

Sermon Outline: Genesis 22:1-2; 12-19/Hebrews 11:8-12

“Abraham’s Way: Trust, Surrender, and the Journey into God”

I. Introduction: The Jesus Way Has Ancient Companions

Jesus’ Way is rooted in the Old Testament. Abraham is not a random figure—he is a companion who reveals the Way of trust and surrender.

- Peterson: Jesus’ Way is carried through Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, Isaiah.
- Abraham shows us that faith is not an idea—it is a journey.
- Faith begins with **letting go**.

Question: What part of your life feels “familiar” but spiritually stagnant?

Application: Identify one “familiar comfort” (routine, habit, assumption) you can loosen this week to make room for God’s leading.

II. Abraham: The Way of Trust and Surrender

Abraham leaves without a map. He trusts God more than his own understanding.

- Faith is walking with God into the unknown.
- Faith requires relinquishing control, certainty, and self-reliance.
- Abraham’s obedience is relational, not informational.

Questions: Where do you rely more on your own understanding than on God’s voice?

What “map” do you wish God would give you?

Application: Practice a simple prayer of relinquishment each morning: *“Lord, I release my need to control today. Lead me.”*

III. Faith Must Be Tested to Become True

Untested faith may be fantasy, illusion, or self-deception.

- “The heart is deceitful above all things...” (Jer. 17:9).
- We cannot test ourselves; God tests us for truth and depth.
- Abraham’s life is a long curriculum of trust—100 years of formation.
- Testing reveals whether we are **using God** or **letting God use us**.

Questions: What recent experience felt like a “faith test”?

How did that experience expose your self-reliance or self-protection?

Application: When facing difficulty, ask: *“Is this a moment to trust God more deeply rather than grasp for control?”*

IV. Mount Moriah: The Climax of Faith

Moriah is where God asks for what we treasure most—not to harm us, but to free us.

- Abraham climbed Moriah not with understanding, but with trust.
- Moriah is the place of surrender, not destruction.

- Jesus completes Moriah in Gethsemane: “Not my will but Yours.”
- Moriah is where faith becomes surrender, and surrender becomes transformation.

Questions: What is your “Isaac”—the thing you treasure most or fear losing?
What might God be freeing you from through surrender?

Application: Write down one attachment you sense God inviting you to release.

- Pray: *“Lord, I place this on the altar. Free me from what binds me.”*

V. The Way of Sacrifice: How Faith Matures

Peterson: “A sacrificial life is the only means by which a life of faith matures.”

- Sacrifice is not punishment—it is formation.
- Relinquishment opens us to an expansive, God-willed life.
- Faith is not knowing where you are going—faith is knowing who is leading you.

Questions: What sacrifice has shaped your faith most deeply?
Where is God inviting you to grow through letting go?

Application: Choose one small act of sacrifice this week (time, comfort, preference) and offer it intentionally to God as worship.

VI. Where Is Your Mount Moriah?

Every believer eventually stands on their own Moriah.

- Moriah is not a place of death—it is a place of freedom.
- God asks for what we cling to so He can give us Himself.
- Surrender is the doorway to spiritual maturity.

Questions: What fear keeps you from stepping onto your Moriah?
What freedom might be waiting on the other side of surrender?

Application: Share your “Moriah” with a trusted friend or spiritual companion this week.
Invite them to pray with you for courage and trust.

VII. Conclusion: Walking the Jesus Way

Abraham shows us the Jesus Way—trust, surrender, and sacrificial obedience.

- Faith is trust in motion.
- Faith is relinquishment that leads to life.
- Faith is walking into the unknown with the God who knows us completely.

Closing Challenge

- What step of trust is God inviting you to take this week?

Closing Prayer

“Lord, lead us as You led Abraham. Teach us to trust You when we cannot see, to surrender what we cling to, and to walk into the unknown with confidence in Your goodness. Amen.”