



CHAPTERS
22-23

GENESIS

DAY ONE

1. Please read the chapters at least twice to get an overview of the events we are about to study. We do not know the exact timing of this chapter. We do know that it took place sometime after the birth of Isaac, the promised son of Abraham and Sarah. The LORD appears once again to Abraham. This is the eighth recorded time the LORD came to Abraham and spoke to him. The LORD specifically called him by name. What was Abraham’s reply?

2. The words “Here I am” are special words of a dedicated heart. They are the words of one ready to obey no matter what the LORD is about to ask. This is not the only time these words appear in Scripture. Fill in the chart.

Scripture reference	Who spoke the words “Here I am” in the references below?
Genesis 46:2	
Exodus 3:4	
1 Samuel 3:4	
Isaiah 6:8	

3. Abraham and the men listed in the chart above were guided by focusing on the glory of the LORD, rather than their need to fully understand. All too often I fear people want to get an understanding of all God has planned before they decide if they are going to say yes. Pause for a few minutes and think, are you quick to respond, “Here I am LORD, use me”?

4. Genesis 22:2 NIV; Then God said, “Take your _____, your _____ son, whom you _____—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. _____ there as a burnt offering on a mountain _____.”

5. The scripture does not record any further conversation between Abraham and the Lord. When you read the words of verse 2, did you feel the gravity of God’s request?

6. Do you think Abraham had any doubt as to what God was asking him to do?

7. Obedience can be a struggle at times unless we have the matter settled in our heart. Abraham had settled in his heart that he would obey God no matter what. What do we see in verse 3 that reveals Abraham had settled the matter of obedience?

8. Would you say that is true for you?

Have you settled the matter of your obedience to God?

What is delayed obedience, really?

DAY TWO

9. How long did Abraham's journey turn out to be?

10. The scripture said he looked up and saw the place in the distance. How did he know this is the place?

Look back to verse 2; what is the last thing God told Abraham?

11. List the specific instructions Abraham gave his servants.

12. What did Abraham tell his servants he and his son were going to do?

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on Isaac's back to carry. He referred to Isaac as a boy in verse 5, and yet we see he is strong enough to carry the wood for the fire.

What might this indicate about Isaac's age?

(Of course, this is just a guess on the part of the reader.)

13. This obviously was not the first time they had worshipped together. What caught Isaac's attention?

List some things your children have learned about worship from you.

14. Are you parenting or influencing in such a way that your child will have a faith worth holding on to in trials?

- a. What does this kind of intentional parenting/influencing look like?
- b. Do you allow your children to see some of the things you are struggling with and praying about so they can rejoice with you when God provides?
- c. Are you able to see God's provision even if it is different from what you had in mind?

A good friend shared this truth with me: God is the perfect parent, but his kids aren't perfect. Ask God to give you wisdom, discernment, and strength to do what he has called you to do.

15. Since we have paused to discuss parenting for a few moments, let me pose a few more questions for you to mull over. These questions could apply to parenting, but they also apply to every area of our influence.

- a. What are some of the ways you are helping others experience the character of God?
- b. How are you using what you are learning to help others develop a closer relationship with the LORD?

16. Back to Genesis 22:8, here we see Abraham teaching Isaac the character of God in this time of worship together. They have a need, and Isaac is aware of the need. Look at Abraham's answer to Isaac; what is he teaching his son about God?

17. The verse said, “And the two of them went on together.” Do you think Isaac might have been excited to see how God would provide?

- a. How does being around a person of great faith help you anticipate God’s provision?
- b. Would others say this about you and your walk of faith?
- c. If not, how might rehearsing God’s previous provision help you mature in this area?
- d. What part does a thankful heart play in our confidence in God’s faithfulness?

DAY THREE

18. Genesis 22:9-10 describes what had to be the hardest thing Abraham ever had to do. He has built other altars and arranged the wood many times for a sacrifice, but he has never had to do this. What did he do?

19. Do you see why it was important for us to try to imagine Isaac’s age. Verse 9 said, “Abraham bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar.” There is no mention of a struggle. Isaac would be fully aware of what would come next. What does this say about Isaac?

20. I have verses 11-12 highlighted in my Bible. The angels in heaven were probably holding their breath as they watched this father and son prepare to worship. Angels are God’s messengers; poised to do whatever God bids them to do, with moment’s notice. Verse 11 said, “But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” Once again, what do we see is Abraham’s response? “_____”

21. The LORD stopped Abraham from offering Isaac. God is not interested in child sacrifice. God does want 100% dedication to him and to his will. Have you settled his lordship in your heart?

22. Did you know that anything we esteem more than God is an idol?

I realize that sounds harsh, but it is true. An idol is anything which usurps the place of God in our heart. People often struggle with this story. They say things like, “I could never do that.” To that statement I would say, “Good, God is not asking you to do that.” Throughout all of history, he has only asked one man, Abraham, to present his child as an offering. God wants us to see we have nothing to fear; He is faithful!

23. How did God prove himself to be faithful to Abraham?

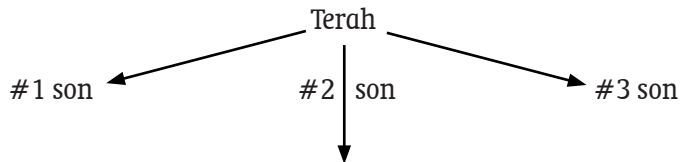
24. What did Abraham name this place? _____.
 This is the name Jehovah Jireh. Do you have a Jehovah Jireh event in your life?
 A Jehovah Jireh event would be any event where God provided in a supernatural way.

25. The LORD spoke to Abraham again in verses 16-18. What promise did he make to Abraham?

26. Don't miss the key found in verse 18. What was it that moved the heart of God?

After studying this section of Genesis 22, do you view obedience in a new light?

27. The last five verses of this chapter are of great importance, even though following the previous event they may seem a bit less important. If we look back at Genesis 11, we see Terah (the father of Abraham) left Ur of the Chaldeans and moved his family to Haran. Read Genesis 11:27-32 and add the names along with the information given in these verses to the diagram below.



28. We have not heard anything about Nahor's family since Abraham left Haran (Genesis 12:4-5). In Genesis 22 we get a few more details about them. What did you see concerning Nahor, the brother of Abraham?

Nahor married Milcah

She bore him eight sons.

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 5. |
| 2. | 6. |
| 3. | 7. |
| 4. | 8. |

Nahor's son Bethuel became the father of _____.
Nahor also had a concubine named Reumah and she bore him four sons.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

How many sons did Nahor have in all?

DAY FOUR —

29. Genesis 21:5 said Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. In Genesis 17:17 we are given both of their ages. How much older is Abraham than Sarah?

How old was Sarah when she bore Isaac?

Today it is a bit rude to ask or focus on a woman's age; why is Sarah's age so important to the story?

30. What facts are recorded in Genesis 23:1-2?

31. How old were Abraham and Isaac when Sarah died?

32. Do you think Abraham would agree with Proverbs 18:22?

33. This is a sad time for this family. Abraham and Sarah have enjoyed a long and blessed marriage. Yes, they have had their trials, but through it all Abraham continued to see Sarah as the beautiful woman he married. She saw him as a man worthy of her respect. That was a marriage of great value. Abraham mourned and wept over this loss, then he set out to purchase a burial place. Look at the map at the end of this study guide to become familiar with the places mentioned. Where did the scripture say he went and what did he do?

34. Abraham must have been a wonderful man to know. How did the Hittites (sons of Heth, the descendants of Canaan) feel about Abraham? (Gen. 23:6)

35. Read Proverbs 22:1, what do you learn about a good name?

36. Read Proverbs 3:3-7, what do you learn about finding favor?

37. Read Psalm 84:11, Abraham experienced this truth many times. Would you say your walk of faith is enjoying the favor of God?

38. Proverbs 3:33-35 tells us that it is God who blesses the home of the righteous. What else do they inherit?

DAY FIVE

39. Even though the Hittites offered to give Abraham the best of the best to bury his wife, what did he insist upon?

40. Abraham asked for a meeting with Ephron of Zohar, and he asked others to witness the arrangements that would be made in the meeting. What did Abraham want to purchase?

41. What was Ephron's response to Abraham's request?

42. Even though great kindness had been extended, Abraham insisted on paying for the property. How much did Ephron say the field and the cave were worth?

43. Were you surprised when Ephron said, "the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver, but what is that between you and me?"

One article I read said, "A shekel was worth 4 denarii. In these ancient times a day laborer earned one denarius. A worker today might make \$10 an hour. For an eight-hour day, that's \$80. Therefore, a shekel would have equaled approximately \$320. If this field was valued at 400 shekels, then it sold for approximately \$128,000.

Ephron's gesture of friendship was extravagant.

What would cause someone to say something like that?

What might that indicate about Ephron's wealth?

44. Ephron's offer was a nice gesture of friendship, but Abraham did not want it for free. He wanted a bill of sale. Often in ancient times men would try to negotiate, then settle on something agreeable to both parties.

Did Abraham try to negotiate?

What does that tell you about Abraham's wealth?

Where did this business deal take place? (verse 18)

45. The only thing left to do was bury precious Sarah. This had to be a very dark day for Abraham and for Isaac. Just for a moment, let's look ahead. Remember we said Isaac was 37 years old when Sarah died. Read Genesis 24:67 and 25:20, how long did Isaac mourn the death of his mother, Sarah?

46. There are many stages to the process of grief. People do not go through them in the same order or in the same time frame. A loved one dies, and the despair seems unbearable. Grieving the loss is where the healing process begins. In 1969, psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross introduced what became known as the “five stages of grief,” which represent feelings of those who have faced death and tragedy. Based on her years of working with terminal cancer patients, Kübler-Ross proposed the following pattern of phases many people experience:

- a. Denial: “This can’t be happening to me.”
- b. Anger: “Why is this happening? Who is to blame?”
- c. Bargaining: “Make this not happen, and in return I will ____.”
- d. Depression: “I’m too sad to do anything.”
- e. Acceptance: “I’m at peace with what has happened.”

Knowing how to respond to a grieving friend is so important. The death of a loved one is a shattering experience with far-reaching implications. As difficult as the loss may be, it is possible to move forward with hope for the future.

What are some ways we can help someone grieving a loss?



DAY ONE

Question 2

Genesis 46:2 (KJV)

²And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, “Jacob! Jacob!” “Here I am,” he replied.

Exodus 3:4 (KJV)

⁴When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

1 Samuel 3:4 (KJV)

⁴Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, “Here I am.”

Isaiah 6:8 (KJV)

⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

DAY FOUR

Question 32

Proverbs 18:22 (NIV)

²²He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.

Question 35

Proverbs 22:1(NIV)

¹A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Question 36

Proverbs 3:3-7 (NIV)

³ Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

Question 37

Psalms 84:11(NIV)

¹¹For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

Question 38

Proverbs 3:33-35 (NIV)

³³The LORD’s curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous.

³⁴He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed. ³⁵ The wise inherit honor, but fools get only shame.

DAY FIVE

Question 45

Genesis 24:67 (NIV)

⁶⁷ Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Genesis 25:20 (NIV)

²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram[a] and sister of Laban the Aramean.

B I B L E C H A P T E R S

Genesis 22 (NIV)

- ¹Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.
- ²Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."
- ³Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about.
- ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.
- ⁵He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."
- ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,
- ⁷Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"
- ⁸Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.
- ⁹When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.
- ¹⁰Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.
- ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.
- ¹²"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."
- ¹³Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.
- ¹⁴So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."
- ¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time
- ¹⁶and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,
- ¹⁷I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,
- ¹⁸and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."
- ¹⁹Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.
- ²⁰Some time later Abraham was told, "Milkah is also a mother; she has borne sons to your brother Nahor:
- ²¹Uz the firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel (the father of Aram),
- ²²Kesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph and Bethuel."
- ²³Bethuel became the father of Rebekah. Milkah bore these eight sons to Abraham's brother Nahor.
- ²⁴His concubine, whose name was Reumah, also had sons: Tebah, Gaham, Tahash and Maakah.

Genesis 23 (NIV)

- ¹Sarah lived to be a hundred and twenty-seven years old.
- ²She died at Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went to mourn for Sarah and to weep over her.
- ³Then Abraham rose from beside his dead wife and spoke to the Hittites. He said,
- ⁴"I am a foreigner and stranger among you. Sell me some property for a burial site here so I can bury my dead."

⁵The Hittites replied to Abraham,

⁶“Sir, listen to us. You are a mighty prince among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will refuse you his tomb for burying your dead.”

⁷Then Abraham rose and bowed down before the people of the land, the Hittites.

⁸He said to them, “If you are willing to let me bury my dead, then listen to me and intercede with Ephron son of Zohar on my behalf

⁹so he will sell me the cave of Machpelah, which belongs to him and is at the end of his field. Ask him to sell it to me for the full price as a burial site among you.”

¹⁰Ephron the Hittite was sitting among his people and he replied to Abraham in the hearing of all the Hittites who had come to the gate of his city.

¹¹“No, my lord,” he said. “Listen to me; I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. I give it to you in the presence of my people. Bury your dead.”

¹²Again Abraham bowed down before the people of the land

¹³and he said to Ephron in their hearing, “Listen to me, if you will. I will pay the price of the field. Accept it from me so I can bury my dead there.”

¹⁴Ephron answered Abraham,

¹⁵“Listen to me, my lord; the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver, but what is that between you and me? Bury your dead.”

¹⁶Abraham agreed to Ephron’s terms and weighed out for him the price he had named in the hearing of the Hittites: four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weight current among the merchants.

¹⁷So Ephron’s field in Machpelah near Mamre—both the field and the cave in it, and all the trees within the borders of the field—was deeded

¹⁸to Abraham as his property in the presence of all the Hittites who had come to the gate of the city.

¹⁹Afterward Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave in the field of Machpelah near Mamre (which is at Hebron) in the land of Canaan.

²⁰So the field and the cave in it were deeded to Abraham by the Hittites as a burial site.