

# Bible Readings

## Genesis 21.1-3

**21** The Lord kept his word and did for Sarah exactly what he had promised. <sup>2</sup>She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would. <sup>3</sup>And Abraham named their son Isaac.

## Genesis 22

**22** Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

<sup>2</sup>"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."

<sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup>"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."

<sup>6</sup>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, <sup>7</sup>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?"

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

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. <sup>11</sup>At that moment the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!"

<sup>12</sup>"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."

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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."

# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What does God want instead of sacrifices?

Is it possible that this story in Genesis 22 is historical? Or is it intended to be a parable?

Can you think of a time when there was a ram in the bush for you?

Other Notes:

## September Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Su	Revelation 22	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 99	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Mo	Matthew 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 100	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Tu	Matthew 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 101	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	We	Matthew 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 102	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Th	Matthew 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 103	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Fr	Matthew 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 104	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Sa	Matthew 6	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 105	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Su	Matthew 7	<input type="checkbox"/>		Psalms 106	<input type="checkbox"/>