



ABRAHAM

Preschool-K • #OT7 • July 23, 2023

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 Praise Bible, Mack Thomas</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 #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Printed picture of Abram in front of his tent, 1/childLabel stars stickers, many/child (from #NT03 for young preschool)Optional: Glow in the dark star stickersCrayons, 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 students to learn this lesson.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Activity Stations:

- **Story – "God's Promise to Abraham"**
 - **Instructions:** Read "God's Promise to Abraham," pages 36-43 in The Praise 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 Hippo/Monty Monkey 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 a movie 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. He knows everything that's going to happen before it happens. 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.

One day God said to a man named Abraham, "I want you to move out of this big city and move to a place that I will show you." (Place Abraham figure in front of big ancient city.) And then God made some BIG promises to Abraham. God said to Abraham, "I will make your family into a great nation, and 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 all 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. (To the right of Abraham at the city, put up picture of Abraham with his entourage traveling.)

God led Abraham and his family out of the city far, far away to a new land. Then God promised Abraham that his children and grandchildren and great grandchildren would own that new land. Well, the new land that God gave Abraham could have had a lot of people except for one problem. Abraham didn't have any children and you can't have grandchildren if you don't have children! But Abraham believed that God would always keep His promises.

Lesson Continued

After traveling a long time, Abraham finally got to the new land. There he lived in a tent. (Put up picture of Abraham in front of a tent, to the right of previous pictures.) Then God said, "Abraham look all around. The land all around you as far as you can see will belong to your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. You will have more great grandchildren 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.

Again, God appeared to Abraham when he and Sarah were very old! Abraham said, "I have no children, so how will I have grandchildren and great grandchildren?" (Put up nighttime picture with Abraham outside his tent.) God said to Abraham, "Go outside your tent and look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can count them. That is how many descendants you will have." 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.

Abraham believed God and God said, "Abraham is 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 him for his bad choices. God will forgive us when we believe that His Son, Jesus, died for our bad choices and tell God we want Him to forgive us. Then we become God's children and spiritual grandchildren of Abraham! That means we are like one of those stars.

Harold/Monty, God kept His promise to Abraham. Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had a baby named Isaac, even though they both were older than any of the grandparents of these children! (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. God can keep all His promises all the time. Nobody else, not you, not me or your dad can do that! But, we can learn from God and He will help us to keep our promises. He will help us forgive others when they don't keep their promises. 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 get into our small groups.

- Who's the only person that can ALWAYS keep His promises?
- What did God promise to Abraham?
- Why was it hard for Abraham to believe God's promise?
- Did God keep His promise?

Transition

Learning Activity#1 Sm. Groups

Learning Activity#1 Continued

- Do you know any promises God makes to you and me? (Suggestions: if we ask Him to forgive us, He will bring us into His family; if we're His child we'll go to heaven when we die; if we're His child He will always take care of us.)

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.

Transition

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

Learning Activity# 2 Lg. Group

Craft – Stars in the Sky

- **Instructions:** Give each child a printed page, some self-stick stars and 3 glow-in-the-dark stars (optional). Color the page and put stars in the sky. As the children work, talk with them about God's greatness. He is so big that He can make this promise and keep it.