

Like Father Like Son

"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.'"
Genesis 22:2 (NIV)

For those of us who are older there is an experience that sometimes happens to us as we journey through life. We find ourselves doing something that reminds us of one of our parents.

I will catch myself doing something such as examining a car I wish to purchase and thinking, "This is the way Dad would do it." It might be me asking the salesperson about the service history of the vehicle. Or I might look at the engine to see if I can find an oil leak. Dad was a car mechanic and taught me a lot about cars. So we say, like father like son.

In the story of Abraham offering Isaac we witness a similarity between the father and the son. Isaac was likely 30-40 years old when this incident took place. Many times he had gone

with his father to worship and offer a sacrifice to God.

On this occasion Isaac realized that there was not an animal for the sacrifice and asked his father where it was. Abraham responded with the statement that God would provide the sacrifice.

However, when Isaac and Abraham reached the place of sacrifice Isaac learned that his father intended using him as the sacrifice. Certainly Isaac, as a man, was well able to overpower his elderly father and stop the sacrifice of his own life. It is more than likely Abraham explained to his son the strange command of God.

So Isaac, instead of rebelling against his father, submitted to the will of his father. God was the Father of Abraham and

called on him to do something unheard of before or since. Isaac's father, Abraham, was requesting of him something unheard of. Both men obeyed their father. Like father like son.

As parents and grandparents, young eyes are watching us to see how we behave in life's situations. Young people learn far more from our works than our words. We need to ask ourselves what lessons are being taught by the way we respond to life's alternatives. We have the privilege of living holy lives before our families to teach them the worth of submission to our God. Let us buy up every opportunity to live well.

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