

Name: _____

Date: _____

ISAAC: THE CHILD OF PROMISE

“Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise.” (Gal 4:28)

Objectives

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <i>Knowledge of God's Will</i> | Isaac, a fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham, served as a bridge to pass on that promise. He was a prefiguration of the Christ to come. |
| <i>Knowledge of God</i> | God is faithful, and His promises are true. |
| <i>Good Works</i> | Trust in God's promises and commit to obeying His word. Understand the importance of being children of promise, and of how this should affect our lives |

A. The Miracle of Isaac's Birth

God's promise to Abraham was clear: Abraham would receive a son by his wife, Sarah. Because of God's power and promise, despite the seemingly impossible circumstances, Isaac was born.

Understanding God's Sovereignty

Paul wrote that the believers are like Isaac, the children of promise. This means that God has specially chosen us to receive His promises (Gal 4:28). This status, however, is not because of anything that we have done. This selection is part of God's sovereignty and choosing.

B. Isaac: A Life Defined by Obedience

1. *Isaac's obedience to his parents:* Even while being tied to the altar, the Bible records no protests on Isaac's part. If we were to put ourselves in his shoes, it would be difficult to imagine that we would be silent as our parent prepared to sacrifice us! He also willingly submitted to his father's decisions even later as an adult, when Rebekah was presented to him.
2. *Isaac's obedience to God:* Because he remained in Gerar as God commanded, despite the famine, the Lord blessed Isaac and helped to take care of him. Even with all this wealth though, Isaac did not forget God. When he arrived at Beersheba, his first action was to build an altar to God before setting up his family's tent or digging a well for his herds.

A Prefiguration of Christ

If we closely examine Isaac's birth and early life, we can actually see many similarities between him and the Lord Jesus. Not only was his birth a miracle from God, but his quiet obedience in being offered as a sacrifice, as well as some other characteristics of the event, foreshadow Christ's own crucifixion.

C. Isaac: A Life of Faith

1. *Faith in God's provision:* Instead of arguing over wells that were rightfully his, Isaac simply packed up, moved on, and found another place. As a result of his faith and God's blessings, even pagan worshippers saw and admitted the existence of the one true God.
2. *Faith in God's promise:* Despite Jacob's deception, Isaac did not get angry, but fulfilled his duty in passing on God's blessings. He successfully served as a bridge in giving God's promise to the next generation.

Life Application

1. Living as a Child of Promise
2. Trusting in God's Promises

Name: _____

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Lesson 7 Homework Assignment

Isaac: The Child of Promise

| | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Read | | | | | | | |
| Pray | | | | | | | |

Memory Verse (Galatians 4:28):

1. What unifies all the different pairs in the memory verse?
2. "So he _____ an _____ there and _____ on the name of the LORD, and he _____ his _____ there; and there Isaac's servants _____ a _____."
(Genesis 26:25)
3. How did Isaac prefigure Christ? Write down at least three ways, with verse references if possible.
4. Describe two events in which Isaac showed his faith towards God.
5. How should the knowledge that we are children of promise change how we live our life?
6. Take a moment to reflect on yourself. In what area of your life can you make better choices as a child of promise? Write down how you can be a better child of promise this week.

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Life Application: Living as a Child of Promise

“Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise.” (Gal 4:28)

How should the knowledge that we are children of promise change how we live our life? Isaac not only trusted in God’s sovereignty and faithfulness, but also actively sought after Him. He allowed the Lord to lead him in all the different aspects of his life, and he understood that as long as he obeyed God, then God would take care of him. Let’s look at a few scenarios to understand how we should live our life as a child of promise.

Scenario 1

Lillian had a big argument with her older sister Lisa, and they were no longer speaking to one another. Two weeks had passed since their argument, but both continued to give the other the cold shoulder. It was like a game of who could ignore the other person more! Lillian didn’t like how things were, but she also didn’t want to be the one to apologize, since she didn’t do anything wrong!

Discussion

- As a child of promise, what should Lillian do? Use a Bible verse to support your answer.

Scenario 2

Nicholas was constantly glued to his phone. It was instinctual for him to pick it up and check for messages every few minutes. He ate meals with his phone and always had it close at hand when he was out. It was the last thing he looked at before sleeping, and the first thing he reached for when he woke. Nicholas didn’t feel like it was a problem, though, because all his friends were exactly the same way.

Discussion

- As a child of promise, what should Nicholas do? Use a Bible verse to support your answer.

Scenario 3

Eric’s parents have a strict rule that all homework must be done before going out to play. One day, his friends tell him that they will be playing a new video game after school. They are all excited because this is the latest game in a popular series that they have been anticipating. Other people at school have already begun raving about how good it is! Eric is already on his way to his friend’s house when he suddenly remembers that he has an unfinished English paper, due the next day.

Discussion

- As a child of promise, what should Eric do? Use a Bible verse to support your answer.