 years. It was written across three continents — Asia, Africa, and Europe.

And yet, even though it was written by many authors, over many years, in many places, it tells one unified account. It does not contradict itself.

A contradiction is when one statement says something is true, and another statement says the exact opposite is true. For example, if one sentence said, "The sky is blue," and another sentence said, "The sky is not blue at all," that would be a contradiction.

But the Bible does not do that. From Genesis to Revelation, it tells one consistent, connected account about who God is and how He rescues sinners through Jesus.

That is why we can trust it. This is not just an old book. This is God's Holy Word.

Now, let's open God's Word and remember what He has already done. In Genesis 12:2–3, God promised Abraham that He would bless him and that all nations on earth would be blessed through him. Years passed. Abraham and Sarah waited a very long time. Then Genesis 21:1 tells us, "Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised." God kept His promise and gave them a son named Isaac.

Isaac was not just any son. He was the promised son. God had said in Genesis 21:12, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." That means God's big rescue plan for the world would come through Isaac's family.

Now we come to Genesis 22. What happens next is real history. It is part of God's true and trustworthy Word.

Genesis 22:1 begins this way: "Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' 'Here I am,' he replied."

A test is not meant to hurt someone. A test shows what is really inside the heart. God already knew Abraham trusted Him. But this moment would make Abraham's faith clear and strong.

Then God said something very hard. In Genesis 22:2 we read, "Then God said, '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 a mountain I will show you.'"

Isaac was Abraham's beloved son. God even says, "whom you love." This shows us that God understood how much Abraham loved Isaac.

What would Abraham do?

Genesis 22:3 tells us, "Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey." He did not argue. He did not delay. He obeyed. That does not mean this was easy. It means Abraham trusted God's character more than his own understanding.

For three days they traveled. Imagine the quiet. Imagine Abraham thinking about God's promises. God had promised descendants through Isaac. How could that happen if Isaac died?

The Bible helps us understand. Hebrews 11:17–19 says Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead. Abraham believed that if God had to, He could bring Isaac back to life. That is how much he trusted God's promise.

When they reached the place, Genesis 22:6 says, "Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife."

Isaac carried the wood up the mountain.

Then Isaac asked a question. In Genesis 22:7 he said, "The fire and wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

That is a wise question.

Listen carefully to Abraham's answer in Genesis 22:8: "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son."

Abraham did not know how. But he knew who. God Himself would provide.

They reached the top. Abraham built the altar. He arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar.

This was the moment of testing.

Genesis 22:10–11 says, "Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, 'Abraham! Abraham!' 'Here I am,' he replied."

God stopped him.

Genesis 22:12 says, "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."

God never intended Isaac to die. This was a test of trust.

Then comes one of the most important moments in the Bible.

Genesis 22:13 says, "Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son."

Instead of his son.

That word "instead" is very important. The ram took Isaac's place. The ram died so Isaac could live.

Genesis 22:14 says, "So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide."

God provided a substitute.

Then God repeated His promise. In Genesis 22:17–18 God said, "I will surely bless you... and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed."

God's promise was still secure. God was still faithful.

Children, this event happened on Mount Moriah. Many years later, the temple in Jerusalem would be built there (2 Chronicles 3:1). And many years after that, near that same place, God would provide another sacrifice.

John 3:16 tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

In Genesis 22, Abraham did not have to give his son.

But at the cross, God the Father did give His Son.

Romans 8:32 says, "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all..."

Just as the ram died instead of Isaac, Jesus died instead of us.

Isaac carried the wood up the mountain. John 19:17 tells us Jesus carried His own cross.

Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb." In John 1:29, John the Baptist said about Jesus, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Genesis 22 points us forward to Jesus our Savior.

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## WHY WE CAN TRUST THIS ACCOUNT

The Bible treats Abraham and Isaac as real historical people. Hebrews 11 and James 2 both refer to this event as true history.

The location, Mount Moriah, is connected to a real place in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 3:1). This is not a made-up story. It is anchored in real geography.

Most importantly, God's promises before and after this event remain consistent. Genesis 12, 15, 17, 21, and 22 all show one unified plan. The Bible tells one connected account from beginning to end.

We believe this because God tells us in His Word.

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## WHAT THIS SHOWS US ABOUT JESUS

Isaac was a beloved son. Jesus is the beloved Son of God (Matthew 3:17).

A substitute was provided. Jesus is our substitute (2 Corinthians 5:21).

God kept His promise to bless all nations through Abraham's offspring. Galatians 3:16 explains that this offspring is Christ.

Jesus is our Savior. He died and rose again so we can be forgiven and have eternal life.

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## GOD REVEALED AS TRINITY

In this passage we see God the Father commanding and providing.

We see a picture that points to God the Son, who would one day be the true Lamb.

The Holy Spirit helps people trust and obey God (Galatians 5:22–23).

**We say it clearly: God is one God in three Persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

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## LIFE APPLICATION

Sometimes God asks us to trust Him when we do not understand everything.

We may not be asked to climb a mountain like Abraham, but we are asked to obey, tell the truth, forgive others, and trust Jesus.

Because God provided Jesus for us, we can trust Him with our whole lives.

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## DEFENDING THE TRUTH

**Question a child might ask: Why would God ask Abraham to do something so hard?**

Answer: Genesis 22:1 says God tested Abraham. A test shows trust. God stopped Abraham before Isaac was harmed (Genesis 22:12). God never approves of child sacrifice (Deuteronomy 12:31). This was a unique test to show faith and to point forward to Jesus.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**1. What did Abraham say when Isaac asked where the lamb was?**

**Answer:** "God himself will provide the lamb." (Genesis 22:8)

**2. Who did God provide instead of Isaac?**

**Answer:** A ram caught in a thicket (Genesis 22:13).

**3. How does this story point to Jesus?**

**Answer:** Just as the ram died instead of Isaac, Jesus died instead of us.

### Optional Deeper Question:

**Why is it important that God keeps His promises?**

**Answer:** Because we can trust Him with our lives and our future.

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## HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

**Purpose:** To help children understand substitution and God's provision.

**Type:** Simple object lesson.

**Supplies:** Two small paper hearts per child, tape.

### Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Write "My Sin" on one heart.
2. Write "Jesus" on the other heart.
3. Hold up the "My Sin" heart and explain that sin separates us from God.
4. Place the "Jesus" heart over it and explain that Jesus takes our place.
5. Tape the "Jesus" heart over "My Sin" to show substitution.

*Scripture Connection: 2 Corinthians 5:21 — "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us."*

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## TEACHER CLOSING

Read Genesis 22:14 again aloud to the children:

*"So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, 'On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.'" Genesis 22:14*

Remind the children: God provided a ram for Isaac. God provided Jesus for us. Jesus loves you deeply. You can trust Him. He is faithful. He is our Savior.