



GROUP DISCUSSION

- ❑ **CONFIDENTIALITY** | What's said in the group stays in the group.
- ❑ **NO CROSS-TALK** | Be considerate of others as they share. Refrain from side conversations and texting during group time.
- ❑ **NO FIXING** | We are not in the group to fix each other. Jesus does that part.
- ❑ **SHARING** | Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Don't talk too much or too little. Every person brings something valuable to the group.



INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

THE REFINER'S FIRE

A life of faith is a lot like refining gold through fire in order to get rid of the impurities and produce something beautiful and valuable. God uses situations in your life to test your faith and prove its genuineness. God is making something beautiful and valuable out of you and He often uses difficulty and adversity to test your faith. His goal? To develop and prove our character so that you can live by faith in all circumstances. True faith is tested and rewarded by God.

Q: *Share about a time when your faith was tested. What did you learn about God? Yourself?*



DEEPER DIVE

Select 2–3 questions to discuss as a group.

EVERYTHING ON THE LINE

Abraham is about to face the ultimate test of his faith. The patriarch has been through a lot in his life of faith but now comes a monumental test. This test will prove whether Abraham will put God above everything else, including his own family. Will Abraham put everything on the line and trust God to provide for him? Let's find out.

Q: Have someone read Genesis 22:1-19. Where do you see Abraham's faith in this story? Where do you see God's provision?

Q: Why must true faith be tested? Why is it necessary?

Q: How can faith in adversity be a good witness to the goodness and faithfulness of God to others?



REFLECTION AND NEXT STEPS

Select 2–3 questions from this section to answer.

OBEDIENCE AND REWARD

Abraham proved his faith by obedience in three ways. First, *his faith was immediate*. He didn't reason with God or try to negotiate a second option. He simply heard the command and obeyed. Second, *his obedience was based on faith*. Despite the circumstances, Abraham held tightly to the promise that God gave him. He believed that God wouldn't break His promise and would somehow make provision. Third, *his obedience was thorough and complete*. There was no meeting God halfway for Abraham. He went the whole way with God and was prepared to do *exactly* what God commanded.

We face hard times and adversity when our faith is tested. The good news is God rewards our faith. He tests our faith and rewards us when we pass the test. But faith is not so much about what we do for God but what God does for us.

God always provides. He provided another sacrifice for Abraham and He provides another sacrifice for us – His Son, Jesus Christ. God provided salvation for us by putting His own Son on the altar. Jesus was sacrificed for our sins and was raised from the dead in order to give us a way back to God. God’s name is exalted when we see the great lengths this Father was willing to go in order to bring us back to Him.

🙏: *What personally keeps you from being obedient in your faith?*

🙏: *What motivates you to be obedient to God in your life?*

🙏: *How would you live differently if you lived every moment of your life through the lens of gratitude for what God has done for you through His Son, Jesus Christ?*



PRAY

Praise God for being your God, the Provider. Thank Him that He sees you and knows what you need – salvation and new life. Ask Him to reveal any ways that you are not being obedient to Him and need to turn to Him in faith and trust.