

V. SACRIFICE LEADS TO BLESSING

*“9 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.
10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.”*
Genesis 22:9-10

Three blessings you receive when you sacrifice:

A. The blessing of passing the test.

“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.” Genesis 22:12

B. The blessing of seeing God provide.

*“13 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.
14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”* Genesis 22:13-14

C. The blessing of increasing significance.

*15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,
16 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—
17 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.
18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”* Genesis 22:15-18

BE FAITHFUL IN SACRIFICE

FAITHFUL Through The Seasons Of Life Faithful In Sacrifice Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Solomon wrote, *“To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:”* (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Just like there are seasons in nature, you will go through different seasons in life. No matter what season you are in the one constant requirement from God is for you to be faithful.

“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”
I Corinthians 4:2

Faithful means to be full of faith!! And when you are faithful God will bless your life.

B. In this message series, Pastor Steve will reveal how to be faithful through the seasons of life. He will draw from forty years of experience in leading our church. He will guide you through six important seasons that are common to all of us. This six part series features the following messages:

Aug 21	Faithful In Preparation
Aug 28	Faithful In Family
Sep 4	Faithful In Obedience
TODAY	Faithful In Sacrifice
Sep 18	Faithful In Health
Sep 25	Faithful In Revival

C. **Text:** Genesis 22:1-18

- Faithful In Sacrifice: A Season Of Time To Build!
- Sacrifice Thought: There is no success without sacrifice. If you succeed without sacrifice, then it is because someone who went before you made the sacrifice. If you sacrifice and don't see success, then someone who follows will reap success from your sacrifice.

HOW TO BE FAITHFUL IN SACRIFICE

I. SACRIFICE IS NECESSARY FOR SPIRITUAL MATURITY

“Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” Genesis 22:1

The difference between God’s testing and Satan’s tempting:

- A.** When God tests you, He wants to develop you and help you to pass.

“6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,” I Peter 1:6-7

- B.** When Satan tempts you, He wants to destroy you and help you to fail.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” I Peter 5:8

II. SACRIFICE IS GIVING UP SOMETHING PRECIOUS

“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 22:2

- A.** God sacrificed the life of His Son Jesus for you.

“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

- B.** God expects you to sacrifice your life for Him.

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.” Romans 12:1

III. SACRIFICE IS SOMETIMES NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD

“6 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. 7 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

- A.** This is a story, not about the death of Isaac, but the death of Abraham – death to self!!

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20

- B.** You can trust God’s heart even when you can’t fully trace His hand.

“But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.” Job 23:10

IV. SACRIFICE IS BASED ON FAITH

“And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together.” Genesis 22:8

- A.** Abraham fully trusted God.

“17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” 19 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

- B.** Faith is confident obedience to the Word of God regardless of circumstances or consequences

“His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” John 2:5