



## **SERMON BASED STUDY GUIDE**

Pastor Charlie Riley  
**Concealed to Revealed**

### **OPENING & PRAYER:**

The story of Abraham and Isaac is more than just a historical account—it's a prophetic picture, a layered revelation that points directly to Jesus and the heart of God the Father. When God called Abraham out of his homeland, He initiated a covenant—a formal love relationship—promising to bless Abraham, make his name great, and through his seed, bless all the families of the earth. Abraham's journey was marked by faith, not by his own works or perfection, but by his willingness to believe God's promises even when circumstances seemed impossible. At 75, Abraham was just getting started, showing us that God's timing and purposes often defy our expectations.

"Father, I thank you for Your word and Your promises. Continue to guide me as we piece together Your Word throughout the Bible. Bring clarity and understanding as we move through Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

## SCRIPTURE:

Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family, and from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." **Genesis 12:1-3**

Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." **Genesis 15:3-4**

Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. **Genesis 15:5-6**

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." **Genesis 22:1-2**

So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. **Genesis 22:3**

Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." **Genesis 22:4-5**

So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" **Genesis 22:6-7**

And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. **Genesis 22:8-9**

And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." **Genesis 22:10-11**

And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. **Genesis 22:12-13**

And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide (Jehovah-Jirah); as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided." Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, **Genesis 22:14-15**

and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. **Genesis 22:16-17**

In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba. **Genesis 22:18-19**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **John 3:16-17**

Now Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. **2 Chronicles 3:1**

..."Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." **Genesis 22:5**

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. **Hebrews 11:17-19**

Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." **John 8:54-56**

"My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb (Notice: the lamb) for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. **Genesis 22:7-8**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **John 1:29**

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. **Galatians 3:16**

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. **Galatians 3:28-29**

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. **Galatians 3:8-9**

## GO DEEPER:

The pinnacle of Abraham's faith journey comes in Genesis 22, where God asks him to offer his beloved son Isaac. This is not just a test of obedience, but a prophetic shadow of the Father offering His only begotten Son, Jesus. The details are striking: Isaac carries the wood for his own sacrifice, just as Jesus carried His cross; the journey takes three days, echoing the three days Jesus spent in the grave; and the location, Mount Moriah, is the very place where Jesus would later be crucified. Abraham's faith is so profound that he tells his servants, "We will come back to you," believing that God could raise Isaac from the dead if necessary.

God intervenes, providing a ram as a substitute, foreshadowing Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The promise is reaffirmed: through Abraham's seed—all nations will be blessed. This seed is ultimately Christ, and all who believe in Him are counted as Abraham's spiritual descendants, heirs to the promise.

From Abraham's story, we learn that faith precedes sight—he believed before he received. We are called to lay down what we love most at God's altar, trusting that He can resurrect and multiply what we surrender. The journey from promise to possession is often long and requires perseverance, but God's faithfulness never fails. Ultimately, the greatest blessing is not material, but relational: a deep, abiding relationship with the Father through the Son.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:

### **1. Faith is believing before seeing.**

Abraham was declared righteous not because of his actions, but because he believed God's promise even when it seemed impossible. True faith trusts God's word above circumstances, and this kind of faith is the foundation of our relationship with God. We are called to believe first, and then receive, just as Abraham did. **[10:10]**

### **2. Surrendering what we love most is the path to resurrection.**

Abraham's willingness to lay Isaac on the altar demonstrates that nothing should come between us and God—not even our most cherished blessings. When we surrender our "Isaacs," God is able to resurrect, restore, and multiply what we entrust to Him, but as long as we cling to them, they remain limited by our own hands. **[36:10]**

### **3. God's promises often unfold over a journey, not in an instant.**

Abraham waited 25 years from the initial promise to the birth of Isaac, teaching us that God's timing is purposeful. The process grows our faith, shapes our character, and prepares us to steward the fulfillment of His promises. Patience and perseverance are essential parts of walking with God. **[37:23]**

### **4. The cross was not an accident, but a fulfillment of prophetic patterns.**

The parallels between Isaac and Jesus—only sons, willing sacrifice, three-day journey, Mount Moriah—reveal the intricate design of God's redemptive plan. Jesus willingly laid down His life, and the Father willingly gave Him, so that through His sacrifice, all nations could be blessed and reconciled to God. **[25:39]**

### **5. Our identity and inheritance are rooted in Christ, the true Seed of Abraham.**

All who are in Christ are heirs to the promises given to Abraham: authority, provision, and most importantly, relationship with the Father. This identity transcends ethnicity, status, or gender; we are one in Christ, called to be a blessing to the world as spiritual descendants of Abraham. **[35:07]**

## LEARNING AND GROWING:

1. In Genesis 22, what specific instructions did God give Abraham regarding Isaac, and how did Abraham respond?
2. Why do you think God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, the son he loved and had waited so long for? What does this reveal about God's character and His relationship with Abraham? **[21:02]**
3. According to Galatians 3, who are considered Abraham's descendants and heirs to the promise?
4. According to the sermon, what does it mean for believers today to be "Abraham's seed" and heirs to the promise? How does this shape a Christian's identity? **[35:07]**
5. The sermon says our identity and inheritance are rooted in Christ, not in our background or achievements. Are there areas where you struggle to believe this? How can you remind yourself of your true identity in Christ? **[35:07]**

## CLOSING PRAYER:

"Father, thank you for the opportunities to grow in our faith. As we read through what is to come, we put our faith and trust in You. There may be questions, but when we lean on You, those questions seem small and insignificant. Thank you for guiding us through this world and guiding us to You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."