

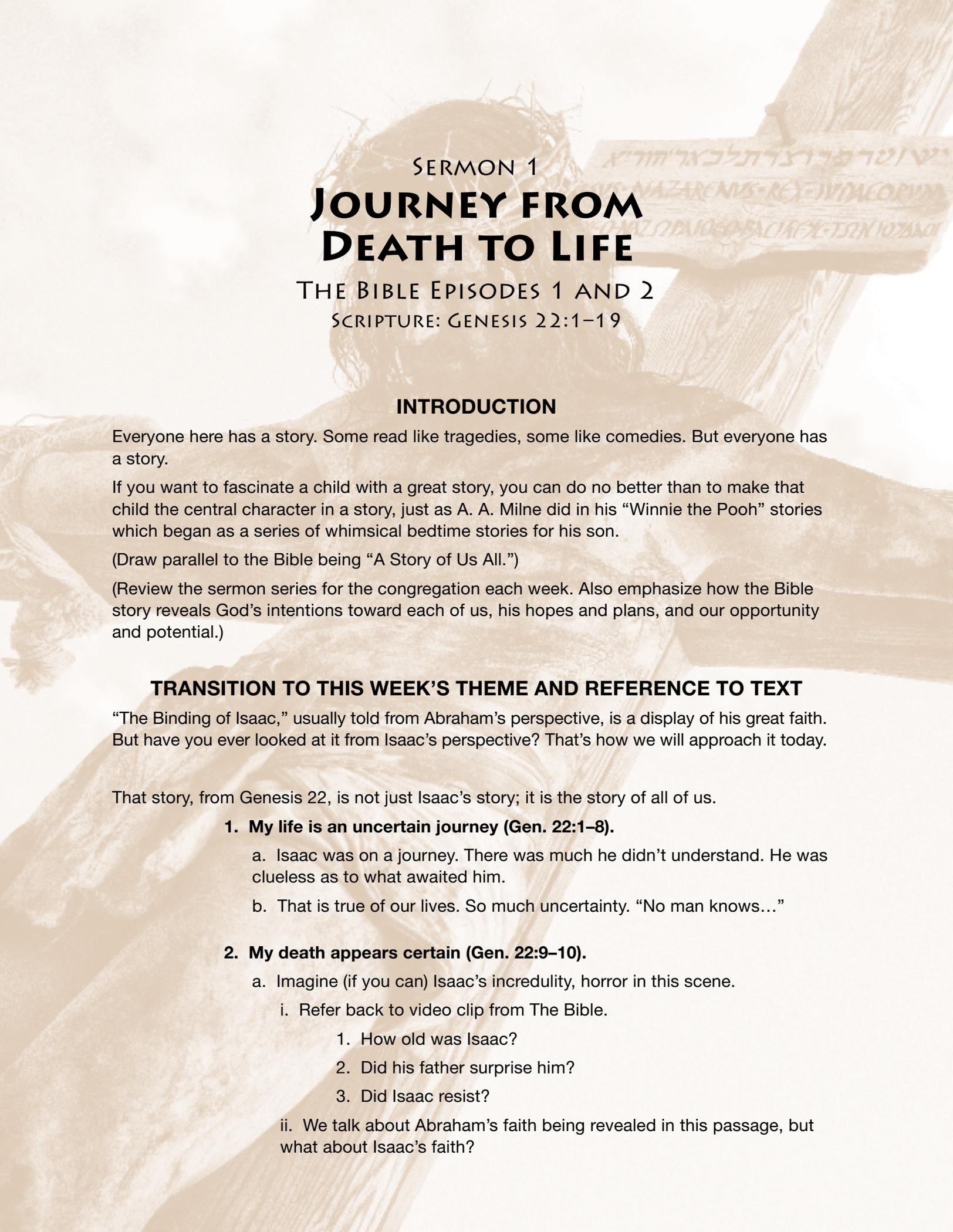


SERMON 1

JOURNEY FROM DEATH TO LIFE

THE BIBLE EPISODES 1 AND 2

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 22:1-19



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INTRODUCTION

Everyone here has a story. Some read like tragedies, some like comedies. But everyone has a story.

If you want to fascinate a child with a great story, you can do no better than to make that child the central character in a story, just as A. A. Milne did in his “Winnie the Pooh” stories which began as a series of whimsical bedtime stories for his son.

(Draw parallel to the Bible being “A Story of Us All.”)

(Review the sermon series for the congregation each week. Also emphasize how the Bible story reveals God’s intentions toward each of us, his hopes and plans, and our opportunity and potential.)

TRANSITION TO THIS WEEK’S THEME AND REFERENCE TO TEXT

“The Binding of Isaac,” usually told from Abraham’s perspective, is a display of his great faith. But have you ever looked at it from Isaac’s perspective? That’s how we will approach it today.

That story, from Genesis 22, is not just Isaac’s story; it is the story of all of us.

1. My life is an uncertain journey (Gen. 22:1-8).

- a. Isaac was on a journey. There was much he didn’t understand. He was clueless as to what awaited him.
- b. That is true of our lives. So much uncertainty. “No man knows...”

2. My death appears certain (Gen. 22:9-10).

- a. Imagine (if you can) Isaac’s incredulity, horror in this scene.
 - i. Refer back to video clip from The Bible.
 1. How old was Isaac?
 2. Did his father surprise him?
 3. Did Isaac resist?
 - ii. We talk about Abraham’s faith being revealed in this passage, but what about Isaac’s faith?

- iii. Camp on that moment when Isaac was bound, the knife raised...
- b. Such is the position of every man and woman on earth.
 - i. Romans 5:12
 - ii. Line in The Bible episode: “Death is coming for us all.”

3. My salvation has been provided (Gen. 22:11-14).

- a. God provided a ram, a substitute, a sacrifice in Isaac’s place.
- b. It’s what God does, faithfully, repeatedly, graciously leading us from death to life.
 - i. Gen. 3:21 — Adam and Eve sinned, brought death on them and us, but God provided them with garments of skin, the result of a sacrifice (presumably) to cover their nakedness.
 - ii. Gen. 6—Humanity had grown thoroughly wicked, but God provided an ark to save the lives of Noah and his family.
 - iii. Exodus 12—God’s judgment descended on Egypt, but God prescribed a sacrifice to save their lives...instructing them to smear blood on the lintel in the shape of a cross, because...
 - iv. John 1:29—God provided the Lamb of God for me, for you, for all of us, to lead us from death to life.

APPLICATION

John 1:29—God provided the Lamb of God for me, for you, for all of us, to lead us from death to life. (Lead in prayer of salvation, prayer of recommitment.)

Complete sermons are available in *The Bible 30-Day Church Experience Kit*. [Learn More.](#)