

Life Group Notes

Sunday 20th January 2019

Speaker: Scott Taylor

Title: Moriah- Mountain of Sacrifice and Provision

Passage: Genesis 22:1-19

As we continue to walk through the sermon series entitled, On This Mountain, we climbed up Mount Moriah with Abraham toward a moment in history that was going to show us that as we offer faith-filled sacrifice, God meets us with his faithful provision.

After being asked to do a horrendous thing, Abraham chooses to obey God. As he climbs the mountain, we get an insight into his thought process. He says to the servants that have travelled with them that they should stay with the donkey, and that he and Isaac will go, worship God and then return. He says to his own son that God will provide for himself a lamb for a burnt offering.

In the midst of it all, Abraham is still willing to get to a place where he is willing, full of faith, to offer up his son as sacrifice. In all his emotions and all the questions, he must have had – he raises the knife, but then God breaks in and He provides a ram instead of Isaac. Abraham returns to the servants with Isaac and they go back and live in Beersheba.

This story is going to be repeated at Calvary. Jesus is going to carry the wood for his own sacrificial altar. He will be laid down and fastened to it. However, there will be no ram because he will be the ram of provision for all those who will believe in Him. Christ's faith-filled sacrifice will be God's faithful provision for our sin and rebellion.

We get to be those who, because of our faith in Christ, get to offer faith-filled sacrifices to a God that we trust will come through for us and faithfully provide our needs. As we, like Abraham, look back on our history with Him, we will see that God has provided for us in many different ways and we can always trust Him in the new adventure he has us on.

Whether it's to do with our finances, our time, our relationships, whether it's to do with sex or sexuality or our marriage status: we can trust that when we sacrifice our precious gifts, commodities or preferences for His call that he will provide for us in ways that we could not even imagine. He provides intimacy, strength, grace, material needs, hope, friendships, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control amongst many other things.

Questions for personal application

1. What did you hear for the first time or afresh on Sunday?
2. How does this story reveal God to us and show us who he is?
3. Sacrifice is never an easy thing, what history do you have with God that could start your walk up the mountain to see Him provide?
4. How does Christ's faith-filled sacrifice help us in our decision making when it comes to sacrifice?
5. What sacrifice do you think God might be calling you into? What Ram would you need God to provide?