

## Genesis 22:7-8

*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?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.*

When people read this story, one thing they may not realize is that Isaac was a teenager by this time and that Abraham was over 100 years old. Therefore, Isaac could have said, "Forget you dad. You're an old geezer, let's put you on the altar instead."

But he didn't, Isaac was obedient to his father and willingly laid down on the altar just as his father told him to do.

Why? One reason is that back then children were obedient to their parents. Unfortunately, the way the world is today, it's hard for us to understand or conceive a child being that obedient to their father. I mean it's like pulling teeth just to get them to take out the trash, or do the dishes or clean their room.

But I believe that this account goes much deeper than being obedient to a father. And what I am seeing is in today's devotional verses.

Let's read the account in the NLT.

† **Genesis 22:6-8 (NLT)** *So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" "God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.*

So here you are with your son, walking together and your son knows why you are going up the mountain, which is to offer a sacrifice to God. So then your son, who is carrying the wood to be put under the sacrifice and to be burnt, turns to you and says, "Hey dad, ***we have the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?***"

And your response is, ***"God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son."*** And then you ***both walked on together.***

Notice that there is no argument from Isaac, and no further questions from him either. Isaac trusts in his dad, but not only his dad, but in his dad's God. Abraham told Isaac plain and simply ***"God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering."*** All his life Isaac probably heard about God from his dad, and Abraham told Isaac all the great things God had done for him, including the promise God had given to him, which would be for Isaac as well.

So even on the altar, Isaac knew his dad's God and trusted in Him just like his dad did. Even ***when they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and***

*arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. Genesis 22:9-10 (NLT)*  
It doesn't tell of Isaac saying a word or trying to struggle to get away. Because he trusted his dad and his dad's God.

We need to stop as parents and look at our lives, and ask ourselves if our kids see us this same way too? If not, why?

One more note on this, is in **Genesis 22:16-18** 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. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

Not only was Abraham blessed because of his obedience to God, but Isaac was too, and not only Isaac, but the nation of Israel, and not only the nation of Israel but the entire world was blessed, simply because Abraham taught his son about God and because he not only told him about his God, but lived what he told him.

So your obedience not only affects you, but your family and those around you.

The scary part is your disobedience affects them too.

† **Proverbs 22:6** *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Are you training up your children to be like an Isaac, in the way you live, what you watch on TV, what music you listen to, the way you talk, and the way you talk about others? Have you taught them the great things and promises God has done for you?