



God's Covenant with Abraham

Bible Story: God's covenant with Abraham • Genesis 12; 15; 17

Bottom Line: God made a covenant to bless all the world through Abraham.

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: *Christ Connection: God promised to bless all the world through Abraham. God sent Jesus from His home in heaven to be born on earth into Abraham's family. Through Jesus, all the nations of the earth are blessed because Jesus saves people from their sins.*

10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

Simon Says

What You Need: "Simon Says" instruction sheet

What You Do:

- Decide who is going to be Simon, the leader might want to start as Simon
- Tell all the kids that you are going to say some things that they should do, it is going to be tricky. When you say "Simon Says..." then they do it. If you do not say "Simon Says", they do not do it. If they do they sit down till their next turn.

What You Say "In this game we really had to listen and follow directions. 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."

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

1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

2 "I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you."

4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. 5 He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. Genesis 12:1-5

CONTEXT

*Have any of you ever moved to a new town? Did you have to leave your friends behind? When God called Abraham, He told Abraham to move away from his family and friends. God didn't even tell Abraham where he was going! Abraham just had to trust God. Let's answer our big picture question: **Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good. God made a covenant to bless all the world through Abraham.***

A *covenant* is a special promise between God and a person or group of people. God promised Abraham three things: a large family, land for his family, and blessing. God confirmed, or strengthened, His covenant with a special ceremony. A smoking fire pot and a flaming torch representing God passed between the divided animals. This showed that only God would be responsible for keeping the promise.

The promise was unconditional; it did not depend on Abraham doing something to hold up his end of the agreement. God would keep His promise no matter what. And God was so serious about His promise, that He changed Abraham's name. He had been called Abram, but *Abraham* means "Father of a great multitude."

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS



- God can be trusted because God always keeps His Word.
- BL: God made a covenant to bless the world through Abraham.
- A covenant is a special promise between God and a person or group of people. God promised Abraham three things: a large family, land for his family, and blessing.
- *Through Jesus, all the nations of the earth are blessed because Jesus saves people from their sins.*

25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think Abraham was willing to leave his home and obey God? *Lead kids to consider that Abraham believed God's plan for his life was better than Abraham's own plan for his life.*
(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Prov. 19:21.)
- Do you think it would be hard to obey God if He called you to do something you didn't completely understand? Why or why not? *Point out that our desire for comfort and control may tempt us to disobey God, but His way is always best.*
(Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 John 5:3.)
- How do our actions affect our relationship with God? Can our sin cause God to stop loving us? *Prompt boys and girls to acknowledge that God saves us through grace. Salvation is a free gift, not dependent on our own works. God will never stop loving us.*
(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 8:37-39.)

Activity: Star Babies-

What You Need: Stars cut out (1 for each kid), face, hands, feet, and God's promise paper cut out (1 set for each kid), glue sticks

What You Do:

- Pass out one star for each kid and the face, hands, feet, and God's promise paper.
- Give the kids glue sticks to glue the face, hands, and feet on the star to make it look like a "baby"
- Then they can glue God's promises paper in the middle of each star.

What You Say: "God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. Have you ever looked in the sky to see all the stars, especially in the country? How many did you count? How many kids do you think Abraham had? Is that as many as the stars in the sky? What are descendants? Do you have any? Who are Abraham's descendants? How can you use this star this week to remember God's promises to you too? God made a covenant to bless the whole world through Abraham. Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good."

Activity: Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, "Memory Verse Cards", straw sections

What You Do:

- Ask the kids if they recognize the memory verse.
- Give them chances to read the memory verse.
- Then, take turns building a tower with your memory verse cards, putting them in order. Say each word of the verse as you put the tower together.
- Practice saying the memory verse together

What You Say "I love you tower of cards. We need to always find ways to remember God's word, memory verses, and ultimately His promises. Who is part of Abraham's family? You are and so am I. When we memorize verses from the Bible we are helping each other remember God's promises. Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good."

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Say:

"Father, thank You for blessing the world through Abraham's family. Help us to remember that You are always faithful and good. 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. Pass out the Family Resource Packets and send the Star Babies home with each kid.