

Faith

Genesis 22:1-14

Faith is not about understanding how God is working in your life but the belief that God is working in your life. In fact, faith is not rattled if you do not know how or why God is working in your life and are OK with not knowing. Technically it's not necessary to know how or why, it's all about just believing God is working. Maybe you do believe that God is working and blessing you and sometimes it is hard to see the blessings. Or maybe you are questioning or have questions if God is working in your life. Even when we have faith, there may still be a struggle or challenge of seeing how God is working. Sometimes we can't see God working because our own emotions get in the way such as our anger, shame or guilt. Or sometimes our own stubbornness gets in the way. Wanting life to be a certain way. Can you relate?

In the scripture of Genesis 22:1-14, we have Isaac who without question just follows what his father wanted him to do. Now typically we think of Abraham as the example of faith since he followed God to the point of sacrificing his son. But what about Isaac? See Abraham had been speaking to God before this incident yet Isaac never had. It seems Isaac just knew of God because of what the family told him. Imagine the kind of faith Isaac needed to just follow without knowing what was going on. Isaac is the one that provides an example of faith for you and I, because God didn't tell him anything and yet he went blindly with God. That blind belief that God is leading is faith.

The faith of Isaac isn't based on hearing God, it's based on something that is not seen but something he knew existed. Do you have the faith that Isaac had? That's a hard question isn't it? Where have you followed God when you didn't know what God was doing in your life? Where do you need to follow God in your life right now that you are hesitant because you do not know where it will take you?

In addition, Isaac had to bear the weight of the wood – a burden he didn't ask for and maybe didn't want. What burdens is Christ asking you to carry that you don't want to you? What burdens are you refusing to carry?

Lastly, Isaac embarked on a journey that he didn't know why and had to carry burdens that were not his to bear. Faith demands we go on the journey God is leading us to and demands we carry the burdens of that journey. Without the journey faith is meaningless as you and I need the journey because the journey no matter how hard or difficult or painful or easy is how you and I have faith. Are you ready to embark on the journey God is calling you on through faith?

Jesus help, me to carry the burdens on the journey you are calling me to be on. Let me feel your strength and encouragement and love as by my faith, I journey with you embracing the burdens of that journey. Amen.

by Rev. David Piltz