

The Gathering Community Group Guide

SatisfAction // Week 3 // We are provided for

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Genesis 22

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. TAKE TIME BEFORE GROUP TO GO OVER THIS GUIDE.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

It shouldn't be surprising to know that most Americans feel unsatisfied and insecure when it comes to their finances and resources. For many, just the mention of those words can give us anything BUT rest, and the idea that God is a provider can make us wonder when he'll ever get around to doing it! But as we learned through the story of Abraham and Isaac in Genesis 22, we won't see the provision of God without first making a decision for God.

1. **A man, a son, and a knife:** God called Abraham to do the unthinkable: sacrifice his only son, and Abraham responded with total trust.
2. **Abraham gets a ram, God gets a name, Isaac gets a life:** Because of his obedience, God stopped Abraham and instead provided a ram for the sacrifice. The result was that Abraham gave God a name – Jehovah Jireh – which means “the Lord will provide.”
3. **When God says he will, don't say you might:** Two things that we know about God as a provider: one, he WILL provide what we need and, two, the provision from him often comes after we make a decision for him. Too often, we want God's “will” while we only give God a “maybe.”

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What takeaway – if any – did you have from the message this week?
- Have there been times in your life when you've seen God provide for you in miraculous ways like Abraham did? Take the time to share some of those stories with your group.
- What have you sacrificed for God and how have you seen God honor that sacrifice?
- Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and talk about how you've seen this truth in your own life. Why do you think it's so critical that we honor God with the FIRST fruits and not the leftovers?
- For some, prosperity is a negative word because it's been used to teach that all believers should be prosperous financially. How does 3 John 1:2 say that we should prosper? How does a “soul that is prospering” impact the way we handle our resources?
- Take a look at Philippians 4:12. What role does contentment play in having a “soul that prospers,” especially if we're in a season where we may not feel prosperous financially?
- What can we learn about God's provision in these verses? How can they lead us to satisfAction?
 - Isaiah 58:11 Psalm 107:9 Psalm 145:16