

SOLID- *Trusting God*

Suppose God asked you to do something that seemed utterly foolish or even contrary to all that you understand God to be. How would you respond? For example, what if God asked you to kill your child? Unthinkable? Yet in Genesis 22 God places Abraham in just such a position. Here we see Abraham coming face to face with the supreme test of his faith in God.

- When is it hard for you to trust God?

Genesis 22 : 1-19

- Describe Abraham's predicament and his response.
- How would you feel if God asked you to give up the most important person in your life?
- What words and phrases in verses 1-2 emphasise the extremely painful nature of God's command to Abraham?
- Why would this command seem so incomprehensible to Abraham (see 17:15-22)?
- List the specific ways in which Abraham demonstrates faith in verses 1-10.

- In verses 11-18 the angel of the Lord calls out to Abraham twice. How would the angel's words and actions have deepened Abraham's faith?
- From Abraham's example in this passage, how would you define faith?
- How did Abraham's faith have far-reaching consequences on other people (vv15-18)?
- In what ways does our faith, or lack of it, affect people around us?
- What did Abraham learn about God from this experience?
- What tests of faith are confronting you today?
- How can Abraham's example encourage you to trust God more fully?

Summary:

In order to trust in God, we must totally surrender our will, our desires, and our future into His hands. We find it difficult to give total control of our lives to God, but if we don't believe that God loves us fully and has our best interests at heart, trusting Him is going to be very difficult.

Sometimes it is harder to trust God than others, but we must remember that when difficulties and trials come our way, it is these circumstances that God uses to test our faith and help us grow.

Verse to remember:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.
Proverbs 3:5