

LIFEGROUPS

LIVING CHRIST : ABRAHAM & ISAAC TESTED

Icebreaker discussion from the scenario used in the sermon:

A train is running out of control down a track. In its path are five people who have been tied to the track by a madman.

Fortunately, you can flip a switch that will lead the train down a different track to safety. Unfortunately, there is a single person tied to that track.

- Would you flip the switch? Would you kill one to save five?

- What if the single one tied on the track, was your loved one? Would you flip the switch or kill the five innocent people?

Read Genesis 22

1. How and why was Abraham tested?
2. How do you think Isaac must have felt?
3. If you were in Abraham's position, how would you feel, react and deal with this situation? Would you be willing to sacrifice your son, your only son?
4. Why should we, as Christians trust God? What stops us from trusting Him?
5. Do you struggle with trusting and obeying God? If yes, please share. If no, share a time when you did struggle with this and what happened.
6. How has God provided in the past for you? How can we have hope that He'll provide for us in the future?
7. Is there anything in your life you feel God telling you to surrender? (You may wish to pair up and share these things, spending some time to pray together).

Leaders Notes

These notes are here as guidelines or commentary notes to help the leader. Let the Word of God lead you and your Lifegroup to HEAR God's prophetic message this week as you explore His Word together.

A little context regarding this week's study

The moral dilemma scenario is called the "trolley dilemma", most people would flip the switch for the first instance: killing one to save the five. Some joke and say they would try and untie all the victims, but of course this may not be possible. Some have also suggested they would not do anything and let nature take its course.

On the other hand, if the loved one was tied to the track, most people would not be willing to sacrifice him/her.

About Genesis 22

Abraham gets tested of his faith in God, to the point that he trusted and obeyed God; knowing full well that God is always right, and should his only beloved son die, Abraham knew that God would have the power to bring him back to life again (Hebrews 11:19 "He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead").

Abraham's faith gets tested, and God provides for Abraham after seeing his devotion to the Lord.

There are some similarities between Isaac and Jesus, but God wanted Abraham to see what it meant to sacrifice his only son. However, the only difference was that Jesus actually died and there was no replacement for him, whereas Isaac had a ram provided for his sacrifice.