

Abraham answered, "My son, God will give us a lamb."

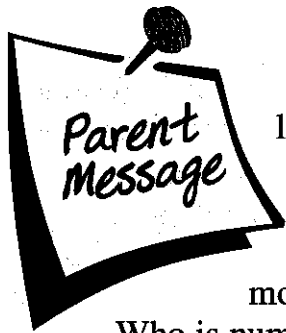
When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar and laid the wood on it. He then tied up Isaac and placed him on the wood. Everything was ready for Abraham to offer Isaac to God. Abraham took out his knife to kill the son he loved so much.

But God called out, "Abraham, stop! Do not hurt your son! For you have shown that you love me more than anything else, because you were willing to give your only son as an offering to me."

Abraham looked up and saw a large sheep caught by its horns in some bushes. Abraham took this sheep and burned it as an offering to God in place of Isaac.

God called out to Abraham once more. This time he again promised Abraham that many people would come from his family, including the Savior of the world.

Then Abraham and Isaac went back to where the two servants were waiting, and they all returned home.



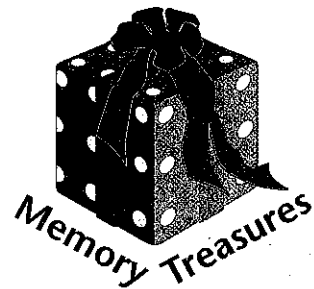
When God tested Abraham's love for him, Abraham passed the test. He showed that God was number one in his life—that he loved God most of all.

Who is number one in your child's life?

And what are you doing to help your child show love for the One who wants to be first? You can help your child to love and obey God above everything else. Keep reminding her that she has a loving and forgiving God, who sent his Son to save her from her sins. Make church and family devotion time a top priority in your household by not allowing other activities to interfere with your family's time with God. Ask your child to tell you about the Bible lessons she learned in Lutheran elementary school or Sunday school. Encourage her to share her memory treasures with the family. And be a good example by showing, through words and actions, who is first in *your* life!

Prayer

God, help us love you when we're weak
And also when we're strong.
Teach us to love you most of all
And love you all life long. Amen.



* Matthew 22:37

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

** Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

* Hymn 429:1

What God ordains is always good;
His will is just and holy.
As he directs my life for me,
I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed
In ev'ry need
Knows well how he will shield me;
To him, then, I will yield me.

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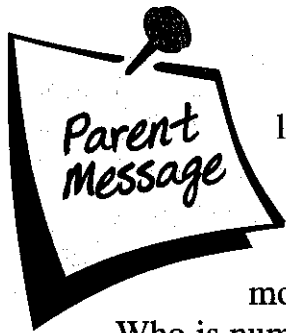
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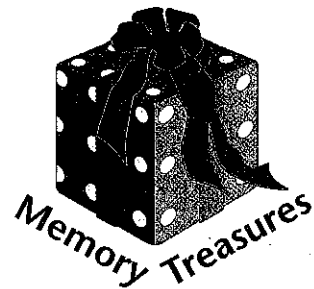
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