



Beginnings 11

3/20/22

Genesis 22:1-14

1. Optional icebreaker question: what was the most important test you ever failed?

2. Genesis 22 is a story of how Abraham passed a test and trusted that God would provide. Think about tests you took in school: they were supposed to reveal the true nature of your knowledge about a subject, or the quality of your performance in a task. Drew said, “God allows tests of faith to help you grow.”

**Looking back on your life, have you been given a test that revealed the true state of your trust in God?

**Are you in a test of faith right now?

For more discussion: Drew also said, “God is more interested in your character than your comfort.”

**In the midst of a test, did you have trouble trusting God because he wasn’t making you comfortable?

**What have these tests revealed about your character?

3. Drew talked about how God is the only thing/person that can bear the weight of being our ultimate thing/person.

**What are some things/persons that you have made your ultimate?

**What was your experience when you realized that you had loved the right thing in the wrong order?

For more discussion: An important word in the Bible is *glory*.

**Before you go on (don’t read the next page!), share what you understand the *glory* of God to be.

3b. The Hebrew behind this word in the Old Testament is *cavod* (ka-voh-d). The general meaning of this word has to do with weight. God is infinitely more weighty than anything else. If you put God and anything else on a scale (the kind they had in the market to make sure your silver coins weighed as much as they should), nothing could equal God because he is valued more. This is *cavod*.

**How does this explanation change your view of God's glory?

4. Read Genesis 22:15-19. Note that it is after Abraham passes the test that God confirms the covenant from chapter 15:5-6. Drew has mentioned covenants that are conditional or unconditional. Read the context of these covenants and discuss the following questions.

**Are these covenants with Abraham conditional (does/did Abraham have to do something)?

**Is God's covenant with us (the new covenant through Jesus) conditional?