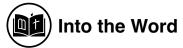


## Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Genesis 22:1-19

**Introduction**: In this passage Abraham's faith is tested. God commands him to take his only son Issac and offer him as a sacrifice. In faith Abraham obeyed the LORD and journeyed to the land of Moriah. As Abraham and Issac ascended the hill Issac asks, "Father, where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" to which Abraham answers, "God will provide". And God does. At the last moment God stops Abraham and provides a ram as a substitute. Ultimately this passage asks us consider how God tests our faith today so that he might purify our devotion to Him.



Why was Issac so important to Abraham? Why did God incorporate Issac into this test? Consider: Verse 2 & 12.

Mount Moriah plays a prominent role in biblical history as the place where the Temple was built (2 Chron 3:1) and the place where Christ was crucified. What does Abraham name the mountain? What did God provide? How does this story teach us about the purpose of the Temple and ultimately Jesus' crucifixion?

How does Issac point to Christ in this passage? How is Jesus the better Issac? Consider: Matthew 27:46; John 1:29



Reflect on a time when God used a trial in your life to expose who or what you were really devoted to? What did you learn through this trial? Consider: James 1:2-4

*In Jesus God has provided us the perfect sacrifice and substitute.* How does the certainty of God's provision for your salvation encourage you in the midst of trials? Consider: Romans 8:32



**Read 1 Peter 3:15** How does God use our trials to enable us to bear witness to Christ in the lives of our unbelieving friends, family, or coworkers? Is this happening? Why or Why Not?

Who are the people in your life that are experiencing trials? How should God's provision in Christ shape the way we approach those who are suffering? Note: <u>The Necessity of Penal Substitution for Suffering Saints</u>