

## NOTES



## PRAYER

Lord, we thank You for the incredible gift of worship, where we can encounter Your presence and respond to Your goodness. Help us to see Jesus clearly as we worship, and transform our lives to reflect Your glory in everything we do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

What do you look and sound like when you are at the utmost point of jubilation or celebration? Feel free to act it out for the group—it could be a victory dance, a loud cheer, or even a moment of quiet awe.



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## WORD

**1** Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. **2** Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” **3** Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. **4** On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. **5** He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.” **6** Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, **7** Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

**8** Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together. **9** When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. **10** Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. **11** But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.

**12** “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.” **13** Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. **14** So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

- **Genesis 22:1-14 (ESV)**

Hebrew/Greek Word	Meaning	Scriptural Usage
Shachah	To bow down, prostrate oneself	Genesis 22:5
Proskuneo	To kiss the hand, bow in reverence	John 4:23-24
Latreuo	To serve, often as an act of worship	Romans 12:1
Sebomai	To revere or show deep respect	Acts 17:23
Eusebeo	To act piously or with devotion	1 Timothy 4:7

## REFLECTION

Worship, as introduced in Genesis 22:5, is a profound theme in Scripture. This is the first time the word "worship" appears, and it is significant that Abraham uses it as he prepares to offer his son Isaac to God. In Hebrew, the word for worship here is "shachah", which means to bow down, prostrate oneself, or submit in reverence. This act of worship demonstrates trust, obedience, and surrender to God. In the New Testament, worship takes on a deeper dimension with words like "proskuneo" (Greek), which conveys the idea of kissing the hand in reverence or bowing deeply before someone in honor. It reflects intimacy and submission. Another word, "latreuo", emphasizes worship as service, often in the context of a priestly offering or daily acts of devotion (Romans 12:1). The story of Abraham and Isaac reminds us that worship is costly and requires faith. As we respond to God in worship, both personally and corporately, we acknowledge His worthiness above all else. Worship is not just singing songs but living lives fully surrendered to His will. John Piper highlights that "worship is seeing and savouring the supremacy of Christ," urging us to make our worship both intimately heartfelt and action-initiating.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 How does Abraham's willingness to offer Isaac reflect his trust and surrender in worship? What does this teach us about worship today?
- 2 What do the Hebrew and Greek words for worship reveal about the depth and breadth of what it means to worship God?
- 3 How can we incorporate a heart of "shachah" (reverence and surrender) into our everyday lives?
- 4 In what ways does "latreuo" (worship as service) challenge us to worship God through our actions, not just our words?
- 5 What is one practical step you can take this week to worship God through an act of obedience, generosity, or serving others?

## Closing Prayer

Lord, we are humbled by the privilege of worshiping You. Help us to live lives that honor You in spirit and in truth. As we leave here, may we worship You wholeheartedly—not only with our voices but through our actions, attitudes, and service. We surrender to Your mission and invite others to know You through our worship. In Jesus' name, Amen.