

**eXplain it**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 22:1-14 (The Sacrifice of Isaac)  
Psalm 43 (Vindicate Me, O Lord)  
Hebrews 9:11-15 (Jesus, the Mediator)  
John 8:42-59 (Before Abraham Was, I Am)

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John 8:42-59 (Before Abraham Was, I Am)

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**John 5-8**

**Context. Context. Context.**  
**Content. Content. Content.**

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**Jewish Identity**

**the family = "children of Abraham"**

**the nation = God's people brought out of Egypt into the Promised Land (Moses and the Exodus)**

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**John 5-8**

**Jesus is claiming to be all things Old Testament**

**"Abraham saw me"**

**"Moses wrote about me"**

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**John 8:56-57: Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.**

**"You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" (NIV)**

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**John 8:58-59:** "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds. (NIV)

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**John 5:39-40:** You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. (NIV)

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**John 5:45-47:** "But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?" (NIV)

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**Jesus Shows that He is All Things Exodus  
John 6 and 7**

**feeding of the 5000 (the Bread of Life)  
at the Festival of Booths (the presence and  
provision of God)**

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**veritas  
“verily, verily” ... “truly, truly”**

**John 8:31-32: To the Jews who had believed him,  
Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are  
really my disciples. Then you will know the truth,  
and the truth will set you free." (NIV)**

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**The Way of the World**

**the truth? what is truth?  
you're a ...**

**“if you can't win the argument,  
attack the man” (ad hominem)**

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**Right Words, Right Tone for  
the Right Response**

how does Jesus speak to the "sheep"?  
how does He speak to the "wolves"?

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**John 8  
(who's really your father?)**

**"children of Abraham"**  
**"children of the devil"**

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**John 8:33: They answered him, "We are Abraham's  
descendants and have never been slaves of anyone.  
How can you say that we shall be set free?"  
(NIV)**

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**John 8:34-36: Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (NIV)**

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**John 8:37: I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word.**

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**John 8:39-40: "Abraham is our father," they answered.**

**"If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did.**

**As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. (NIV)**

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**John 8:41-ff: You are doing the things your own father does."**

**"We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." (NIV)**

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**John 8:44-ff: You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (NIV)**

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**When confronted with the truth ... what are we to do?**

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**John 8:48: The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"**

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**when Truth is revealed and all things false are exposed ...**

**... the world attacks the Man**

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**John 8:51-53: I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." (NIV)**

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**John 8:52: At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. 53Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?" (NIV)**

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**“I AM”**

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