



OMG — reclaiming the NAME above all names
Week 3 — Jehoram Jireh

Need help navigating an online group session? Reach out to MichaelS@wschurch.org with questions and to get tips for how to stay connected even when you can't meet in person!

Sometimes, when life proves difficult, it's tough to trust that God will provide – and yet, he IS Jehovah-Jirah, our provider. Like Abraham, we can trust that even in the midst of life's most difficult circumstances, God will provide what we need.

Scripture:

Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called "Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the servants. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

"God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. At that moment the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!"

"Don't lay a hand on the boy!" the angel said. "Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son."

Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means "the Lord will provide"). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

Genesis 22:1-14 NLT

Icebreaker and Intro Questions:

1. How have you had to use technology differently in this season? (Zoom Meetings, FaceTiming loved ones, etc.)
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)
3. What's the hardest test you've ever taken?

Discussion Questions:

4. A.W. Tozer said, "What comes to mind when you think of God is the most important thing about you." Share what comes to mind when you think of God.
5. Read Genesis 22:1-14 quietly by yourself or have one person read it out loud. What do you notice in this story?
6. A difficult question Eddie posed in his message to us was, "Whom do you love more – the blesser or the blessing?" How have you wrestled with this in your relationship with God? Do you find yourself wanting things FROM God? How do you stay connected TO God?
7. Jehovah-Jireh means "God will provide." What have you learned about God's provision in your life up to now?
8. Eddie shared in his message: "Abraham did everything he could do, while waiting for God to do what only God could do. Faith isn't passive. Faith isn't lazy. Faith is active. Faith is obedience. Faith is moving forward." How can you actively practice faith this week?
9. Spend some time sharing how you are asking God to provide for you right now. Spend some time in prayer together to close your group time.

This week:

- In one of his Facebook LIVE devotions, Eddie invited us to **read a chapter a day from the book of Matthew starting in chapter 21**. These chapters zoom in on Jesus' final week and allow us to walk with him through these defining moments of our faith. As you read, ask yourself, "Why would the Holy Spirit emphasize these events?" Let's invite God to be with us in a unique way this holy week leading up to Easter.
- Spend some quiet moments talking to Jesus about his question in Matthew 16:15 – "Who do you say I am?" Talk to him honestly about your relationship to him and the questions you have for him. (You could talk out loud, journal, or take a walk as you pray.)

- **Reach out to someone you know who doesn't attend church regularly and invite them to Easter at West Side next week!** Our website - www.wschurch.org has a list of service times and a link to church online.

Notes: