

“Trust” Sermon Notes
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Today’s Big Idea –
“We can’t grab God’s hand if we’re holding on to an idol.”

Genesis 22:1–13 (NLT)

¹Some time later, God tested Abraham’s faith. “Abraham!” God called. “Yes,” he replied. “Here I am.”

²“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.”

We can’t fully trust God if we are holding on to something or someone more tightly than we are holding on to Him.

Quote – Corrie Ten Boom –

“Hold everything in your hands lightly, otherwise it hurts when God pries your fingers open.”

If something or someone has become more important to us than God, it or they have become an idol.

God has given us so many good gifts but He never intended for any of them to become an idol in our lives.

There are four categories of things in our lives that can easily become idols:

- **Possessions**
- **Plans**
- **Pride**
- **People**

³The 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.

⁴On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵“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.”

⁶So 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,

⁷Isaac 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?”

⁸“God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

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⁹When 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.

¹⁰And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice.

Sometimes, we can only know if something is an idol when its presence in our life is threatened.

¹¹At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes,” Abraham replied. “Here I am!”

¹²“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.”

¹³Then 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.

¹⁴Abraham 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.”

God does not want to take things from us, He only wants our heart to be fully His.

Quote – Corrie Ten Boom –

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

Next Steps

- 1) Ask yourself if there is something in your life that if God asked you to give it to Him that you would clench it and say “No!”
- 2) Ask God to give you Abraham-like faith that would enable you to trust Him even if you don’t understand what is happening in your life.

“We can’t grab God’s hand if we’re holding on to an idol.”