



Abraham and Isaac

Bible Story: Abraham and Isaac • Genesis 22\

Bottom Line: Abraham trusted God even when he did not understand God's plan.

Memory Verse: ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. *Galatians 3:29, NIV*

Christ Connection: *Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. God provided a ram instead. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him.*

10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

Fivezi

What You Need: dice (at least 5 of 10 colors), Fivezi Instruction Page

What You Do:

- Choose your color dice (each player should have one color only)
- At "go" everyone rolls all their dice at the same time.
- After rolling, players look to see what number they have most and then make that the number they will try to get 5 of.
- Keep rolling the remaining dice-only roll the dice that aren't the number you want.
- The first player to get all 5 of the same number shouts, Fivezi, and wins the game.

What You Say "In this game we had to keep going even when it didn't seem like we could get any of the same number. As we keep learning from the Bible, we are going to learn about a guy named Abraham who had to rely on God so he could see all the things God promised. He learned over and over and over again, that God is faithful and keeps His promises."

10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

TODAY'S PASSAGE

42 "When I came to the spring today, I said, 'Lord, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. 43 See, I am standing beside this spring. If a young woman comes out to draw water and I say to her, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar," 44 and if she says to me, "Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too," let her be the one the Lord has chosen for my master's son.'

45 "Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

46 "She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also. Genesis 24:42-46

CONTEXT

God kept His promise to give Abraham and Sarah a son, and they named him Isaac. Isaac was the child chosen by God to carry the family line—to follow God, to lead the family, and to teach the next generation to follow God too. When Abraham was well over 100 years old, God tested Abraham. God instructed him to sacrifice Isaac on a mountain. How could this be? Abraham had waited so long for this child! But Abraham obeyed. He got up early the next day and left on his trip. Instead of waiting around to see if God would change His mind, he saddled the donkey, took the wood, two servants, and his son, and left on the journey as God commanded.

As Isaac walked with his father, he noticed something was missing. They had the wood and the fire, but "Where is the lamb?" Isaac asked. Abraham answered that God Himself would provide. Abraham had supreme faith that God was able to do anything. Before going up the mountain, Abraham told the servants, "Stay here ... we'll come back" (Gen. 22:5). Hebrews 11:19 also gives us a peek inside Abraham's mind: "He considered God to be able even to raise someone from the dead."

God did provide. He provided a ram in place of Isaac, who was spared. After what we might imagine was quite a worship service, Abraham and Isaac returned home.

In the New Testament, God brings through John the Baptist the final answer to Isaac's inquiry, "Where is the lamb?" "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him. He was the sacrifice made in our place so we can live.

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his son. Abraham showed that he really loved God; he was willing to give up what was probably most important to him—his own son.



- Putting his son on the altar was probably very hard for Abraham to do
- BL: Abraham trusted God even when he did not understand God's plan.
- God saw that Abraham trusted Him, and the angel told Abraham not to hurt Isaac. God provided a ram to sacrifice instead.
- Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him.

25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Discussion Questions:

- How did Abraham show that he had faith in God? Guide kids to recognize that Abraham proved his faith by obeying God. True faith leads to action. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read James 2:21-22.)
- Why do you think God sometimes tests us or asks us to do hard things? Use Abraham's story as an example to emphasize that God may test us to prove our faith. By enduring trials, our faith is made stronger. Remind boys and girls that God never tempts anyone to sin. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read James 1:12-13.)
- God provided a ram as a substitute for Isaac. How did God provide a substitute for us? Help kids express that God sent His Son to be our substitute. Jesus lived a perfect life and took the punishment we deserve for our sin so we can have forgiveness and life with God forever. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 2 Cor. 5:21.)

Activity: Take Two

What You Need: "Take Two Word List" (1 copy per group)

What You Do:

- Announce that you are going to test the kids in two ways. The first test will be a memory test and the second will be a physical test.
- Explain that you will read a list of words and will not repeat them.
- Read the word list slowly and then challenge the kids to repeat all the words they heard.
- For the second test, invite kids to do a wall sit. Instruct them to stand with their backs against the wall and then slide down by moving their feet forward until their knees are bent at a 90 degree angle and their upper legs are parallel to the floor.
- Challenge the kids to hold that position for 1 minute (or longer if they can)
- Ask them the discussion questions while they hold their wall sit.

What You Say: " Tests are used to measure a person's knowledge, skill, physical fitness and so on. In today's Bible story, God tested Abraham. God didn't test Abraham on his memory or strength, although you guys were all quite good at those skills. God tested Abraham's faith. How do you think your faith gets tested? [Make it personal] Share an age appropriate story about a time that you felt like your faith in God's promises was being tested.

Activity: Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, "Memory Verse Card Puzzles", pencils

What You Do:

- Ask the kids if they recognize the memory verse.
- Give them chances to read the memory verse.
- Give each kid a Memory Verse Card Puzzle. They need to unscramble the words on the paper to fill in the blanks..
- Practice saying the memory verse together

What You Say " Did that feel like a test? There are times when we all need to stretch so that we can trust God more and learn from the Bible. Our Memory Verse reminds us that we are part of Abraham's family. We are part of the promise. Do you think that means, we could also experience some tests to see how much we trust God? Of course, because God always keeps His promises."

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Say:

"Lord God, thank you for Your Word. Thank You for using the Bible to teach us what is true about You and about ourselves. After Abraham offered the ram in place of his son, he named that place 'the Lord Will Provide'. God, you will provide for us. You have already provided for our greatest need-salvation from sin- through your Son, Jesus. Give us power to obey Your Word and live for You. Amen."

5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage your kids to tell their parents who they trust and why God can be trusted.