



The Offering

Justin Worden – January 14, 2009
 Tupos SM - Wednesday Night Live

Gen. 22:1-3, 9-14 = "Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, 'In the mount of the LORD it will be provided.'" (v. 14, NASB)

I. The Offerer = Abraham (vv.1-3)

a. Getting To Know Abraham

- i. Patience was his virtue = father at 100 (Gen. 17:17)
- ii. Particular to God (special) = tested by God (v.1)
- iii. Personally knew God = the One True God
 - 1. "The term 'God' includes the definite article. This is a way of indicating that the 'Genuine Deity' or the 'True God' is making these demands, not a false god or a demon" (Compact Bible Comm, pg. 20).



b. Understanding His Faithfulness

- i. Heard God's voice (v.1)
- ii. Willing to make the ultimate offering (v.2)
- iii. Abraham went, no questions asked (v.3)

II. The Offering = Isaac (vv.9-10)

a. The Arrival to the Offering

- i. Abraham arrives & get's ready (he's committed to it)
- ii. He was willing to make the sacrifice
 - 1. The sacrifice of his own beloved son (sound familiar?)

b. The Willingness of the Offering

- i. How would you feel if you were Isaac?

- ii. Isaac is hesitant & curious at first
 - 1. "Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together." (Gen 22:7-8, NLT)

iii. Isaac was still willing and faithful to his dad / Dad

c. The Definition of an Offering

- i. "Offer" defined = "to present, to put forward"
- ii. "Offering" defined = "a gift, submission"
- iii. A true offering is not putting money in the "offering plate"; it's putting yourself... your life in there!
- iv. Making a sacrifice = a living sacrifice!
 - 1. "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him." (Roman 12:1, Message)



d. The Worship of the Offering

- i. "Offering" by Third Day (2003)

Magnificent Holy Father Of all the things You have created Who am I that You should suffer The only thing that I can give You	I stand in awe of all I see But still You choose to think of me Your very life to set me free Is the life You gave to me
This is my offering, dear Lord And I will give You my life Because You gave Your life for me	This is my offering to You, God For it's all I have to give
I stand before You at this altar I may not have much I can offer This is my offering...	So many have given You more Yet what I have is truly Yours

III. The Offered = Jesus Christ (vv.11-14)

a. The "Almost" Ultimate Sacrifice

- i. God stopped Abraham's hand
- ii. Promise made earlier - Gen. 15:1 = "...the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." (NASB)

b. Abraham Feared the Lord (v.12b)

- i. Not scared of God... revered God! (fear = reverence)

c. But Christ Went All the Way

- i. ...to the Cross!
- ii. God gave His one & only Son (as an offering to us!)

Two adventurous teenage boys who were good friends were out spelunking (exploring caves) when they found what appeared to be huge bear tracks deep inside a long, cavernous tunnel. They bravely decided to keep going, but they moved ahead slowly and with extreme caution, keeping their eyes and ears open in case they actually encountered a bear.

Suddenly, from the darkness behind a rock jumped the biggest, meanest-looking grizzly bear they had ever seen. Standing squarely in front of them, the bear beat on his chest and roared like a lion, sending a terrible sound echoing off the walls of the cave. Scared to death, the two boys decided they had better run for their lives. They immediately turned to make a dash for daylight.

Just then, one of the boys dropped to the floor and started untying his hiking boots. He whipped the boots off, jammed on his running shoes, and began tying the laces.

His exasperated friend yelled at him, "Come on, man! Let's get out of here! Why in the world are you changing shoes? We don't have much of a chance of outrunning that bear anyway!"

Lunging to his feet and starting to run, the first boy replied, "I don't have to outrun the bear. All I have to do is outrun you."

Do you ever feel like your friends treat you like bear bait? When the going gets rough, they bail out on you. They remain friends with you until it costs them something—then they ditch you.

One of the great things about having Christ as your friend is knowing that he will never leave you nor forsake you. (See Matthew 28:20 and Hebrews 13:5.) He is the friend who is not only willing to lay down his life for you, but he has done exactly that. "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). **[The Bear in the Cave, Hot Illustrations 1.0]**

d. "The Lord Will Provide"

- i. Just as He provided the ram in place of Isaac (v.13)
- ii. He provided Christ (the sacrifice) in place of our sins
- iii. **Gen. 22:14 = "Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided." (NASB)**
- iv. What will you offer to Christ?
 - 1. Just a thought? A few bucks? A Sunday?
 - 2. Or your life & your faithfulness to serve Him in 2009 and beyond?



Related music = "Offering" (*Offerings II: A Worship Album* by Third Day, 2003)

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Small Group Life Application Sheet



Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Lesson Theme: Sacrifice / Trust

Lesson Objective: Dig deeper into the "offering of Isaac" and understand how are lives are to be an offering to God as well.

Lesson Text: **Gen. 22:1-3, 9-14** = "Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided." (v. 14, NASB)

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you believe the most important part of the story of Abraham offering his son Isaac is?
2. Who went all the way and made a sacrifice on your behalf?
3. What will you offer to God tonight (sacrificing it to Him)?

Prayer Time: Seek His face about what you need to "offer" up to Him, to get out of your live. Allow Him to make you a pleasing sacrifice.