

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource This monthly magazine gives your family ideas for creating fun, spiritually forming times in your home—setting aside sacred space in the midst of your active, everyday lives.

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GOD IS PROVIDER

Abraham and Isaac

Genesis 18: 21—22

God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. Just before Abraham completes the act, the angel of the Lord stops him and provides an animal to sacrifice in place of Isaac.

JUST FOR FUN

Get out some baby pictures of your children. Let them look through the pictures, and tell them a little about the day they were born. Tell them about the excitement and anticipation that came with watching them be born and the love you felt for them before they were born. **Read Genesis 21:1–6** and discuss how Abraham and Sarah must have felt when Isaac was finally born after many decades of hoping, praying and waiting upon the Lord to fulfill His promise.

REMEMBER VERSE

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalms 90:2

DID YOU KNOW?

- Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah was 90 years old when Isaac was born.
- Though God did not require Abraham to sacrifice his son, God did require that Abraham be obedient—even in the face of potential heartbreak.
- The mountain where Abraham laid his son, Isaac, on the altar was called Mt. Moriah. Many scholars believe that on this very spot 2,000 years later, God sacrificed His only Son, Jesus.
- After his near sacrifice of Isaac, God rewarded Abraham for his obedience by reaffirming His covenant with Abraham.

YOUNGER KIDS

The story of Abraham and Isaac can be a scary one for young children. When studying this passage, be sure that your child understands that Isaac was not harmed in this story, and that God does not ask parents to bring harm to children.

OLDER KIDS

Your older child is capable of understanding what it means to sacrifice something in order to worship God. Ask him to think about things that God may be asking him to sacrifice in order to grow closer to Him.

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss the following together:

- **What happened that made Abraham and Sarah so excited?**
- **When have you seen God provide for you or your family?**
- **How can you show God that you believe He will provide for you in the future?**

BLESSING

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** @ HomeFrontMag.com

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know that God is your Provider. May you trust in His provision and follow Him wherever He leads you.**