

# YAHWEH WILL PROVIDE

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## SMALL GROUP NOTES

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### Scriptures

Genesis 22: 1-14

### Scripture context

Abraham has been called by God to follow him and he has done so in faith. God promised Abraham a son and against all the odds the Lord has delivered on his word. Abraham's longing is finally fulfilled. Isaac, the child of promise has been given.

And then God tells Abraham to give him back. To sacrifice his son to the Lord. Can God really be asking him to do this? With astounding faith, Abraham obeys and takes his precious son Isaac up the mountain to sacrifice him. At the moment of sacrifice the Lord intervenes and provides a ram to be sacrificed in Isaac's place. He reveals another name for himself; 'Yahweh will provide.'

### Did you know?

- Mount Moriah, where Abraham is commanded to sacrifice Isaac, is only mentioned one more time in scripture. In 2 Chronicles 3:1 Solomon is instructed to build the temple in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah. Many commentators therefore believe that Jesus was also crucified on, or very near to, Mount Moriah.
- Although the passage does not specify Isaac's age, it is likely he was not a young boy as he was able to carry the wood for the sacrifice and make the three day journey to the mountain.
- Hebrews 11:19 tells us that Abraham was able to obey God's command because he 'considered that God was able even to raise [Isaac] from the dead.'

### Question for study and discussion

1. Read through the passage and identify all the ways that Abraham expresses faith and obedience.
2. What foreshadows of the cross do we see in this passage?
3. Share how you have known and experienced the Lord as your Provider. What are you trusting God to provide for you at the moment?
4. The Lord asks Abraham to give up his most treasured possession. What are our 'Isaac's'? What would you struggle to lay down if God asked you to?

### Digging Deeper

Read through the story of Abraham from Genesis 12-22 and note the ways he expresses faith and doubt and what we learn about God's character through the narrative.

### Resources for further study / devotion

*Incomparable; Explorations in the character of God*, by Andrew Wilson.

*The diary/autobiography of George Muller*

*God's Smuggler*, by Brother Andrew