



ABRAHAM

Young Preschool • #OT7 • July 21, 2024

Concept

God always keeps His promises.

Goal

Children will learn that God kept His promise to Abram. They can always trust God because He will keep all His promises.

Passage

Genesis 12:1-9, 13:14-18 and 15:1-11

Key Verse: "Abraham believed God, and God said he was righteous because of his faith." Genesis 15:6

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Activity Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Rhyme Bible, L.J. Sattgast</i> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Harold Hippo or Monty Monkey puppet</i> <p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Laminated, magnet-backed pictures of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Abram in front of ancient city</i><i>Abram & his family traveling</i><i>Abram in front of a tent, day</i><i>Abram in front of a tent, night</i><i>"grandparent" couple with a baby</i>	<p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Printed picture of Abram in front of his tent, 1/childCrayons, markers

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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The Bible is full of references to Abraham, both in the Old and New Testaments. God has even linked His own name with that of Abraham, referring to Himself as "the God of Abraham" and, in turn, calling Abraham "the friend of God." Why has Abraham earned such high standing in the eyes of God? Was it his success in real estate or farming, his contribution to the gene pool? Consistently throughout Scripture the quality of faith in Abraham's life is cited as exemplary.

Biblical faith is demonstrated by obedience to God and motivated by trust in His goodness and ability to deliver on His promises. Biblical faith by its very nature is a growing faith. Romans 4 says that Abraham "did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what He had promised. This is why it was credited to him as righteousness."

The faith of Abraham was strengthened as he acted on God's promises and saw that God could be trusted. God called and Abraham responded. God promised to show Abraham the place. Abraham went and looked. God promised to give the place to Abraham's offspring and Abraham built an altar to God. God promised him the place for his descendants who would be as numerous as the stars in the sky—a promise made to an old man with an old, barren wife—and Abraham believed God, who credited him with righteousness.

Abraham's faith earned him right-standing before God and enabled him to be strategically used by God in carrying out His plan for the redemption of the world. And so it is with believers today. Romans 4 continues in its description of the faith of Abraham, "The words 'it was credited to him ' were written not for him alone, but also for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." Jesus is the fulfillment of all God's promises to Abraham and is the object of our trust. God will use us powerfully in this world if we fully place our faith in Christ and act on the promises He has given us.

This lesson is intended to help our children understand the dynamics of faith and to whet their appetite for the kind of life that Abraham led—a great adventure of faith.

Set Up

The week before class: Pray that the Spirit would prepare the hearts and minds of the teachers to teach and the children to learn this lesson.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Activity Stations:

- **Story – "Abraham's Prayer"**
 - **Instructions:** Read "Abraham's Prayer," pages 48-59 in The Rhyme Bible. Talk with the children about promises. What is a promise? Do we always keep our promises? Abraham found out that God always keeps His promises.
- **Music – "Father Abraham"**

Introduction Lg. Group

(Hold Harold/Monty to your ear, as if he's telling you a secret.) Harold/Monty is telling me how disappointed he is. His dad promised to take him to the park today but Harold's/Monty's brother is sick and now they can't go. Harold/Monty, you know there's only one guy who can always keep all His promises because nothing can get in His way. God always keeps His promises because He is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything. The Bible tells us about a man who believed God always keeps His promises. Let me tell you about this man.

Lesson Lg. Group

Instructions: Use the appropriate laminated pictures as you tell the story. A man named Abraham lived a long time ago, before there were cars, before there were telephones. (Place Abraham in front of big ancient city.) One day God said to Abraham, "I want you to move out of this big city and move to a place that I will show you." And then God made some BIG promises to Abraham. God said to Abraham, "I will make your family very, very big. I will bless you and all the people in the whole world will be blessed through you." Well, that was a GIANT promise. It was so big that Abraham couldn't even understand what it meant. But do you know what?! Even though Abraham didn't understand everything that God promised him, he believed that God always keeps His promises so...

Abraham packed up his camel, his wife, Sarah, his nephew, Lot, and his servants. And they moved just as God told him to! CLOP! CLOP! CLOP! the camel walked. STEP! STEP! STEP! Abraham, Sarah, Lot and the servants walked and walked and walked. (Put up picture of Abraham with his entourage traveling.) They went far away to a new place.

God promised Abraham that his big family would live in that new place. But there was only one problem, Abraham didn't have any children! You can't have grandchildren if you don't have children! But Abraham believed that God would always keep His promises.

In the new place Abraham lived in a tent. (Put up picture of Abraham in front of a tent.)

Lesson Continued

One day God said, "Abraham, look all around. The land all around you as far as you can see will belong to your family. You will have more people in your family than anyone could ever count." But there was still a problem: Abraham still didn't have any children. Yet Abraham still believed that God always keeps His promises.

Abraham and Sarah WAITED and WAITED and WAITED. Abraham and Sarah were very old and Abraham said, "I have no children, so how will I have grandchildren?" (Put up nighttime picture with Abraham outside his tent.) God said to Abraham, "Go outside your tent, look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can count them. You will have that many people in your family." Abraham LOOKED and LOOKED and LOOKED! Everyone pretend you are looking up at the sky. It is very dark. How many stars do you see? Oh my goodness, there are so many no one could ever count them all! That's a BIG, BIG promise for a BIG, BIG family.

Abraham believed God and God said, "Abraham's bad choices are forgiven because he believes me." Even though Abraham made bad choices just like all of us, he believed that God would do what He promised. Because Abraham believed God, God forgave his bad choices. God will forgive us when we believe that Jesus died for our bad choices and tell God we want Him to forgive us.

Harold/Monty, God kept His promise to Abraham. Even though they waited a long, long, long, long time, Sarah had a baby named Isaac! (Put up picture of old couple holding a baby.) God always keeps his promises. Nothing can stop Him. Your dad wants to keep his promises but he's not God. Sometimes things happen that make it impossible, like your brother getting sick. I'm sure that your dad will find another time to keep his promise.

Let's pray and thank God that He always keeps His promises. Let's thank Him that all we have to do to be His friend is to believe that He sent Jesus to take away our sin.

Let's make a picture to remind us that God made a BIG promise to Abraham and He kept that promise.

Craft – Stars in the Sky

Instructions: Give each child a printed page to color. As the children work, talk with them about God's greatness. He is so big that He can make promises and keep it.

Transition

Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group