

**Sermon Series: "Making A Difference"**

**Message Summary:** How do you know if your faith is any good? **Answer: Get it tested.** Put it to the test. How do you know if a product is any good? You bring it through rigorous testings. That's how you know. True faith and love will get stronger, even in the midst of testings. In fact, when we're at ease, we're more in danger than at any other time. It's good periodically to be tested and that's why God allows it, to show us where we're at, He already knows. But the test will strengthen our faith and produce a great story for His glory.

## Testing Faith & Love

Genesis 22:1-19

### 1. Abraham's faith was tested. vv. 1-3

### 2. Abraham's faith was triumphant. vv. 4-6

### 3. Abraham's faith was a type (or symbol). vv. 7-19

Hebrews 1:1; Hosea 12:10

- Abraham- God the Father
- Isaac- Jesus (Hebrews 11:17)
- Mt. Moriah- Golgotha (2 Chronicles 3:1)
- 3 days Journey- Considered his son dead (Hebrews 11:19)
- 2 unnamed men- between 2 thieves
- Laid wood on Son's back- Jesus carried the cross
- Type of the Father & Type of the Son going up a hill called Golgotha 2,500 years before Jesus' death on the cross.

### **LifeGroup Questions: *All LifeGroups are on Summer Break***

**BEGIN IT (5min)** – Time spent in praise and opening prayer.

**OPEN IT (10min)** – How good are you at keeping your promises? Explain.

**EXPLORE IT (60min)** – Read Genesis 22:1-19 and review Sunday's sermon outline together with your group. Stop at each point allowing people to share their additional comments or notes taken while listening to the sermon. Now answer these questions:

1. How does the greatest test of Abraham's life and how he responds to it encourage you?
2. What new insights does this message give you about the testing of our faith?
3. When you think your faith is being tested, what truths in this message give you security in your relationship with God?
4. With what do you need to trust God even though you can't see what the future holds?

**APPLY IT (15min)** –How has this message added to your understanding of God and your relationship? How will you apply this new understanding to your life?