**Abraham Tested**

**A Bible Story From**

**Genesis 22:1-19**

**Bible Story Number: 1010260**

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**Abraham Tested**

**Bible Story**

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**Background**

God told Abram to leave his country and go to the place God would show him, and he obeyed.

God made a profound promise to Abram (called a covenant):

I will bless you and make you the father of a great nation.

I will make you famous throughout history.

I will protect your allies and punish your enemies.

I will bless the entire world through your descendants.

**Story from the Bible**

**Genesis 22:1-19**

This is what the Bible says.

Some time later, God tested Abraham. God said to him, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”

Early the next morning, Abraham got up and began to get things ready. He saddled his donkey, and then when he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, Abraham and Isaac began their journey to the region of Moriah. Two of his servants went with them.

On the third day, Abraham saw the mountain in the distance. He told his servants to wait with the donkey there. He told them that he and Isaac would go worship and then come back.

Abraham had Isaac carry the wood for the burnt offering. He carried the fire and the knife. While they were going, Isaac noticed that they had the fire, the knife and the wood for the burnt offering, but they did not have a lamb to sacrifice. Isaac asked his father where the lamb was. Abraham replied, “God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.”

When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood for the burnt offering. He tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Abraham reached out and took the knife to kill his son.

At that moment, an angel of God called to Abraham from heaven. He answered, “Here I am.” The angel said, “Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from Me.”

Abraham looked up and there he saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. He went over and took the lamb and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. That’s why Abraham named that place, “The Lord Will Provide,” and that’s why there is a saying, “It will be provided on the Lord’s mountain.”

The angel of God spoke to Abraham again and said, “Because you have done this thing and have not withheld your only son, I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the gates of their enemies. And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring.”

That concludes this story from the Bible.

**Retelling the Story**

Let’s review this story by retelling it as a group. We want to retell it as faithfully as we can to the story from the Bible. We do not want to add to it or leave out anything important. Who will get us started?

**Questions**

* What did God tell Abraham to sacrifice?
* How did Abraham respond to God’s command?
* When did the angel of God intervene?
* What did God do after the angel intervened?
* What name did Abraham give to the place where the sacrifice took place?
* What did you like about this story?
* What did you not like about this story?
* What did you learn about God from this story?

**Prayer**

Prayer is more than a way to end the session. It is time to talk to God. Public prayer is a model for others. Boldly ask God to guide participants to use the Bible story with others. Ask God to give you and the participant’s insight and understanding as you think about this biblical event.