



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week:

Genesis 22:1-19

Message for the Week:

My One and Only Son

Sunday, May 21 , 2023

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is the most difficult thing that you've had to do?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Genesis 22:1-19](#) out loud.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## Respond / Reflect:

Why do you think God made Abraham take a 3-day journey before the sacrifice?

How has your view of this story changed throughout your life? What new layers have you discovered or experienced?

What are you willing to give up for God without getting anything in return?

Are we hanging on to anything that is preventing us from experiencing complete surrender and acceptance to the Lord's will for us?

## Try It:

What is God asking you to surrender today? Where is God asking you to trust Him completely? What do you need to do to make this happen? Are you going to do it?

## Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Father, as I journey in this life with you, give me the courage to surrender all of my life to you. Help me to see the things of this world that I need to completely release to you so that I can live more fully in your way. AMEN

## Missional/Spiritual Practice: Hospitality

During the months of April and May, you are invited and encouraged to engage in the missional practice of [Hospitality](#). Hospitality is about creating welcoming space for the other. The practice of hospitality originated in the ancient world and was expected as travelers would seek shelter and food after traveling great distances. This practice is about living a life of hospitality. Henri Nouwen writes, "Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines."