



WEEKLY DISCUSSION GUIDE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Week 3 Jehovah Jireh

Welcome to our Discussion Guide - designed to help you think more deeply about the sermon topic as you engage with others through thoughtful conversation, biblical exploration and real-life application.

➤ KEY PASSAGES

Genesis 22:1-14, Romans 5:19, Galatians 3:16, Hebrews 4:15-16, Hebrews 6:13-18

➤ QUICK REVIEW

This week we focus on the name Jehovah-Jireh which means, "The Lord will provide." We first see this name used in Genesis 22 as Abraham encounters God in a unique and challenging way.

There are many ways that the Lord provides for us. Sometimes we are aware of God's provision and sometimes we don't even realize it is happening. As you begin your discussion. Take a few moments to think about how God has provided for you this past week and offer up prayers of acknowledgement and thanksgiving.

➤ CONVERSATION STARTER

If you were to win the lottery and had to spend it in one day, how would you use your winnings?

➤ EXPLORATION

This week we will explore what it looks like to trust God and to believe that he is true to his word.

Genesis 22:1-14 Read this passage aloud and try to imagine yourself in the story, participating in what is happening as you read.

What stands out to you from this passage and why?

What do you imagine was going through Abraham's mind as he moved to obey God?

This passage contains the first mention of love in the Bible. This love comes in the context of the love between father and son, connected with the idea of love as a form of sacrifice. God will often test our love for him by asking us to lay down something that we love. Anything that stands in the way of us giving our whole heart to God will limit our relationship with God.

What is the most difficult sacrifice you have ever made in order to follow the ways of God?

The story of Abraham and Isaac and the sacrifice that God asked Abraham to make is hard for us to imagine. However, we see this sacrifice actually fulfilled in the New Testament when God sends his son, who he loved, to become the sacrifice for all of us. He provides a way for every one of his beloved people to escape the punishment they deserve.

We can't experience real love without sacrifice. Christ showed his real love through giving the ultimate sacrifice.

Romans 5:19

"When atonement is talked about, it means that a price has been paid for our sins that has the result of bringing sinful us together with Holy God. We have been reconciled to God. So we understand that Christ made an atonement. That's the Bible language, Christ made an atonement for our sins. He paid a price, His own life, that God accepted for us on our behalf. So we are now brought back to God."
~Mark Dever

Talk about what the atonement Christ provides for you means in your life.

"On the cross Jesus wins through losing, triumphs through defeat, achieves power through weakness, comes to wealth through giving all away."
~Tim Keller

Hebrews 4:15-16

How do these verses influence the way you live your life?

Genesis 22:13

God provided the ram, but not until after he saw Abraham's heart. Many of us today want God to provide everything we need before we choose to trust him. God's provision comes alongside your commitment.

Hebrews 6:13-18

To sacrifice something is to lay it down, to give it up. With God it often means that you can pick up something better. But, you can't have both. So, sacrifice means that you choose the one that you think has more value at the cost of the thing that has less value.

What is one thing that would be difficult for you to sacrifice and why?

Instead of Genesis 22 being an insurmountable barrier to faith, with Jesus at the center, it becomes an incredible boost to faith. Remember that Genesis 22 records an event two millennia before Christ was crucified. But from the beginning, the Bible has always been pointing us to the once and for all sacrifice of Jesus.

➤ TAKE AWAY

God will test your love by calling for your sacrifice. Just like Abraham, you can trust God to give you something better for you than what you already have.

What is God asking you to sacrifice in this season?

Take some time to pray together, asking God to help you hold loosely to the things of this world and tightly to Him.