



Revealed: The Fellowship of Suffering - Brian Steenhoek

Icebreaker:

1. Do you prefer talking on the phone or texting?
2. Would you time travel to the past or future?

Summary:

Genesis 22:1-14 tells the powerful story of Abraham's ultimate test of faith when God commands him to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac. Despite the heart-wrenching nature of this command, Abraham demonstrates unwavering obedience and trust in God. As they journey to Mount Moriah, Abraham assures Isaac that God will provide the lamb for the sacrifice. At the critical moment, God intervenes, sparing Isaac and providing a ram as a substitute. This passage underscores the themes of faith, obedience, and God's provision, illustrating that in the midst of our trials and suffering, God's faithfulness and grace are ever-present. The story foreshadows the giving of Jesus as God's ultimate provision and substitute sacrifice.

Engage the Bible:

Genesis 22:1-14 - Read as a group. Take time to reflect on this passage. What stood out to you?

Small Group Questions:

- What do you find most challenging about this story?
- Where do you sense God is testing you (or has tested you)? How are you doing (or how did you do) with the test? What are you learning from it?
- For you, what would be some of the hardest things to give to God? What about some of the easiest things?
- Where do you get the strength to say 'yes' to God when everything else inside of you says 'no'? Can you share an example of when you have had to do that in your life or faith journey?
- What does "worship in spite of circumstances" look like for you?