

## Title: WHAT WILL OUR CHILDREN SEE?

Someone has said, "Suffering doesn't make a person unique: how one responds to suffering is what makes a person unique." Suffering has a way of exposing certain things about a person. It may amplify certain strengths and it may also reveal certain areas, which may need improvement.

I've been thinking about this as a father. As parents, this pandemic has given us another opportunity to provide a powerful example for our children. No doubt, it's been a challenge at times trying to figure out what's going to happen next. There's been a lot of uncertainty, with respect to jobs and finances. Even our gathering together as a congregation has changed. I'm thankful we're able to gather together in the parking lot. Throughout all of this our children have been looking at us to see how we would and will continue to respond.

So, a question for all of us as parents is this: What will our children see? Will they see us walking by faith? Will they see us continuing to worship? Will they see us still doing good deeds? Will they see us focusing on our blessings and what's right in our lives? What will they see in us as parents?

I think about Abraham in Genesis 22:1-8

Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

Isaac saw faith in his father. He saw a man who was walking with God. He saw a man who was trusting in God to provide. Let's be sure our children see the same in us.

- Benjamin Lee