

Welcome to the seventh week of
25 Weeks of Advent!

The stories of Advent all give us some insight as to the point and value of Jesus' life for us.

Learning to trust God can be hard; but it is *so necessary to learn* before we can expect to live to the fullest, in God's will, as he desires for us.

Trusting God means that we are not only willing to listen to him, but faithful to obey what he asks of us—even when it doesn't make sense.

Abraham trusted God, and was faithful to obey, even when God asked for a painful sacrifice — his only son, Isaac.

Only through his obedience to the Lord, could Abraham taste the delightful fruit of *God's faithfulness*, when he stepped in to provide a ram for the sacrifice, instead of Isaac! (Read more about this in Genesis 22!)

Are you obedient to God when it doesn't make sense— or even when He seems to be asking you for something very painful, or of great sacrifice?

Do you ever trust him, and obey, in circumstances where it doesn't make sense so that you are able to see the fruit of His faithfulness?

Week 7: Here I Am

Read: Genesis 22

"Abraham named that place The LORD Provides" (v. 14)

It took the people of Israel 40 years, living in the desert, to learn to trust in God's daily provision before they entered the Promised Land. Elijah spent time in the wilderness, during a famine and drought, learning to trust God before he went on to call fire down from heaven on Mount Carmel.

Do you trust God?

What in your life, reflects your trust in God? Do you ask him for your daily bread, and then let him provide it?

Can you recognise seasons of 'learning to trust' in your own life?

How has times of learning to trust become fruit of God working powerfully in your life later?

It was a practice, in the Old Testament, to set-up altars and name places in order to remember what God had done. Abraham named the mountain, 'The LORD Will Provide' as a reminder to all people to come that the Lord would be faithful in providing, as he did in providing the ram in place of Isaac.

What reminders can you set-up in your own life (in your home, car, office, etc) to remind you of what God has done, and who he is?



Readings for your Week

Trust with your heart, beyond your understanding
Proverbs 3:1-10

Trust in the name of our God
Psalm 20

Trusting the word of the Lord
1 Kings 17
Psalm 119:41-48

Remember to add this picture to your Jesse tree!

