

Communion Meditation – Jesus in Genesis

Genesis 22.6-10

Preparing the Sacrifice

August 1st, 2010

v1-8 ~ Review

1. God is testing Abraham's faith by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac
2. Abraham did not quarrel or hesitate ~ he immediately obeyed
3. They've arrived at Moriah and he and Isaac have gone on alone
4. Isaac asks "*where is the lamb*" and his father says "*God will provide*"

v9 ~ The dreaded work begins

- They arrive . . . Abraham builds an altar . . . Places the wood in order
 - Abraham has done this many times . . . He'll do it right . . .
- Mention has been made of wood, knife, fire
 - But no mention had been made of restraints for Isaac
 - I believe Isaac went willingly ~ but he needed to be bound
- The wood had been placed upon Isaac earlier . . .
 - But now Isaac is placed upon the wood
 - Jesus had carried the cross to Golgotha
 - Then he was nailed to it . . . Both were fastened to the wood . . .

v10 ~ "Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son"

- You can picture this so easily ~ Abraham's outstretched arm
- Let's pause here and ask a question . . .
- Abraham is about 110 years old
- *What was the greatest test of his faith in his many years?*
 - When God commanded him to leave Haran? *went with family*
 - When Isaac was first promised? *He laughed in his heart*
 - When Isaac didn't come for many years? *He had Ishmael instead*
 - When the command came to sacrifice Isaac?
 - Or now – this moment – as he stands over Isaac with the knife?

Our lives are filled with many challenges, many heartaches

We don't know when the greatest tests of faith will come

But we know what to do ~ just as Abraham did ~ trust and obey

Abraham's test was hard (the hardest?) ~ Yet he showed us the way . . .