

**YHWH - 3**

**Jehovah Jireh - Provider**

**3/14/20**

**Welcome...**

**Talk about Corona Virus...**

- **Don't be divisive, be unifying.**
- **Don't fear, have a sound mind.**
- **Be prayerful: National Day of Prayer on Sunday, March 15 (President)**
- **DIY: Read Philippians 4 every day this week/Lent Reading**

**Series: YHWH Review:**

- **Week 1: "YHWH - I am that I am"**
- **Week 2: "The God who sees me" (Eric)**
- **Today: "The God who provides"**

**Question:**

**Do you possess anything or are you in relationship with anyone that is really, really important to you?**

**I mean, it's a true gift from God and it/they means the world to you!**

**Today, we're going to be looking at an interesting story... It's about Abraham, the promise of a son, a testing of faith, and an incredible provision.**

**Story of Abraham...**

- God spoke to him to move to the land of Canaan (modern day Israel) and promised him that he would be the father of many nations.
- He and his wife Sarah were old in age but God promised them a son.
- God made good on his promise and Sarah gave birth to Isaac around the age of 90
- It was absolutely incredible and God's promise to Abraham that he would be the father of many came true...so he thought...

### Genesis 22:1-18 (NLT)

1 Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

2 "Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

3 The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about.

4 On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

5 "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the servants. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

6 So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together,

7 Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

8 "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

9 When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.

10 And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice.

11 At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!"

12 "Don't lay a hand on the boy!" the angel said. "Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son."

13 Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

14 Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means "the LORD will provide"). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

15 Then the angel of the LORD called again to Abraham from heaven.

16 "This is what the LORD says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your son, your only son, I swear by my own name that

17 I will certainly bless you. I will multiply your descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will conquer the cities of their enemies.

**18 And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me.”**

**What a story! Most definitely a test of faith...**

**Imagine if this were you. The one thing that is so special to you - God given, and now He asks you to give it up!**

**And for what??? We'll find out...**

**Abraham's road of provision:**

**1. Abraham listened.**

**Genesis 22:1 (NLT)**

**1 Some time later, God tested Abraham’s faith. “Abraham!” God called. “Yes,” he replied. “Here I am.”**

**I think one of the most challenging things for us in our culture is to get ourselves in a position to listen. Especially to God.**

**I think sometimes we just make decisions about this or that, missing God's way - God's provision because we didn't just stop, spend time in prayer, and listen.**

**Becoming a good listener:**

- **Spend time in His Word**
- **Listen for the promptings or urges from the Holy Spirit.**
- **Get connected to Godly people**

## 2. Abraham obeyed.

Genesis 22:3a (NLT)

3 The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac.

**It's one thing to listen, it's quite another to obey...**

James 1:22 (NLT)

22 But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

**Abraham didn't ask questions...**

**He didn't delay...**

**He didn't ignore...**

**He simply obeyed.**

When we choose to disobey God's leading, we're choosing to miss out on God's provision.

## 3. Abraham believed.

Genesis 22:7-8a (NLT)

7 Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

8 "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered.

**This is before Abraham actually knew there would be ram waiting...**

**Hebrews 11:17-19 (NLT)**

**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.**

**Hebrews 11:8-10**

**8 It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.**

**9 And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise.**

**10 Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God.**

**11 It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed that God would keep his promise.**

**12 And so a whole nation came from this one man who was as good as dead—a nation with so many people that, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, there is no way to count them.**

**You see, offering Isaac wasn't the first time Abraham trusted God!**

**The more you trust God, the more you trust God.**

**I have found this to be so true!**

**And when we choose to trust God - even in the difficult times, we will see his super-natural provision!**

- 1. Listen.**
  - 2. Obey.**
  - 3. Believe.**
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**Now, do you notice anything about this story that might point us to Jesus???**

**Genesis 22:8a (NLT)**

**8“God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham answered.**

**Genesis 22:13-14 (NLT)**

**13Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son.**

**14 Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means “the LORD will provide”). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”**

**Communion/Prayer**