

Abraham and his son Isaac (Genesis 22:1-19)

How will we know how strong our faith is if it is not tested? In Genesis 22 we find the ultimate test of faith as God asks Abraham to sacrifice his only son, the son whom he loves, Isaac. Let's act out this chapter in the Bible to gain insight into what transpired and to perhaps catch a glimpse of the strength of our own faith.

Say it! Play it! Pray it!

Objectives:	Play out the Role of Abraham and Isaac when God asks Abraham to sacrifice his only son. Gain insight into our own faith. Have fun with your family.
Number of Players:	3 - 6 or more (narrator, God, Abraham, Isaac, Angel of the Lord, Sarah, donkey, ram, servants)
Length:	15 - 30 minutes
Set up:	You can get as elaborate as you like. You will need an area that will be Abraham's camp and another area that is Mount Moriah where Abraham is to sacrifice Isaac. Props: alter, ropes to bind, wood, knife, fire. As the Narrator is reading, the separate characters should act out what is being said and dramatize how these events make them feel. Although Sarah does not have a speaking role, she should act out how she might be feeling as these events are transpiring.

Narrator: Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham and said to him

God: Abraham!

Abraham: Here I am.

God: Take now your son, your only son Isaac whom you love and go up to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.

(Sarah should overhear this and act out how she is feeling)

Narrator: So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men,

Abraham: Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.

Narrator: So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said,

Isaac: My Father!

Abraham: Here I am, my son.

Isaac: Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

Abraham: My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.

Narrator: So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said,

Angel of the Lord: Abraham, Abraham!

Abraham: Here I am.

Angel of the Lord: Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.

Narrator: Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

Abraham: The name of this place is now called: The Lord will Provide.

Narrator: And it is called that to this day. In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided. Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven and said,

Angel of the Lord: By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and not withheld your son, your only son -- blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed because you have obeyed My voice.

Narrator: So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

(Sarah should act out her feelings when they return, Isaac with Abraham)

Discussion: Have each person share how it felt to them to play the role they did and what insights they gained about the people they played, God's character and their own life. Questions to consider: Why did Abraham tell his young men "WE will come back to you"? What was the significance of the 3 days that it took for them to travel to the place God had chosen for the sacrifice?

Prayer: Close in prayer thanking God for His provision and for all that you have learned and the fun you had with your family.