**A FATHER WORTH FOLLOWING**

**Genesis 22:1-18**

**1**[**And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, *here* I *am*.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-1/)

**2**[**And he said, Take now thy son, thine only *son* Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-2/)

**3**[**And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-3/)

**INTRO:**

**1. Many homes are in trouble today because many homes are missing a father!**

**2. The homes that do have a man in the household does not mean they have a father in that home.**

**3. Our society has gotten so far away from the Word of God that they do not know what a dad is supposed to do or how a dad is supposed to act, interact, or react to their children.**

**4. Abraham is an example for the father’s to follow after. As a matter of a fact, he is an example for all to follow.**

**5. In this passage, we see what is important to him: 1) His Father 2) His Family 3) His Faith and 4) His Following**

**\*\*Do you know what happens to kids who are fatherless? Let me give you a few statistics:**

 **A. "85% of all youths in prison come from FATHERLESS homes**

 **B. "90% of all runaways & homeless children are from FATHERLESS homes**

 **C. "Girls without a FATHER at home are 71% more likely to have a teen pregnancy; 92% are more likely to divorce."**

 **D. "75% of all adolescents in drug abuse centers come from FATHERLESS homes."**

 **E. "71% of high-school dropouts are from FATHERLESS homes, but kids with involved FATHERS are 70% less likely to drop out."**

 **F. "80% of rapists with anger problems come from FATHERLESS homes.**

 **G. "63% of teen suicides come from FATHERLESS homes.**

 **H. "Teens in FATHERLESS households had a 30% higher risk of smoking, drinking, or drug use than those in all 2-parent households."**

 **I. "Children with involved FATHERS are more likely to get A’s and B's in school; more likely to enjoy school; and more likely to engage in productive activities."**

**\*\*Our children need fathers, and Abraham is an example father for us all to follow – not just dads.**

**\*\*So let’s look at a Father Worth Following and Follow Father Abraham.**

**Body – Follow Father Abraham**

**I. IN HIS COMMITMENT TO HIS FATHER**

**\*\*In Genesis 22:1 Abraham responded to God and said, “Behold, *here* I *am*.”**

 **A. HE WAS OBEDIENT**

**\*\*Genesis 22:3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, . . . and went unto the place of which God had told him.**

 **1. He went Without Dispute**

 **2. He went Without Doubt**

 **3. He went Waiting Direction**

**\*\*Are you that committed and obedient to the Father?**

 **B. HE WAS OBSERVANT**

**\*\*Genesis 22:4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.**

 **1. He was Looking for the Place to Serve in Worship**

 **2. He was Looking for the Place to Sacrifice in Worship**

**\*\*Oh how the so-called Christian Home and the so-called Church House would change if Dad would seek for THE place to Serve and to Sacrifice in Worship!**

 **C. HE WAS OUTWARD**

**\*\*Genesis 22:5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.**

 **1. The Servants knew he was going to Worship!**

 **2. The Son knew he was going to Worship!**

**\*\*Question: Are you someone that can be followed? Do you leave a good, clear, distinct and understandable path that your children, grandchildren, and family can follow in? \*\*Follow Father Abraham ‘cause somebody is following you!**

**II. IN HIS CONSIDERATION TO HIS FAMILY**

 **A. HE SECURED HIS SON IN THE WISDOM OF GOD**

**Genesis 22:7-8 7**[**And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, . . . And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-7/) **8**[**And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-8/)

**\*\* He taught Isaac that you can trust God’s wisdom with . .**

 **1. Confidence**

 **2. Certainty**

**\*\*Do your kids see you trusting God’s wisdom with Confidence and Certainty?**

 **B. HE STARTED HIS SON IN THE WAY OF GOD Genesis 25:5, 11 5**[**And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-25-5/) **11**[**And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-25-11/)

 **1. Isaac learned about Godly Worship from Abraham.**

 **2. Isaac learned about Godly Walking from Abraham.**

**\*\*After Abraham died, God blessed Isaac. That did not happen because Isaac was living like the devil! That was because he learned from his daddy how to worship God and how to walk with God!**

**\*\*What have you taught your Isaacs?**

 **C. HE SACRIFICED HIS SON TO THE WILL OF GOD Genesis 22:12 And he said . . . for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only *son* from me.**

 **1. Abraham gave his Boy to the Will of God**

 **2. Abraham gave his Best to the Will of God**

 **3. Abraham gave his Blessing to the Will of God**

**\*\*Isaac learned how much a Godly father loves the Lord and the blessings that follow when you follow God’s will.**

**\*\*Isaac had a father he could follow in how to lead your family in the will of God.**

 **\*\*Dad are you taking steps to raise a future godly person that can be someone that someone else will want to follow, or be able to follow, or be worth following?**

**III. IN HIS CONCERN TO HIS FAITHFULNESS**

 **Genesis 22:11 “Here *am* I.”**

 **A. HE WAS WORKING**

**Genesis 22:9 [and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order,](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Genesis-22-9/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%20Genesis%2022%3A9)**

**\*\*There’s work to be done to be a part of . . .**

 **1. God’s Worship**

 **2. God’s Work**

 **3. God’s Will**

**\*\*So many children today have no clue as to what church is much less understand the work that must be done to be a part of God’s worship, work, and will. Very few are teaching this to their children anymore.**

 **B. HE WAS WATCHING**

 **Genesis 22:13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind *him* a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.**

**\*\*Abraham did not look up until an angel of the Lord called unto him. That shows dedication and determination.**

 **1. He looked up to see a Redeemer.**

 **2. He looked up to see a Remedy.**

 **3. He looked up to see a Ram!**

**\*\*Don’t look up until you hear from God! When you hear from God that’s when you can look up and find your ram that will save your family!**

**Illuistration: Abraham did not know it at the time, but while he was climbing that mountain to go sacrifice his son in obedience to the Lord, God already had that ram climbing up the other side of the mountain! Ain’t it good when you and God and his supplement meet all in one place!**

 **C. HE WAS WORSHIPPING**

**Genesis 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said *to* this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.**

 **1. His worship was Special.**

 **a. It was special to the Lord.**

 **b. It was special to the Lad.**

**\*\*Do you worship in a way that is special to Christ, special to your Companion, special to your Children, and special to your Church?**

 **2. His worship was Sincere.**

 **a. It was a sincere glorification unto God.**

 **b. It was a sincere gift unto God.**

**\*\*How I wish more daddies would sincerely give unto God and glorify God with their worship and let their kids see them faithfully worship.**

 **3. His worship was Seen.**

 **a. It got God’s Attention.**

 **b. It got God’s Acknowledgment.**

**\*\*True worship never goes unnoticed or unseen. Christ is watching, and your children are watching as well.**

**CLOSE:**

**1. Abraham was a Father Worth Following so Follow Father Abraham!**

**2. Are you Fit to Follow? That applies to all of us!**

**3. Are you a Father that’s Fit to Follow?**

**4. Are you Committed to the Father? Are you Considerate of your Family? Are you Concerned about your Faithfulness?**

**5. You may say, “But I’m not a father.” Or you might say, “My kids are grown.” Oh but there is somebody following you! It might be my kids. It might be another’s kids. Somebody is watching and following you!**

**6. You ought to come to this altar right now and as many times as you can and feel led to do so because somebody will follow you.**

**7. They may not follow you today, but they may follow you down the road.**

**\*\*Come now and follow father Abraham and worship and pray! Commit yourself to being a father and a person worth following.**