

## Faith & Trust

*The 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

The Thursday evening Men's Small Group has been reading through the book of Genesis as part of our time together. This past week we read the story of God calling Abraham to sacrifice the most important and valuable thing in his life, his son Isaac. This story is at once beautiful and horrible; amazing and puzzling. We see the absolute faith and trust Abraham has in God through his complete obedience to God's commands. Abraham's faith in God is rewarded when God stops Abraham from sacrificing Isaac. God's promise and covenant is then renewed and shared with Isaac.

In our small-group discussion of this story, I was stuck by the contrast in faith Abraham has in God and the complete lack of faith Abraham has in most of the people he meets. Abraham is living in a foreign land and may have been raised to mistrust the very people God has called him to live among. Abraham twice tells foreign leaders that his wife is his sister because he believes if the leaders knew the truth, he would be killed. Abraham has no faith that other people will act with human decency, yet he has total faith in God.

I'll be honest with you, I'm still chewing on this connection. I am not completely sure what to make of it. One would think it would be difficult to have complete faith in God and still distrust people so much. In fact, I think that sometimes I probably have the opposite problem. I find it easy to trust people, especially those who I interact with on a regular basis and know well. Yet, when I am asked to faithfully follow where God is leading, I falter. I try to bargain with God, change God's mind, or somehow get out of how God is calling me to show my faith.

What about you? Do you find it easy to have complete trust in God? Or is it easier to trust the people you interact with on a daily basis? Perhaps you struggle, like Abraham, to trust the people around you? It can be hard to put our faith and trust in someone else, God or man. But, I believe God calls us to have complete trust in Him and those who he brings into our lives. I invite you this week to consider those who you trust and have faith in, and those you don't. Once you've considered this, I encourage you to think about why it is easy to trust and have faith in some, and so difficult to do so in others.

It is an honor to be your pastor and be in ministry alongside you to God who we can trust completely.

Blessings,

Chris



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Services 8 & 10 Breakfast 8:45	1	2	3 Be an Angel 10 Yoga 6:15 Women's Small Group 7:15 pm	4 Men's Small Group 7 pm	5	6
7 Services 8 & 10	8	9 Association Meeting 7:30	10 Yoga 6:15	11	12 Kids in Action 9-3 pm	13 Lazarus Ministries 9-2pm
14 Services 8 & 10	15	16	17 Be an Angel 10 Yoga 6:15 Women's Small Group 7:15 pm	18 Men's Small Group 7 pm	19 Heart & Soul Auction 6:15pm	20
21 Services 8 & 10	22	23	24 Yoga 6:15	25	26	27 Household Hazardous Event
28 Services 8 & 10 Trunk or Treat 4-5:30	29	30	31 Yoga 6:15			



Steve Bee  
Jeremy Brooks  
Keith Brunsmann  
Les Case  
Donna Casey  
Ron Clarke  
Charlene Davis  
Virginia Davis  
Ronnie Goode  
Bill Green  
John Hatfield  
Michael Hatfield  
Warren Hassler  
Edie & Gary Ken  
Morgan (Hatfield)  
Fred McKinzie  
David Parrish  
Kris Peterson  
Judy Peterson  
Carl Pinkerton  
Steve Raymond  
Rosemary Robinson  
Duane/Peggy Taylor  
David Tackett  
Elaine West  
Joe Virgalla

Congregation de  
Mellier

Heart and Soul  
Children's Christian  
Learning Center

All Ministries  
of the Church



Sunday, September 30, 8:45 – 10:00: All Church Fellowship and Missions Highlights Breakfast. Enjoy a fantastic breakfast with your church family and learn about Hillcrest Transitional Living's mission to help homeless families become self-sufficient. Cotton Sivils will be our guest speaker.

September – December: Volunteer with the Heart & Soul Team to help the students and teachers in our preschool. Contact Debora Hamerly at [poohhamerly@yahoo.com](mailto:poohhamerly@yahoo.com) or 816-582-7242.

Saturday, October 13, 9:00 – 2:00: Volunteer to serve lunch to homeless individuals at Lazarus Ministries. Contact Bob Metcalfe at 816-774-8279.

September – October: Donate needed items for the Lazarus Ministries Boutique. They are in need of new men's underwear, new men's socks, non-alcoholic mouthwash, blue jeans, t-shirt bags, and mats. A collection basket is in the church lobby.

# Lazarus Table – Serve the Homeless

9:00 – 1:00 Saturday, October 13

2 – 3 more volunteers are needed to serve lunch at Lazarus Table. Lazarus Table is at Linwood United Church at the corner of Olive and Linwood in Kansas City. We will carpool from our church. Please contact Bob Metcalfe at 816-774- 8279 to sign up.

“Lazarus Table provides sustenance to men, women and children in need. Volunteers are needed to assist in preparing, serving and cleaning up these weekend meals. Providing dignity through meals furthers our mission of offering unlimited compassion. In an effort to serve our guests with more dignity, Lazarus Table now offers meals restaurant style.” From Lazarus Ministries website.





## NEW MISSION OPPORTUNITY – OUR PRESCHOOL

All levels of involvement are available



The Heart & Soul Children's Christian Learning Center is a mission of our church, but only a few members have been involved in this mission since we took ownership of the preschool four years ago. The preschool is running smoothly and is constantly looking for ways to improve the Christian-based learning experience it is providing its students. Because increased congregational involvement is a way to help improve Heart & Soul, we are setting up a team to assist the preschool in extra activities.

The team's work will include activities that can be done during weekdays, weeknights, and weekends. If you have an interest in reading with children or being a part of other activities with children, repairing daycare equipment, or assisting teachers by preparing items the teachers need during the week, please volunteer for this team. You could volunteer weekly or on an as needed basis for special projects.

To volunteer for this team, or if you have questions, please contact Debora Hamerly at [poohhamerly@yahoo.com](mailto:poohhamerly@yahoo.com) or 816-582-7242. A signup sheet will be in the lobby also. Anyone working directly with the children will need to have Safe Sanctuary training.

## BREAKFAST

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## Kids in Action

NEW MISSION CLUB

- Students ages 8-13
- Mission Experiences & Bible Study
- 10/12, 10/18, 11/06, 01/02, 01/21, 03/01
- More information to follow; direct questions to Sara Snyder or Sophie Reed

