

## GIVE YOUR ISAAC TO GOD

Genesis 22:1-19

PAT NEMMERS

January 28, 2018

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

### CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- What is the most challenging test you've ever had to take?

### APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

#### *Intro:*

- **Read** Genesis 22:1-19 together. In the message on Sunday, Pastor Pat gave us 9 aspects of Abraham's obedience.
- Look back at the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, an illustration, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

#### *Altar Activity:*

- Distribute an index card, a pen, and a rock to each person in your group. As you discuss each of the 9 aspects of Abraham's obedience, build an altar by adding one rock for each point. Use the following questions to guide your discussion as you build your group altar.
- Abraham's obedience was:
  1. **Unquestioning** - Is it wrong to question God? Why do we question?
  2. **Prompt** - "Slow obedience is no obedience." When do you tend to drag your feet in obeying God?
  3. **Sustained** - It's one thing to obey, it's another thing to keep on obeying over the long haul. Is there an area in your life where you struggle to have consistent victory?
  4. **Believing** - Abraham told his servants that both he and Isaac would come down the mountain. What are some of the promises of God that you need to cling to when you lack faith?
  5. **Pictorial** - How does the sacrifice of Isaac remind us of the Gospel?
  6. **Hopeful** - What is it that seems impossible in your life right now? How might a hopeful faith in God's promises change your outlook on that trial?
  7. **Submissive** - Are you fighting God? What are you afraid to let go of? How can you be more submissive to God's work in your life?
  8. **Complete** - Sometimes we can offer God part of our lives, but it is challenging to give ourselves completely to him. Where do you need to stop holding back and have complete faith in God?
  9. **Rewarded** - Talk about some ways that God has rewarded your faith in the past, and discuss how God's reward can be motivational to keep exercising our faith now, and in the future.

#### *Laying Down Your Isaac:*

- Ask your group to write down their personal Isaac on their index card and place it on the altar.
  - Who/what is it that you're holding on to? What is the most difficult thing God might ask you to do?
- Discuss with your group how this activity is an external reminder of an internal reality. Talk about what you laid on the altar and why. Which aspect of obedience do you need to focus on to progress in your growth?
- Consider playing/showing this song: [This We Know by Vertical Worship](#).

### PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray strongly but sensitively that your group members will act in obedience to God's commands.

