

Built God Tough - Day 1 Bible Study

I Formed You

Memory Verse: Psalms 139:13 HCSB

For it was You who created my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb.

Isaac

Long ago God made a promise to a man named Abraham that he would become a father and he would be the father of fathers and nations and great kings would come from his descendants. Abraham had a very hard time believing this because he and his wife Sarah were very old. Abraham was 99 years old and Sarah was 90. Sarah laughed and thought I'm way too old to be having a baby. But God made a promise to Abraham and said he would also make a promise to his son, that all who came after him would become God's chosen people.

A year later Sarah had a baby and God commanded Abraham to name him Isaac, which means laughter, to remember what Sarah did when she heard the news and to show that nothing is impossible for God.

Later on when Isaac was a young man, God commanded Abraham to take him to a mountain He specified and give his son Isaac as a burnt offering. The next morning Abraham gathered the donkeys and two servants along with the

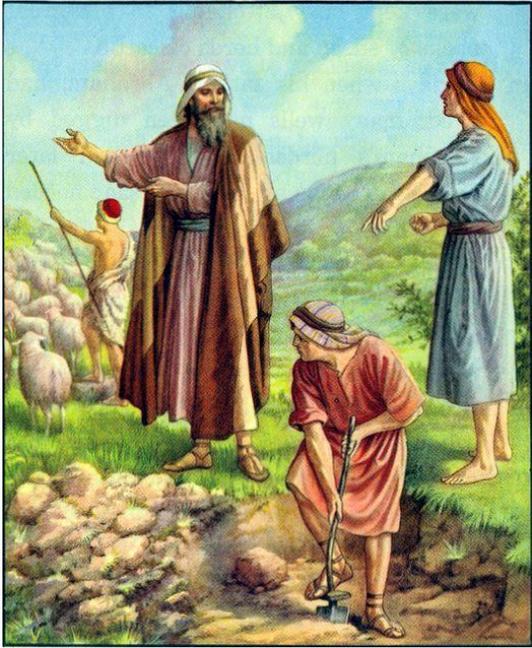


firewood needed to give the offering and took Isaac on a three day journey to find the mountain where God wanted him to give the sacrifice. Isaac asked his father, "where is the lamb we are to sacrifice?" Abraham answered "God will provide the sacrifice." Isaac soon found himself tied up and laid on the alter to become the sacrifice! At the last minute God sent an angel to stop Abraham and provided a wild ram to take his place. Abraham had passed the test of fearing and trusting God.

As Isaac grew into manhood his mother Sarah died and Abraham and Isaac were very lonely. So Abraham sent his servant Nahor out to find a wife for his son Isaac. Nahor prayed to God and asked for to him find the proper woman for Isaac. God gave him his answer when Rebecca offered to give him, as well as his camels, a drink from the well. After meeting with Laban Rebecca's brother, they agreed to send Rebecca to meet Isaac and soon they were married. Isaac was 40 years old when he got married.

Isaac and Rebecca discovered they were unable to have children so Isaac prayed to God time and time again to give them children. After 20 years when Isaac was nearly 60 Rebecca became pregnant with twins. She had a difficult time while she was pregnant because the babies inside her tumbled and kicked so much she did not want to go on living. One night she asked God why he would allow this and God told her there were two nations inside her who would not get along but the older would serve the younger. Soon Jacob and Esau were born and grew. Esau became Isaac's favorite. He became a skillful hunter and outdoorsman. Jacob became Rebecca's favorite. He was mild mannered and enjoyed staying near home tending the garden and cooking.

The next thing to happen in Isaac's life was a famine. The rain stopped and the land became dry and would not produce food. Isaac wanted to move his family to Egypt but God told Isaac to stay in Gerar and He would bless him. God told Isaac "this is the land I have promised you." Isaac loved God and stayed in Gerar. He dug new wells and had water to make his crops grow. People in Gerar did not like Isaac and they filled his wells with dirt. The king Abimelech came to Isaac and told him the wells were on his land and he would have to



move his people. Isaac moved to another place and had to dig new wells and God helped Isaac and they had water again to water their crops and animals. King Abimelech wanted these new wells too and told Isaac he had become too rich and that he would have to move again. This time Isaac moved far away, dug new wells, and God continued to bless Isaac and his family. One day King Abimelech came to Isaac

and talked to him about how God was with him and how he protected him. King Abimelech promised Isaac he would not bother him again and that he wanted to be friends and finally there was peace in the land.

In Isaac's later years when he was old, blind, in poor health and nearly ready to die, Isaac decided to give his blessing to Esau. He asked Esau to go hunting and to bring a deer and cook it the way he liked and they would talk and he would bestow his blessing on Esau because he was the first born. Rebecca heard what Isaac told Esau and she quickly found Jacob. She told him to go kill two small goats and she would cook them like deer meat. Jacob took the meat to his father and had covered his arms with the animal skins so his blind father would think he was his brother and Jacob tricked his father into giving him the blessing. When Esau got home and found out what happened he became very angry and threatened to kill Jacob. Jacob quickly left home and went far away. But that is another story...

Discussion Questions:

Was Isaac built God tough?

What does the name Isaac mean and why did Abraham and Sarah give him this name?

When God commanded Isaac to sacrifice Isaac how do you think Isaac felt about it?

After having experienced nearly being sacrificed, being saved by an angel, and seeing God provide a ram for the sacrifice. How do you think Isaac felt about God?

Do you think this made Isaac stronger in his faith? How?

How did Isaac meet his wife Rebecca?

When Rebecca finally had children she had twins. What were their names?

When King Abimelech made Isaac move away from the wells he had dug how did Isaac react?

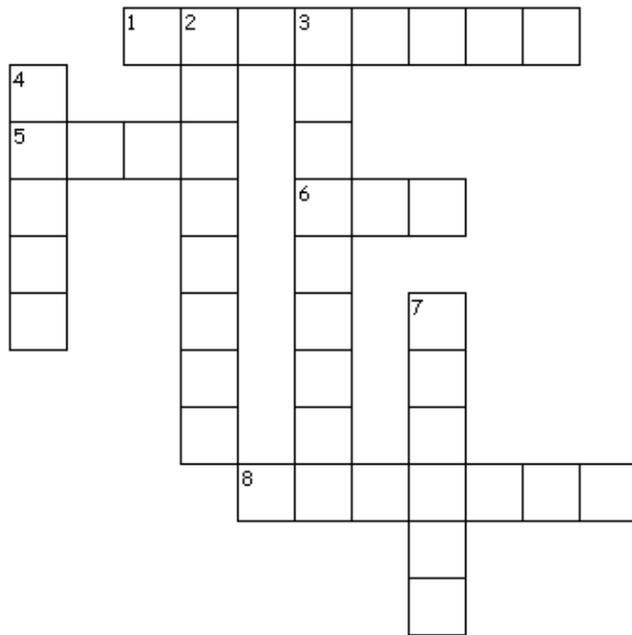
When Isaac was very old Jacob tricked him out of what?

How does Isaac fit the profile of our key verse?

"Before I formed you in your mother's body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." Jeremiah 1:5

How was Isaac built God Tough?

CHECK YOUR FACTS



Across

1. what Jacob tricked his father into giving him
5. Jacobs twin brother
6. what God provided to replace Isaac as a sacrifice
8. wife of Isaac

Down

2. the meaning of Isaac's name
3. what nearly happened to Isaac on the altar
4. what Jacob had to dig everytime he moved
7. the age of Abraham when Isaac was born

Built God Tough - Day 2 Bible Study

I Choose You

Memory Verse: Romans 8:29

God planned that those He had chosen would become like His Son. In that way, Christ will be the first and most honored among many brothers.

Chosen

The story of Jesus is the most popular story in the world. We can remember amazing things about Jesus. For instance how He was born in a manger and how in awe the shepherds were that came to



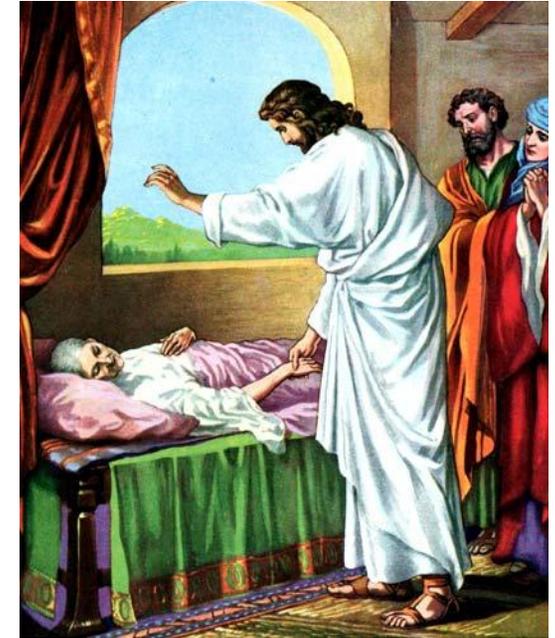
see Him first. We remember how, when He was about your age, He got left in Jerusalem and it took three days for His parents to find Him and about Jesus' cousin John the Baptist that preached about and prepared everyone for the time Jesus would start His ministry. The story of Jesus is awesome.

Starting with His baptism, Jesus did many amazing things. He was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He announces to the world who He is in His home town but no one believed Him and wanted to throw Him off a cliff and kill Him. Jesus walked through the crowd and went on His way. After this Jesus began to perform many

wonders and miracles. In Capernaum He cast a demon out of a man just by ordering it to leave. He also healed many people in the same town. All this occurred before Jesus met Simon one day while he was fishing.

Many people were following Him hoping to hear a good word or be healed so Jesus asked Simon to bring in his boat and take Him a short distance from shore so he could preach to the people. When they were done Jesus had Simon go into the deep water and recast his nets and they caught so many fish it nearly sank the boat.

Simon realized that Jesus was special and asked Him to step away because he was a sinful man. Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid from now on you will be fishing for people." Simon, James, and John left everything they had on the shore and followed Jesus. Jesus chose them for a special work to come.



Jesus began his ministry teaching and performing miracles and calling those to follow Him along the way and eventually chose His twelve apostles. Jesus used His ministry to teach this small group of followers and allowed them to see His ministry close up and personal. He empowered them to be His helpers and they witnessed amazing things like healings and even a widow's son being raised from the dead! Jesus was recognized by many to be the Son of God.

Jesus demonstrated His power and did His best to educate His disciples through example and through the miracles He performed. Jesus always loved everyone He saw. He used dramatic experiences like calming a storm, casting demons into pigs, healing a woman with enough faith to just touch the hem of His clothing, to teach his



disciples. He healed the synagogue rulers daughter by bring her back to life.

Jesus eventually sent out the twelve disciples and gave them the power to cast out demons and heal the sick and to preach about the kingdom of God. Jesus continued to preach and teach and fed the five thousand with the fishes and loaves. He told about Gods plan for our lives through stories we can all understand called parables. He taught the Pharisees by example in their homes and

synagogues, He had meals with tax collectors, He healed the unclean people who had leprosy, He restored sight to a blind man, He taught about the faith of children and gave them a special place near Him. Jesus entered Jerusalem as a King of peace on a donkey and people honored him by placing their coats and palm branches on the road for him to walk on. Jesus cleared out the temple and preached every day and the chief priests and teachers tried to get rid of Him, they questioned His authority and eventually arrested Him nailed Him to a cross where He died.

Wow! The story of Jesus' life is better than any adventure movie ever made. Jesus was chosen to live His life as an example to us and to give us hope. The story did not end when He died on the cross because three days later Jesus rose from the dead and left the tomb. Jesus entire life was meant to give us one message. God Loves You!

Did you know God has chosen you too? Today's story is not about Jesus it is about **YOU** the whole reason Jesus came to earth was not to heal the sick or help His disciples catch a lot of fish. Jesus came *to earth to bring us closer to God and to give us a way to reach*

heaven. John 3:16 sums up everything we need to know: "God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life." God loves everyone in the world He doesn't choose first or second or last like a team captain He chooses **YOU** first. No one is loved any more or less than **YOU** "God loved the world so much" that he gave His only son for **YOU**! God wants you to be a part of His family and it doesn't cost anything! God wants us to be part of His family for free. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:29 "God planned that those He had chosen would become like His Son. In that way, Christ will be the first and most honored among many brothers."

Discussion Questions

Are you ready to make a decision to be God Tough by accepting God's free gift and making Jesus your Lord and Savior?

Here's How: Easy as ABC

A= Admit – Admit to God that you are a sinner, repent, and turn away from your sin. Romans 5:8 "Everyone has sinned and no one measures up to God's Glory"

B=Believe – Believe that Jesus is God's Son and accept His gift of forgiveness from sin. Romans 5:8 "But here is how God has shown His love for us. While we were still sinners Christ died for us."

C= Confess – Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord Romans 10:9-10 Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. Then you will be saved. With your heart you believe and are made right with God. With your mouth you say that Jesus is Lord. And so you are saved."

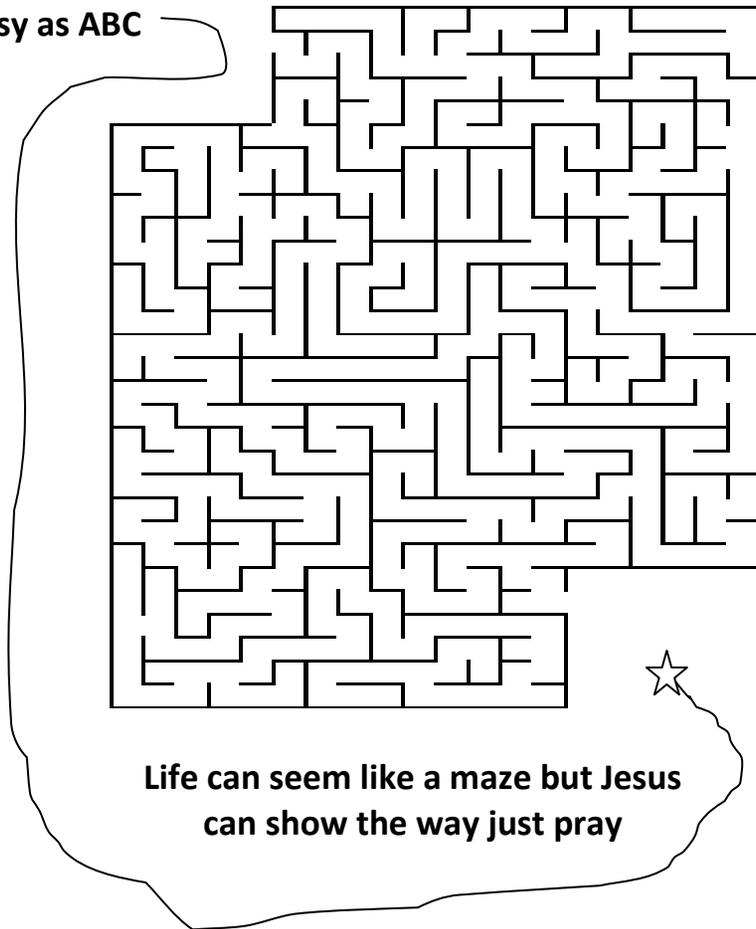
How do you fit the profile of our key verse?

"Before I formed you in your mother's body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." Jeremiah 1:5

- I formed you
- I choose you
- I set you apart –
- I appointed you –

How are you built God Tough?

**Finding Jesus is
Easy as ABC**



**Life can seem like a maze but Jesus
can show the way just pray**

Built God Tough - Day 3 Bible Study

I Set You Apart

Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 2:21

“So if anyone purifies himself from these things, he will be a special instrument, set apart, useful to the Master prepared for every good work.”

Jesus Chose His Disciples

When Jesus returned from the wilderness and came upon John the Baptist and a group of his disciples, John shouted out “Behold the Lamb of God, who will bear the sins of the world” When Andrew and his friend heard this, they went with Jesus and spent the afternoon talking and learning. Andrew knew he had to bring his brother Simon to Jesus. When he found Simon Andrew said “we have found Him!



“We have found the Messiah!” Simon went to meet Jesus and as soon as he saw him, Jesus greeted him and told him he would be called Peter (which means rock). The very next day Jesus went and found

Philip and said to him, “follow Me.” Philip rushed to get his neighbor and friend Nathanael who was very skeptical about Jesus until he met him. Jesus greeted Nathanael like he already knew him and then shocked Nathanael by telling him what he had been doing before Phillip went to go get him. Nathanael was amazed and believed and also followed Jesus. One day when Jesus went to see Simon Peter and Andrew by the lake He said, “come with me.” They went with Jesus and came upon James and his brother John who were their partner fishermen. Jesus said to them, “follow me,” and they went with Jesus and He began to teach them. Soon they went to a Passover feast in another town and witnessed Jesus casting out a demon in the synagogue. Other people begun to follow Jesus and went where He went and saw the miracles He was performing. Jesus was also healing people and casting demons out of people. Jesus was teaching in the local synagogue. It was during this time that He called Matthew who was a publican. Publicans were Jews that worked for the Romans. Other Jews did not trust publicans and felt they were traitors. Jesus knew Matthew had a good heart and would make a good disciple. Matthew wanted all his friends to meet Jesus so he prepared a great feast and invited all his friends and fellow publicans. During the feast the Pharisees came to watch and were telling Jesus’ disciples that they should not sit with sinners and publicans. When Jesus overheard them



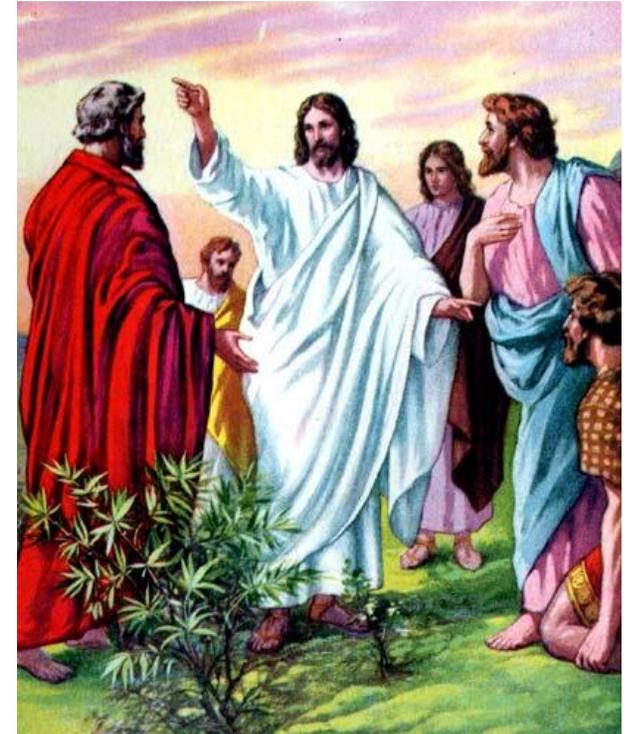
talking, He pulled his disciples aside and used the example to teach them. He told them, "People who are well don't need a doctor but people who are sick do. I have come not to help righteous people but to call those who are sinners to repent and change their ways."

By this time large numbers of people had begun to follow Jesus from place to place. Many people wanted to hear His teaching or be healed. One day when Jesus was walking by the lake he asked Simon Peter to let Him in his boat and to go out into the water away from the shore so He could preach to those who had followed Him. When He was finished, He asked Simon Peter and Andrew to go out to deep water and cast their nets. They had not been able to catch fish all day but they did what Jesus said and soon their nets had so many fish, they had to call James and John to help them. They loaded fish onto the boats until they were nearly sinking. As soon as they got their catch to the shore Jesus asked the four men to "follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Simon, Andrew, James, and John all put down their catch and walked away from their boats and followed Jesus.

As Jesus continued His ministry, many people choose to follow Him. Some like Andrew and Simon and the brothers James and John were fishermen, Philip and Nathanael joined the group as well as Matthew. They all choose to follow Jesus because of the awesome message Jesus shared. Many other people heard Jesus and wanted to be part of His group as well. Hearing Jesus' message surely changed their lives but when the time came Jesus choose from all these people a special group he could train and send out to the places and people He had not been. These men would become the 12 disciples and were trained to preach and share the good news .

One night Jesus went away from the group up on the mountain where He would not be disturbed to pray to God. He prayed for help, wisdom, and strength to do His work as He choose who would be

among the twelve that would become his helpers. After praying all night Jesus returned to the disciples who were waiting for Him to return. From all those who were there, He choose Simon who He called Peter and his brother Andrew who first brought Simon to Him. Jesus then choose James and John the brothers who were fishermen. He then choose Matthew the publican and Philip and Nathaniel of Capernaum. He chose Thomas, and another man named James who was the son of Alphaeus. He choose another named Simon, and Judas the brother of James, and last of all he choose Judas Iscariot who ultimately became a traitor.



Jesus took this special group of men and gave them the ability to heal and cast out demons. He appointed them to preach and tell people about the Kingdom of God. Jesus gave a special name to this group. He called them apostles which means (those who are sent out).

Jesus set apart this group of twelve men to share message of forgiveness and new life that Jesus taught them. God called these men and they choose to change their lives and follow Jesus. God set these men apart from others in the group. 2 Timothy 2:21 says "So if anyone purifies himself from these things, he will be a special instrument, set apart, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work"

WORD SEARCH FIND THE DISCIPLES

Did you know God expects us all to be a special instrument that he can use to tell others about Him. God wants to set us apart from the rest of the world so people can look at us and see how He is working in our lives. The apostles had the greatest opportunity of anyone in history. They actually got to sit with God the Son and be taught personally by Him. God calls us all to be His disciples which means (student follower) and He has given us his Word the Bible and allows us to talk to Him through prayer anytime night or day. What an awesome job we have been given when we believe in Him. We become representatives of God right here on earth, where we live, and work, and go to school. We become Ambassadors of Christ.

Discussion Questions:

How do the disciples fit the profile of our key verse?
 “Before I formed you in your mother’s body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations.” Jeremiah 1:5

Why did the disciples choose to follow Jesus?

What must we do to become disciples of Jesus?

What does it mean to be set apart for something?

Do you think we have been set apart like the disciples?

What are some examples of how the disciples were Built God Tough.

ANDREW	JAMES	JAMESALPHEUS
JESUS	JOHN	JUDASALPHEUS
JUDASISCAROT	MATTHEW	NATHANAEL
PHILIP	SIMON	SIMONPETER
THOMAS		

S U E A H P L A S E M A J S K
 W F Q J O H N X T Q K U U Y V
 C C P W D I J Z J O D J D N E
 C C N W A L E A N A H T A N P
 R W E A B I S Z S E H K S O Y
 O Z Z O N P U I G A E F A F N
 O R D W E W S M K E M O L P P
 G Q U D R C G G V M O O P O S
 S J X R A E J B Z G K H H M I
 D C R R D C N Q A S G N A T P
 I I O V S I M O N P E T E R C
 U T Z S C A Z X D I T G U Y N
 F S H L V V G Z R H E D S K O
 S Z D Z Z Z S M E W G I P S J
 N W U X T U F W W E L K V F W

