



Connect Group Discussion Guide

“Weird” is defined as *uncanny, mysteriously strange, supernatural, odd, or bizarre*; and “normal” is defined as *typical, expected*. Many of the teachings of Jesus are considered weird because they are not normal actions or reactions our world.

1. In Genesis 22, we learn of the story of Abraham and how God made promises to him. God promised that He would bless Abraham (with offspring) and he would become a blessing. Then later, God appeared to ask for that blessing back through a sacrifice. Have you ever felt like God made promises to you and then may have changed His mind? (We know God does not take back His blessing, but we may feel like it in our human frailty).
2. The Genesis verses speak of Abraham and his wife having a son (Isaac) and God asked that he be sacrificed. Abraham responded in trust; preparing to sacrifice his son. What is your common response when you follow God, yet what you believe He is leading you to do is contrary to what you may want?
3. At the moment when Abraham was to complete the sacrifice, God called out to him to cease and provided a ram in the bush as a substitute (to take the place of Isaac). Do you think this story is about sacrifice or about something else? Explain your answer.
4. The account is not about sacrifice, but a metaphor for the salvation of humanity. Discuss your thoughts on the truth of this statement.
5. Abraham learned a few things about God:
 - That He is Jehovah-Jireh (The God who provides). Name a time when God provided for you.
 - God responds to trust. When have you trusted God and He responded?
6. Abraham learned to trust God and that is the way He wants us to live; in trust. Part of that trust is being generous. Read the Proverbs verse. What does it say to you?
7. Being generous with your resources—including monetary—is a strong principle in scripture. Read the Malachi verse. When we give, we receive...so give. In what areas are you not giving where you know you can give?

Series: Weird...Because Normal Isn't Working

“Weirdness of Generosity”

Week of May 23, 2021

Main Idea

Being generous with your resources—including monetary—is a strong principle in scripture that demonstrates in Whom you place your trust.

Key Scripture Reference(s)

Read aloud:

Genesis 22

Proverbs 11:24

Malachi 3:10

Your Faith in Action

What steps will you take this week to **show** others what you believe (in words, and in deeds)?

Mon: _____

Tue: _____

Wed: _____

Thu: _____

Fri: _____

Sat: _____

Sun: _____

This is a constant element, so you can practically live out your faith everyday.