

Trusting God's Promises Gen 22

¹ Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." ¹² And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,

¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

2 Peter 1:3-4 His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Key Point: A thriving and victorious spiritual life comes from fully trusting God's promises, which leads to full obedience and absolute surrender to Him regardless of circumstances.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What is something you have had to trust, without knowing how it would turn out?

Reflect, Think, & Share: Read through the key scriptures and share any observations or questions with the group.

- What were the four amazing promises that God made to Abraham? (Gen. 12:2-3, Gen. 15:4, 18, Gen. 17:6, Gen. 21:12)
- Underline the times when God used the phrase "your only son" in Genesis 22. Why do you think He mentions this three times here?
- When you think about a "thriving" spiritual life, why do you think it is important to correctly understand God's promises?
- Kyle indicated that he thought that trusting God's promises is the foundation for obedience and surrender. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- What do each of the following passages give us as promises?
Proverbs 3:5-6
Isaiah 41:10
Hebrews 13:5
Philippians 4:6-7
Mark 11:24
Romans 6:23
Acts 16:30-31
2 Corinthians 5:17
Philippians 1:6
Matthew 6:26
Hebrews 6:18-19
Romans 8:28
2 Corinthians 4:17-18
- Like Peter in Matthew 14, we often "take our eyes off" God's promises. What are the "winds and waves" that tend to distract or discourage you?
- If it is true that God-dependence begins where self-dependence ends, what does this look like in everyday life?
- What is one promise of God you need to actively cling to in your current situation? How can you remind yourself of it this week?

Start doing: Memorize the promise you need for this season of life and rehearse it daily.

Prayer: Pray for deeper trust in God's promises. Do you have any specific decisions or areas of life where you could use prayer from others asking God to guide you? If you feel comfortable, share these issues with your study group so that they can pray with you and for you.

-
-