

I. Synopsis

Throughout the Bible there is a scarlet thread woven in the fabric of truth. This scarlet thread is found in the form of God's promise to us to send One who will restore us to God as our Father. Before humanity was created, God the Son knew He would be the fulfillment of God the Father's promise. Throughout the season of Lent, we reach back thousands of years to explore God's promise.

II. Ice Breaker Question

Can you recall a time when a friend came along provided help in a time of need?

III. **Scripture:** Genesis 22:1-18 (ESV)

IV. Discussion Questions

1. As you read this narrative, how would you describe the father/son relationship Abraham and Isaac enjoyed? In your opinion how does this event impact their relationship?
2. Abraham and Sarah waited 25 years to receive the promise of a child. How is the Lord's test to sacrifice Isaac a contradiction to the promise God gave them (Genesis 12:1-3)? As Abraham journeyed three days to Mt. Moriah, what thoughts might have passed through his mind regarding God's request?
3. Abraham was called to make a burnt offering, which is intended to be an atonement sacrifice, making the person at one with God. God the Father provides a substitute sacrifice, which points forward to Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. How do you suppose Abraham and Isaac felt regarding this provision? Read John 3:16 in light of this passage. What are the parallels?
4. Why do you suppose God tested Abraham? What does it mean, "Now I know that you fear God" (Genesis 22:12)? What does this mean for us today?
5. Abraham names the place, "The Lord Will Provide" (Genesis 22:14). How has God provided for you or a loved one in a time of need? How do you need God to provide for you today?