

Lesson: Genesis 22-24

God is good. Sometimes people question this truth with the thought “why do bad things happen to good people”, but God is indeed good, and we should remember that when God pushes us through difficult things it is to strengthen us for a greater purpose.

Abraham knows with all his heart that God is good, and we see an example of this in these chapters. God presents Abraham with a very fateful test, “God tested Abraham. He said to him, Abraham! Here I am, he replied. 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: 1-2). With this request from God, Abraham immediately obeyed. Abraham headed to the place that God told him with his son Isaac, but before he left to go perform the sacrifice, Abraham told the two servants that came with them that he and Isaac will be back, “He 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” (Genesis 22:5). Abraham did not doubt God's goodness, and because of Abraham's very close relationship with God, he knew that somehow Isaac his beloved son would not perish and that they both would be coming back.

Bible Study

Abraham knew that although he could not fathom what God was asking, God would provide a way to do exactly what needed to be done, and indeed, God provided. Abraham was withdrawn from killing his son and God provided “Himself” a lamb for the sacrifice instead (Genesis 22: 10-13). Although this is an extreme example of a trust between God and His loved one, this is definitely also a lesson to behold in awesome wonder. Remember that God spoke to Abraham throughout Abraham's life. God guided him and protected him, and Abraham had insight and an incredible understanding of God. There was no question about who God was to Abraham. This is a relationship of trust we can hope to have with God.

As the years passed and Abraham and his wife Sarah grew older, Sarah passed away in old age, and he was now alone with Isaac his son and the servants of his household. In his old age he wanted to make sure his son had a wife from his native country in Mesopotamia and not from the land of Canaan where they lived (Genesis 24: 1-4). The Canaanites were not God-fearing people and Abraham wanted to look after his son and have him continue in God's path. So, Abraham sent a servant to find a wife for Isaac, and because of the continued blessings of Abraham, a way was made for the intended wife to be found for Isaac (Genesis 24: 10- 67).

God is good, and it is through His goodness that all things work together. Just as God had always been good in the ups and downs of Abraham's life and the life of his descendants, so is He in ours.

Take-away: God is good, and we should never doubt his goodness in any circumstance/ When we have a complete relationship with God, we can have incredible trust with God/ Our blessings from God are extended to our loved ones.

Devotional

Genesis 22-24

How do you know God is good, that within Him there is no darkness?

What is your biggest experience with trusting God in your life so far?



Devotional

How has God tested you with difficulty, turning a trying time in your life for good?

How have you seen God's blessings extend to you from your parents and grandparents or guardians, and how do you think your blessings will transfer to the rest of your family?