

GENESIS 19-24

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

This past week began with the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. God is about to wipe out an entire city as a result of the sin and wickedness that is taking place. Although this may seem harsh, we see that God's justice is never without purpose. We can trust in His character, even when it does not make sense. The story continues with another crisis in God providing a son for Abraham. Abraham told a king named Abimelech that his wife Sarah was his sister. Sarah was brought to King Abimelech, but the Lord comes to him in a dream and tells him the truth. Sarah is returned to Abraham and the Lord comes to Sarah and does what was promised.

After twenty-five years of waiting, God did what seemed impossible. Sarah became pregnant in her old age and gave birth to a son named Isaac. The name Isaac means "laughter" after Sarah's response to God's promise to her and Abraham. God provides for Hagar and Ismael even as they are sent away. God then tested the strength of Abraham's faith and asked him to do something really difficult. The Lord told Abraham, "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." Abraham immediately obeys, and so does Isaac. They got up early the next morning to do what God commanded them to do. As Abraham was about to sacrifice his son, the Lord provides a ram in the thicket to sacrifice instead. The Lord was pleased with Abraham's faith and Abraham named that place "the Lord will provide."

There are many similarities between the birth and sacrifice of Isaac and Jesus. Both the birth of Isaac and Jesus had been promised from the Lord, and had a long interval of time when it was promised and fulfilled. Both Isaac and Jesus rode in on a donkey to be sacrificed, carried the wood for their sacrifice, and both took place at Mount Moriah. However, there is a key difference in these stories. In the story of Isaac, there was a silent ram caught in a thicket of thorns wrapped around its head. God provided a substitute to be sacrificed instead of Isaac. Jesus was the "innocent lamb" who wore a crown of thorns around his head. Jesus was our substitute and was sacrificed on the cross for our sins. Remember that every story we read points to a bigger story of God's rescue plan through Jesus!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Our God is a provider!
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Birth of Isaac● Sacrifice of Isaac● A Wife for Isaac
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Genesis 22:2<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Then 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.”● Genesis 22:13-14<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Abraham 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. So 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.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sin<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Anything we do that does not please or honor God● Sacrifice<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Giving up something costly● Substitute<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Someone or something that takes the place of another

Reflection Questions

1.	How many years do Abraham and Sarah wait for a son?
2.	What does the Lord have Abraham to do in Genesis 22?
3.	What is something in your life that would be really hard to give up?
4.	What is something that God has provided for you in your life?