

# My God Account

Series: What 2 Live 4

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**Scripture:** Genesis 22:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"  
"Here I am," he replied.

<sup>2</sup> Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

<sup>3</sup> Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup> 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."

<sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup> Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

<sup>9</sup> When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

<sup>12</sup> "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram <sup>[a]</sup> caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> 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."

# Group Session

## Opening Questions

Have you ever noticed on a tombstone that life is a dash between two dates? How does that make you feel? Does it encourage you to make your life count?

## Discussing the Scripture & Life

1. Read the passage above. What are your thoughts about this verse? Would it be hard to place God in front of your children in such a situation? What do you think this story taught Abraham?
2. What are your thoughts about a life plan... do you think it is a worthy idea? Do you think different personality types view this in different ways?
3. If the following items were on everybody's commitment list, which ones would most commonly be on life-support? (God, Self, Wife, Children, Friends, Career, Finances, Ministry)
4. The five parts of a life plan are listed below. Which part is most difficult to deal with? Why?
  - a. Purpose Statement
  - b. Envisioned Future
  - c. Supporting Verse
  - d. Current Reality
  - e. Specific Commitments
5. Life-changing Lesson #1 is this: **"To be God's friend, I must trust Him, even when it doesn't make sense."** Do any of you have stories in your life when you know God has led you to do something illogical that later proved to be God's will?
6. Life-Changing Lesson 2: **"To be God's friend, I must know Him by experience."** What experiences in your life help you to know God through experience? Why is this better spiritual learning than just reading the Bible? Why did God let Abraham experience this?
7. Life-Changing Lesson 3: **"I can be God's friend, because He provided His Son on the altar as a sacrifice for my sins."** Have you ever thought about how this story relates to Christ dying on the cross for our sins? Do you believe God was intentional in putting this event in Jewish history?
8. Life-Changing Lesson 4: **"I won't become a true friend of God unless my faith is tested."** This isn't welcome news to most of us. How does knowing this help us to be prepared?
9. What can we learn from the following verse?

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4, NASB

## Closing Challenge

Take some time this week and jot down some thoughts about what God wants to do through your life. Write down some comments as you spend time in prayer (and listening) to God.