# A Year for Letting Go 

New Year's 2011 $\qquad$
Genesis 22:1-14

## The Heart of the Matter

Clinging and clutching are two habits most people haven't broken. The decision to let go is always difficult. To make matters worse, the closer we are to the thing we're clutching or the person we're clinging to, the harder it is to release our grip. It's not in our nature to let go. It's not in our nature to hold everything and everyone loosely. But it is in our nature to use the words my and mine. That's why when God tells us to let go, we find it so difficult. Abraham knew that difficulty. But in releasing the person he most loved, Abraham proved that he loved God more.

## Discovering the Way

## 1. The Universal Desire to Clutch and Cling

All of us want to clutch and cling to our possessions, our occupations, our dreams, and our relationships.

## 2. An Old Story of Release, Not Death (Genesis 22:1-14)

Abraham loved his son Isaac; of that there is no doubt. But did Abraham love God more than his son? That was God's question . . . and God's test for Abraham.


## Starting Your Journey

It's not easy to loosen your grip on the things you love, but even so, make this a year of letting go. Your possessions . . . let them go. Your career . . . let it go. Your dreams . . . let them go. Your beloved . . . let them go.


