

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**The LORD Will Provide**

Genesis 22:1-24

APPLY // MATTHEW 13:24-43

Main Idea: The kingdom of heaven, despite its small, seemingly insignificant beginning, will one day be gloriously consummated, bringing judgment for those who reject Jesus and joy for those who treasure Him.

1. How do these parables correct false views of God's Kingdom?
2. Discuss the ways these parables encourage us to treasure Christ and make disciples.
3. Discuss how these parables help us endure hardships and persecution.
4. Discuss how these parables increase your longing for heaven.

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // GENESIS 22:1-24

Main Idea: The Lord's blessings come through his providence and provision.

1. **Read Genesis 22:1-3.** This passage starts with a reference to things that have already happened. Briefly discuss some events that have led up to this passage and notice how they create tension for this passage (especially the fact that Sarah, Abraham's wife was barren and Isaac is the son provided, chs. 21, which is an answer to God's promise for many sons, Gn. 15).
2. What does it mean that "God tested Abraham?" How does this insight help us interpret the passage? What is Abraham's response to God's call in **verse 1**? What does this answer display about Abraham and his faith?
3. Note that God tells Abraham to offer Isaac as a burnt offering sacrifice (**vs. 2**). What is surprising about God telling Abraham to do this? What questions should the reader be asking at this point?
4. What do you notice about Abraham's response to God in **verse 3**? What does this answer display about Abraham and his faith?
5. **Read Genesis 22:1-18.** Note the repetition of Isaac as "the son", "your only son", or "my son". What is the author highlighting and emphasizing with this repetition? How does this repetition connect the reader to the larger narrative?
6. Identify the details (there are many!) from **22:3-11** that display Abraham's thorough obedience.
7. **Read Genesis 22:5,8.** What do you notice about Abraham's response to his servants? What does this response reveal about Abraham's understanding of the situation? **Read Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3; Hebrews 11:17-19.** Where did Abraham's confidence lie?
8. **Read Genesis 22:12 & Romans 5:8; 8:32.** What are the differences between God's dealing with Isaac and His dealing with Jesus?
9. **Read Genesis 22:15-19.** What is the outcome of Abraham's obedience? How does this blessing point the reader to Jesus? **Read John 3:16-17.** How can we hear echoes of this blessing in the promise made in John's gospel?
10. Reading this passage through the lens of the gospel, how does this passage help the reader to see and know the love of God for his people? How does this passage help us to marvel at the glory of God in the face of Christ?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.