

# CROSS CHURCH



MARCH 04-05, 2023

**PREPARE THE  
WAY PART 1:  
PREPARING  
OUR HEARTS**

*HEBREWS 11:12* says...his body was as good as dead...

**IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL, WE CAN ALLOW THE  
DREAM TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE DREAM GIVER.**

*GENESIS 22:1* After these things God tested Abraham...

## **PREPARING OUR HEARTS:**

### **1. Tests are necessary.**

*GENESIS 22:2* He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

### **2. Tests check our motives.**

*GENESIS 22:6-14* And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

### 3. Tests tell a story.

**GENESIS 22:12**

### 4. Tests grow our faith and trust in God.

**GENESIS 22:5** Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you."

**HEBREWS 11:17-19** By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

**ROMANS 5:8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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**What is the Holy Spirit speaking to me today, and how can I apply it?**

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**CROSSWALK CLASSES**

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