

Kids' Chronicle

THURSDAY, February 24, 1994 VOLUME III, ISSUE NO. 4 BY JOE SARNICOLA

God tests Abraham

One day, Abraham heard a voice calling him.

"Abraham, Abraham!"

"Yes, Lord, here I am."

"I know that you love your son, Isaac, very much. I want you to take him to the land of Moriah. When you reach the mountain, I want you to offer him to me as a sacrifice."

Bright and early the next morning, Abraham cut and bundled the wood that he needed for the fire and readied some coal. He put the loads on his donkey with the help of two of his servants. Then he called Isaac.

"Isaac, my son, we are going on a long journey. The traveling may be difficult, but if you have faith, the Lord will watch over us and keep us safe from harm."



Illustration by Kathy Welsh

'Do not hurt the boy in any way. You have proven that your faith in God is so strong that you would obey him, even if it meant the death of your only son.'

"I understand, Father. I will do whatever you ask me to do."

The three men and young Isaac set off for the distant land of Moriah. The servants prepared meals over a campfire and at night everyone slept in tents.

After three days, Abraham recognized the place God had told him to find. He told his servants, "Stay here and make a camp. I will take Isaac to worship God with me, and we will be back later. Isaac, you carry the wood and I will carry the coal."

As they walked, Isaac asked Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?"

"I see that we have wood and coal for the fire, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?"

"God will provide it," answered Abraham.

When Abraham found a suitable spot, he built an altar with the wood and the coal. He tied up Isaac and set him on the altar, then pulled out a knife and raised it over his head with the blade pointing toward Isaac.

"Abraham, Abraham," a voice

called out.

Abraham lowered the knife.

"Yes? I am Abraham. Who calls me?"

An angel of the Lord appeared. "Do not hurt the boy in any way. You have proven that your faith in God is so strong that you would obey him, even if it meant the death of your only son."

The angel disappeared and immediately Abraham could hear the bleating of a ram whose horns were trapped in a nearby bush. Abraham untied Isaac and offered the ram as a sacrifice. "The Lord provides," was all Abraham could say.

Then the Lord spoke to Abraham. "I will bless you with riches because you did not even hold back your son from me. And I will bless all of your descendants as a reward for your faithfulness. Abraham and Isaac met the servants back at the camp and they all returned home in safety."

Read more about it: Genesis 22

Q&A

1. What did God ask Abraham to do?
2. What did God promise Abraham for his obedience?

Abraham's Grandsons

Using Genesis 35 as a guide, unscramble the names of Jacob's 12 sons. Answers on page 17.

1. burnee _____
2. minose _____
3. live _____
4. hajdu _____
5. scarhais _____
6. lubnuze _____
7. jsophe _____
8. nbimnaj _____
9. dna _____
10. anhpatil _____
11. dag _____
12. reash _____



Bible Accent

Brotherhood-Sisterhood Week

In February 1933, Father McMenamin of Denver promoted the first National Day of Brotherhood. Ten years later, the day was expanded to Brotherhood Week to celebrate and honor cultural and religious diversity in America and to emphasize justice and equality among Americans. In 1978 the name was again changed to Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week.

This week-long celebration is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. This Conference is an organization that works against prejudice and discrimination. It conducts workshops and other educational programs across the country throughout the year.

Their address is 71 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY, 10003.

Saint David

Saint David, the patron saint of Wales, lived from 520-590. He traveled all over his country preaching and he also established several monasteries, the most well known being the one in Menevia. Menevia is now called the City of St. David, and it is the main religious center in Wales.

David was the son of a Welsh aristocrat and he studied with the famous Welsh monk, Patrick, who was also declared a saint. Saint David is honored on March 1.

Bible Trivia

What were the names of Isaac's twin sons?

Send answers to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name and school name with your entry.

All entries must be received by March 10, 1994. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner will be notified by mail and receive a gift courtesy of Logos Bookstore.

Last month's winner was Katherine Nicholson, of Holy Trinity School in Webster who correctly identified Ninevah as the city about which Nahum prophesized.

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