

## A Mountaintop Experience

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### Genesis 22:1-19

#### Using This Study

##### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

##### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

##### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

#### Guest Speaker: Pastoral Candidate Kirk Gambrell



Mr. Gambrell currently serves as the Director of Staff Ministries and the LIFT Associate Director at Camp-of-the-Woods, a Christian resort and retreat center serving over 16,000 guests each year in the

beautiful Adirondack Mountains of New York. Kirk serves as the staff pastor to the more than 300 staff each summer. During the fall and spring semesters he teaches in the LIFT discipleship program. LIFT stands for Leaders in Further Training. LIFT is a semester long discipleship program that includes college level Bible classes, service at Camp-of-the-Woods, a two week foreign missions trip, intense outdoor adventures, and one-on-one discipleship.

Kirk holds a Th.M. in pastoral ministries from Dallas Theological Seminary. Prior to moving to New York, he served in church ministry for eight years as a Family Pastor and before that as a Children's Pastor. Kirk and his wife, Laura, met while attending Texas A&M University. Laura has served alongside Kirk in each of his ministry positions, teaching women's Bible study, leading children's worship, and currently mentoring young women in LIFT. Kirk and Laura have been married for 15 years and have two boys, Spencer (13) and Sean (11). They enjoy spending time in the outdoors, playing Settlers of Catan, and watching Aggie football.



## ① EXAMINE His Word

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What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

### Read Genesis 22:1-19

<sup>1</sup>Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>2</sup>Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

<sup>3</sup>Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about.

<sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

<sup>5</sup>He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

<sup>6</sup>Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,

<sup>7</sup>Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

<sup>8</sup>Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

<sup>9</sup>When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

<sup>10</sup>Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

<sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>12</sup>“Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

<sup>13</sup>Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.

<sup>14</sup>So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

<sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time

<sup>16</sup>and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,

<sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,

<sup>18</sup>and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

<sup>19</sup>Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

## **EXPLORE His Word**

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What does God MEAN?

1. What do we know about Isaac from the description in verse 2?
  
  
  
  
  
2. Read Genesis 15:1-6, what promises are made to Abraham?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Read Genesis 17:15-22, what do we learn about the promised son?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. a. When did Abraham leave?  
  
b. What did he take with him?  
  
c. How long did he travel (v. 3-5)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. a. What question does Isaac ask his father?  
  
b. What is Abraham's response (v. 7-8)?  
  
c. What do you think was going through each of their minds?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. a. Who is the Angel of the Lord?  
  
b. At what point does he interrupt Abraham?

7. a. What does God now know about Abraham according to verse 12?  
  
b. What does it mean to fear the Lord?
8. Why does God test people?
9. Share a time when you have been tested by God.
10. What does Abraham call the place where he bound Isaac (v. 14)?
11. Share examples of how the Lord has provided for you.
12. Does the Lord always provide?
13. What three things does God promise in the blessing (v. 17-18)?
14. Explain how the account of Abraham and Isaac demonstrates God's faithfulness to fulfill his promises.
15. What are you willing to sacrifice for God? What are you not willing to sacrifice for God?

## **③ EMBRACE His Word**

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Why does this MATTER to me?

### **Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

### **Sermon Notes**

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