



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”

Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32

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TEXT: GENESIS 22:1-14

TITLE: HANDLING HARD DECISIONS

SUB TITLE: IS IT MY DESIRE TO TRUST THAT GOD WILL PROVIDE?

INTRODUCTION

- A. This is only a test _____
- B. God does not tempt us, however, God does test us _____
- C. I do not know anyone to whom God gave an easy assignment _____
- D. How do I make a decision where the outcome makes absolutely no sense, whatsoever? _____

ABRAHAM'S HARD DECISION

- A. After waiting for 25 years to have a son, God tests Abraham to sacrifice him back _____
- B. The sacrifice was to be a burnt offering _____
- C. Imagine what Abraham must have been going through _____
- D. Why does God test us to give back or give up a blessing we waited a long time to receive? _____
- E. We can be filled with fear, anxiety, caution, reservation, watchfulness, etc., when it appears we will lose a blessing given by God _____
- F. When I am filled with fear, anxiety, caution, reservation, watchfulness, etc., when it appears I will lose a blessing given by God, I am not filled with faith _____

ABRAHAM HAD A DESIRE TO TRUST THAT GOD WOULD PROVIDE

- A. Abraham had a spiritual view of the situation _____
 - 1. Abraham, “Isaac and I will go a little farther to worship and we will come back to you
 - 2. **Hebrews 11:17-19**, ¹⁷ *It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God’s promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, ¹⁸ even though God had told him, “Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.” ¹⁹ Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again. And in a sense, Abraham did receive his son back from the dead.*
 - 3. If God does take it or have it taken, do I have faith and trust that God will provide and give/get it back?
 - 4. A spiritual view sees God providing
- B. Abraham’s spiritual view saw God, Himself, providing _____
 - 1. Isaac, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”
 - 2. Abraham, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.”
 - 3. God is intimate and God is personal
- C. God is Jehovah Jireh – The Lord Will Provide – when I am where I am supposed to be and doing what I am supposed to do _____