



**Fall 2021 | 11.28.21**

To catch up on the full Sunday messages from this series, check out our YouTube channel.

[\[YouTube Channel\]](#)

## RECAP & DISCUSSION

In this week's message, Pastor Mike spoke about obedience through the story of Abraham and his son Isaac in Genesis chapter 22.

[\[Play Recap Video Here\]](#)

**Discussion:** Listen to the Sermon Recap Video and continue the discussion from Pastor Mike's prompt.

Pastor Mike shared the story of inviting Pastor Chris to join him in his fitness journey at CrossFit. The feeling he wanted to convey is that it's common when we try something new, an environment or situation, there is an emotional tension as we learn. This can also be true when we interact with God, where what should be easy feels complicated.

**Discussion:** As you think about taking "your next obedient step" in your relationship with God, what is one thing you can do to simplify the process and navigate that emotional tension?

Have someone read Genesis 22:1-13. God promised Abraham he would be the father of a nation. His wife Sarah was barren and could not conceive, became pregnant at an advanced age, and gave birth to their son Isaac. Pastor Mike shared how God was testing Abraham to go and sacrifice his only son. Consider the emotional tension Abraham felt, yet he trusted God to provide.

**Discussion:** Are there areas in your life you struggle to trust God? Are there times you have said no, instead of stepping out into the unknown?

Pastor Mike highlighted the scripture where Abraham replied, "Here I am." Abraham was fully present in the moment so when God revealed the answer, he could see the ram in the thicket. Pastor Mike closed with the story of teaching his daughter to ride her bike. He ran beside her nudging her elbow to keep her safe and she knew he was going to be right there beside her.

**Discussion:** As we prepare for the Christmas holiday there are lots of opportunities to be overwhelmed by our calendars, family, friends, and life. Are there areas God is nudging your elbow, where you need to slow down and say to God "here I am"?

**PRAY**

Life Group Leader - close out your time together with prayer. You can take prayer requests and praise/celebrations. This is a great opportunity to teach about prayer and remind your group that prayer is a conversation with God. Partner with your group members to practice praying out loud together and for each other! Please reach out to your Life Group Coach if you need more direction about how to talk and teach about prayer or how to walk someone through praying out loud!

## ANNOUNCE

- **Coming up next:**
  - New series starts next week "A Weary World Rejoices"
  - 12/12 Miracle Offering
  - 12/19 Christmas Service
  - 12/24 Christmas Eve Online Experience
  - 12/26 Volunteer Appreciation Sunday (online experience)
- **Reminder: next week (12/5-12/11) is the last week with a Life Group Guide! Plan a Christmas party celebration with your Life Group the following week!**
  - White Elephant
  - Gingerbread houses
  - Dessert potluck
  - Favorite Christmas traditions
  - Wrapping party

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