YOU STILL PROVIDE

TEAM DEVOTIONAL

GENESIS 22:13-14

ABRAHAM LOOKED UP AND THERE IN A THICKET HE SAW A RAM CAUGHT BY ITS HORNS. HE WENT OVER AND TOOK THE RAM AND SACRIFICED IT AS A BURNT OFFERING INSTEAD OF HIS SON. SO ABRAHAM CALLED THAT PLACE THE LORD WILL PROVIDE. AND TO THIS DAY IT IS SAID, "ON THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD IT WILL BE PROVIDED."

FROM THIS SCRIPTURE COMES THE NAME JEHOVAH JIREH, WHICH MEANS 'GOD WILL PROVIDE.' FOR GENERATIONS, THE NAME JEHOVAH JIREH HAS BEEN A BANNER FOR THOSE IN NEED OF PROVISION, AND IT SUPERNATURALLY COMFORTS THOSE IN NEED OF HIS PROMISE TO PROVIDE; HOWEVER, WE FEEL WITHIN US A TENSION THAT WE ARE SCARED TO ARTICULATE: IT SEEMS LIKE SOMETIMES GOD DOES NOT PROVIDE. IF WE WERE HONEST, SOME OF US WOULD GO AS FAR AS TO SAY THAT IT FEELS LIKE HE HAS PROVIDED FAR LESS THAN WE'VE PRAYED FOR.

THE NAME JEHOVAH JIREH FINDS ITS CULMINATION IN THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS. THE LORD PROVIDED, FOR ALL TIME, IN THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS. WITH THIS SAID, GOD STILL PROVIDES. HE CONTINUES TO WORK MIRACLES TO THIS DAY, BUT WE MUST COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IF HE STOPPED, HE'D STILL BE WORTHY OF OUR WORSHIP. WE MUST BECOME COMFORTABLE WITH JESUS BEING ALL THE PROVISION WE'LL EVER NEED.

TO GO FURTHER, WE PLACE DEMANDS ON GOD THAT WE BELIEVE WOULD SATISFY US AND GET MAD WHEN HE CHOOSES A DIFFERENT ROUTE. WE, PROVERBIALLY, GIVE HIM A LIST OF WHAT WE NEED TO FEEL PROVIDED FOR INSTEAD OF LOOKING TO HIS SON WHERE ALL PROVISION LIES. THIS IS NOT TO DISCOURAGE FAITH IN THE IMPOSSIBLE; HE IS THE GOD WHO PROMISES NEW (ISA. 43:19; REV. 21:1;), BUT WE MUST FIRST GET TO A PLACE ON THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN WHERE OUR RESOLVE IS: 'IF HE NEVER DID ANOTHER GOOD THING FOR ME, IF I'M NEVER HEALED, IF I NEVER SEE THE WATERS SPLIT OPEN, IF I HAVE NOTHING TO SHOW OF IT, GOD HAS STILL PROVIDED. I HAVE JESUS.'