

Children's Church at home 28 June 2020

Genesis 22:1-14.

This is a really challenging story. God asks Abraham to make an enormous sacrifice.

Craft ingredients: 2 paper plates, (or circles of card), a split pin, (or a pipe cleaner, cut in half), a small piece of kitchen foil, pens and scissors.

Ask the children if they remember last Sunday's story (Hagar and Ishmael set off into the desert and they think they're going to die of thirst, but God takes care of them)

Introduction: What is your most precious thing? Your bike, your teddy, your playstation? Imagine if you had to give it away. Have you ever had to do a test? (Music exam? Bleep test? Eye test? Spelling test?) In this story, God sets Abraham a test.

Story: The story is not in the Lion First Bible, but you can read the Easy to Read Version here:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+22%3A1-14&version=ERV>

Video: This is a fun song! You might want to change sons to kids! But do dance and sing along! https://youtu.be/5o_J30x6E6s

And here is the story. <https://youtu.be/i3c3gTwW-ME>

Quiz: Where did God ask Abraham to go? Who had to go with him? How long did it take to get there? What did Isaac ask his Dad? And what was the reply? What did the angel say to Abraham? What did God provide as a sacrifice? What did Abraham say afterwards?

Think: God asked Abraham to give up his most precious thing. Wow. How do you think Abraham felt? But he didn't argue, and he did what he was asked. Wow again! He trusted God and was sure that he would keep his promise, (that Abraham would be the father of many nations in Genesis 17:4, and later God says that he will have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky, Genesis 26:4.)

Craft: see video.

Activity: test yourself and compare your results with your family: how far can you jump, from standing? How low can you limbo?

Prayer: Oh Jesus, thank you that you don't ask us to give up the things that are most precious to us. Keep us strong when we have to face a test that makes us feel sad. Show us how to cope and help us to be generous with the things we treasure. And thank you that you are always there for us. Amen.

We have learned the grace, and we can ask for your blessing on ourselves and all our friends and family when we pray it: may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.