

# Sermon Study Guide – February 18th, 2018:

## *Today's Focus – "Road to Redemption: Turn Around!"*

### 1) Thoughts to get you started...

- ♦ When do you need to turn around in life? When do you need to turn back to God? What might prevent you from doing so?
- ♦ Lent is often thought of as a time of giving things up. How can that help us “turn around”? How do we know what to give up?

### 2) Today's Message: Genesis 22:11-18

*<sup>1</sup>But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. <sup>12</sup>“Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.” <sup>13</sup>Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.” <sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time <sup>16</sup>and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”*

### 3) What does God want you to know today?

*Throughout the sermon, consider...*

How does today's sermon show you your sin? (i.e. What's the law?)

How does today's sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What's the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:

*Feel free to answer the following questions to help you follow the sermon...*

1. As we think about giving up things for Lent, what does this account suggest we need to give up?
  
2. Why *must* we be ready to turn away from even our children, if God were to ask us to? (*granted, this is a true hypothetical!*)
  
3. When do we often “turn around”? When did Abraham “turn around”?
  
4. Finally, why was Abraham truly willing to sacrifice his son if God required it?
  
5. Is this account primarily about sacrificing children? If not, what’s the bottom line for us?
  
6. What does Abraham (or, perhaps the SEALS) teach us about how we want to “turn back” to God?

#### 4) Taking it Home:

*Consider the following as you go about your week:*

- ♦ What things in your life do you love so much that it would be impossible to “sacrifice” if God asked you to?
  - ◊ Are these things you still need to give up, which hurt yourself, others, or your relationship with God? What do you need to get rid of them? Who can help you? Remember: *now* is the time to take action!
  - ◊ For those things that are truly blessings from God, work hard to place God first in your heart, and to see them as gifts from *God*.

*Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week’s truths:*

**Monday:** Deuteronomy 6

**Thursday:** Gen. 15:1-6;17:1-19

**Tuesday:** Psalm 51

**Friday:** Hebrews 11:8-19

**Wednesday:** Matthew 10:1-39

**Saturday:** *review* Gen. 22:1-18