

longing for LIGHT

December 11, 2022

LONGING FOR JOY | ISAAC | Genesis 22:1-14

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S U M M A R Y

This last weekend was our third Sunday of Advent. We looked at the story of Abraham and Isaac to show us how faith helps us to endure in times of darkness.

R E A D

Genesis 22:1-14

Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.

D I S C U S S

- 1) What do you think is the meaning of the 'test' in Genesis 22:1?
- 2) In what ways do you relate to Abraham's walk up Mount Moriah? What personal experiences of darkness and misery come to mind when you think about Abraham and Isaac's story?
- 3) What is the role of faith in enduring through the hardest of times?
- 4) How does the story in Genesis 22 point toward Jesus?

R E S P O N D

During advent, we are responding to the light through four practices – naming the darkness through confession, waiting

for the dawn in silence, turning to the light in repentance, and acknowledging what is revealed through adoration.

Take time as a group to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal where you might be lacking joy in your life.

CONFESS

Name your *misery*. Write down the specifics – memories, words, phrases, lies, attitudes.

LISTEN

Spend 5 minutes in silence with the following posture: 'Jesus, I wait for your *joy*.'

REPENT

Take some time to submit your *misery*. Be specific. 'Jesus, I give you my *misery*.'

ADORE

Allow Jesus to make the exchange of your *misery* for his *joy*.

P R A Y

Pray for perseverance by faith when things get dark. Pray that we would encounter Jesus as our source of joy

Read Psalm 40 in a posture of gratitude and adoration.

As a group, take time to pray your adoration.

