

The Ultimate Sacrifice.

Opening and welcome.

Previous learnings.

Points: Noah's Flood - God saves Noah and his family through the ark and only those who were on the ark were saved, in the same way Jesus saves us but only those who trust In Him will be saved.

Tower of Babel – God judges the people for disobeying Him and He scatters them out so that they may be fruitful and multiply. When we seek to get to God our own way, this leads us to confusion. Only through Christ can we make it to God.

Isaac's birth. – God promises Abraham that he would have a son and a nation and an everlasting covenant. In the same way God promises an everlasting covenant with those who put their trust in Jesus.

Before we get started imagine the thing you love the most.

Transition to Geneses 22:1-19

Abraham loved Isaac, his only son. This was not Abraham's only son but it was the only son of Abraham and Sarai. / God Loved His Son, His only Son. (John 3:16)

God commands Abraham to give up his only son for him. This requires much faith. At this point in his life he is ready to give up his son for God because he knows God keeps his promises.

Abraham has faith that God will keep His earlier promise to him and that somehow Isaac will live.

Abraham tells Isaac that God will provide the lamb. He has faith that God provides. Abraham exercises his faith by obeying God yet knowing God will somehow make this all right, perhaps even by raising the dead.

Once Abraham is ready to kill Isaac the angel of the Lord stops him and there is a ram stuck in the thicket for the sacrifice. In the same way God brings the lamb of God. In this instance the ram was offered, not the lamb, later God would fulfill what Abraham had said about providing the lamb by providing His own Son, Jesus the lamb of God.

Abraham calls the mountain "The Lord will provide" This same mountain is traditionally the same mountain on which Jesus was crucified. God provided the ultimate lamb who takes away sin for all.

God reiterates His promise to Abraham. Because Abraham had faith in this way that he was willing to give up what he loved most to God, God guaranteed the promises to him because Abraham's faith was proven to be true. Abraham is our father in the faith, so that all who put their trust in God as Abraham did will be children of the promise of Abraham and therefore heirs to the kingdom of God.

Are we willing to give up everything we love to Jesus and follow him to the cross? (Matthew 16:24)