# NAME IS JEHOVAH JIREH

# MY NAME IS, PART 2: JEHOVAH JIREH: THE LORD MEETS MY NEEDS

All of us have had moments in our lives that defined us or served as key turning points in our direction and purpose. Strangely enough, many of those moments are connected with the painful trials and tests God sometimes allows to come our way.

Abraham's life was also turned upside down during an intense test of his faith. Through that test he experienced God in a new way and came to know Him as Jehovah Jireh, the Lord Our Provider.

THE BIG IDEA: When we choose to obey, we can trust God to provide.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

\* Remember the goal is to use the questions to generate discussion, not to complete every one.

- 1. What are some of the key turning points in your life?
- 2. How have those turning points influenced your relationship with God?
- 3. With your Bible or Bible App, <u>read Genesis 22:1-2</u>.

<sup>1</sup> Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am." <sup>2</sup> "Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

Genesis 22:1-2 (NLT)

- 4. What's your initial reaction to these verses?
- 5. When have you had to give up something in order to obey God?

The passage specifically tells us God tested Abraham in the most devastating way possible. He asked Abraham to give Him the one thing Abraham loved most—his son. Isaac was Abraham's dream come true. He was the promised and long-awaited gift from God, and now God was asking for him back.

6. Read the following passages of Scripture and record what they teach about Abraham and Isaac.

Genesis 12:1-4

#### Genesis 15:1-6

Genesis 21:1-8

On the surface these passages suggest God's command to Abraham in Genesis 22 didn't make sense. In fact, it appeared God was contradicting His own promise. As a result, Abraham found himself deep in a mess of contradictions.

7. Has God ever asked you to do something that doesn't make sense? Did you obey Him? What happened as a result?

Trials are adverse circumstances God allows in our lives in order to show us where we're at spiritually and to prepare us for the direction in which He wants to take us.

- 8. What trials are you walking through right now? How have those trials affected you on an emotional level? How have those trials affected you on a spiritual level?
- 9. With your Bible or Bible App, <u>read James 1:2-4</u> and <u>1 Peter 1:6-7</u>.

<sup>2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. <u>James 1:2-4 (NIV)</u> <sup>6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. <sup>7</sup> These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. <u>I Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)</u>

10. What's your response to the idea of finding joy and gladness during trials? What's the purpose of trials? 11. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Genesis 22:3-8.* 

<sup>3</sup> The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. <sup>4</sup> On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup> "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the servants. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back." <sup>6</sup> So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" <sup>8</sup> "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

- 12. When have you been able to trust God with something you didn't fully understand?
- 13. What factors prevent you from trusting God more fully?
- 14. With your Bible or Bible App, <u>read Genesis 22:10-14</u>.

<sup>10</sup> And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. <sup>11</sup> At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!" <sup>12</sup> "Don't lay a hand on the boy!" the angel said. "Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son." <sup>13</sup> Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. <sup>14</sup> Abraham named the place 'the LORD will provide'. To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Genesis 22:10-14 (NLT)

- 15. In what ways has your faith been tested in the past?
- 16. How has God revealed more about Himself during your tests of faith?

## THINK ABOUT IT

Abraham was in the midst of a terrible test. He faced a choice between the blessing and the Blesser, and God wanted to see which he would choose. God wanted to know whether Abraham would let go of his most valued possession and simply worship Him, even when it hurt.

## MOVING FORWARD

Is there anything in your life that's keeping you from completely trusting in God's provision? If so, spend time with Jehovah Jireh and ask Him to increase your faith and teach you to trust Him as your Provider, even in your trials. Thank Him for providing your salvation through the sacrifice of His Son.

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. Abraham called the name of that place The Lord Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the Lord it will be provided." Genesis 22:13-14