

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION
Called & Chosen: Abraham - Genesis 22:1-19 - "A Divine Test"

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. As you consider Genesis 22:1-19 and God's testing of Abraham, does it lead you think of any ways/times that God has tested you?
What have those tests consisted of, and how were you able to identify that it was the Lord Himself testing you?
How do you feel you handled these tests and did the Lord use them to teach and grow you in any ways? If so, how?
Did the experience lead you to have greater confidence in God's faithfulness/goodness again in the future or not?
Why do you think that was the case (either it DID or DIDN'T lead you to have greater confidence in the Lord?)
3. Read Hebrews 11:17-19
How does Hebrews 11 (particularly verses 17-19) provide a divine commentary for the narrative recorded in Genesis 22?
Do these verses help in understanding Abraham's response to God's command (which was the test itself)?
Do you learn anything about how we ought to respond to God's commands/tests from this example?
4. How does God's testing of Abraham (and of us) differ from God tempting us in some way?
How can we confidently discern the difference between a test from God and a temptation which is NOT from God?
Why do you think God chose THIS test for Abraham and not some other option (reread the passage carefully).
5. I mentioned that God intentionally orchestrates these events to point to the future; how does this story foreshadow future events?
How do the consequences of Abraham's actions ultimately result in blessing for all of us (as stated in this passage)?
What is the danger in missing the connection between this story and the gift of God in the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus?
6. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
 1. **God reveals His faithfulness in this test!**
God is always faithful; even when testing us!
 2. **This test shows & grows Abraham's faith!**
God's tests reveal our faith and CAN grow us!
 3. **To pass this test, Abraham must trust God!**
When God tests us, trust in Him is the answer!
 4. **God provides a ram to substitute for Isaac!**
God provides a substitute for us all in Jesus!
 5. **This event clearly points to Jesus' sacrifice!**
Don't overlook this undeniable connection!