



The Call of Abram

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to trust Jesus and fully live for Him.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Provides

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 12:1-8

What He has done: God called Abram and promised to bless him.

Key Verse: Genesis 12:1

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Matthew 16:24-25

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

Unit 6: The God Who Provides			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
27	Adam and Eve Sin, Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6, 8-9, 12-13, 19, 21-24	God banished Adam and Eve from the garden after they disobeyed Him.	To explore trusting God's boundaries and His solution for the Fall of Man.
28	Cain and Abel, Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16	God showed mercy and justice to Cain.	To see God's justice and mercy and to challenge children to be their brother's keeper.
29	God Saves Noah, Genesis 6:5-9, 14, 19, 22; 7:16-18, 23-24; 8:1, 6-12; 9:13-15	God provided a way to save Noah and the animals.	To see God's salvation of the faithful and destruction of evil. (Salvation Message)
30	The Tower of Babel, Genesis 11:1-9	God scattered the builders of the tower of Babel.	To challenge children to trust God enough to follow His plan and acknowledge Him.
31	The Call of Abram, Genesis 12:1-8	God called Abram and promised to bless him.	To challenge children to trust Jesus and fully live for Him.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 105:1-11. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for keeping Your promise to Abraham. Strengthen this generation so they might obey and follow You as Abraham did. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Follow the Directions	Paper, treats (chocolate or candy), envelopes, clear tape for each team
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "Search Me, O God" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Trust and Obey" "Standing on the Promises" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:8	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 31 Bible Barn script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Genesis 12:1-8	Map—Haran in Ancient Turkey and Bethel in Canaan, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Matthew 16:24-25	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Toy or novelty compass, W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: On the Trail Mix	Trail mix (usually includes nuts, chocolate, and dried fruit)
	Up to 10	Game: Sand Buckets Relay	Sand, two buckets per team, optional: sheets or long cloths
	Up to 15	Craft: Canaan Scenes	Shoe box, yarn, multiple colors of sturdy paper, items from nature (e.g., flowers, leaves, twigs, sand, pebbles), scissors, glue
	Up to 10	Discussion: Did You Know?	Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	None
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Yahweh—Trust in the Lord	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord," CD player, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: If you could visit any country, where would you visit?

GAME: FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS

Purpose: Children will experience simple trust and obedience as they follow the map to the treasure.

Supplies: Paper, treats (chocolate or candy), envelopes, clear tape for each team

Prepare: Hide the candy in your play area. Draw a map of your play area. Draw a line from a starting place in the room (such as a door) to the candy. Make a copy of the map for each team. Cut each map into several puzzle pieces (less pieces for younger children and more pieces for older children) and place each set into its own envelope.

I have a big surprise for you! I have hidden enough candy in this room for each of you to have a piece. To find the candy, you must tape together the pieces of the map I will give you and follow the directions on it.

Directions:

1. Form teams of 4-5 children.
2. Give each team a map puzzle and tape.
3. On your signal, each team removes their puzzle from its envelope and tapes it back together.
4. When the map is complete, the team uses it to find the candy.
5. The first team to reach the candy wins the job of sharing it with the rest of the class.

Did you trust me when I said you could find hidden candy if you put together the map and followed it? (Children respond.) **If you did not trust me, would you have wanted to obey me?** (Children respond.) **If you didn't believe candy was there, would you have searched for it?** (Children respond.)

In today's story, God called a man named Abram to follow Him. (Abram would later be called Abraham.) **God told Abram to leave home and follow His directions to a land he had never seen. That meant Abram had to trust God in order to obey and follow Him!**



The God who provides **THE WORSHIP**

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

Welcome! Today, we worship the God who provides. God provided the faith Abram needed to trust and obey Him when He called him to move to a brand new land.



Read Hebrews 11:8.



By faith, Abram trusted in the Lord. Let's pray God will use today's offering to build the faith of many people. Sing the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord" while the offering is collected.

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's provision.



Perform Bible Barn script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 6, Lesson 31.



God calls Abram

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we read about the people who tried to build the tower of Babel to prove their power and become famous. What did God do? (He proved His power by causing them to speak different languages and scattering them over the earth.) **We discovered God wants us to be humble.**

Today, we will hear how God called Abram to a new land and promised to bless him. If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Abram left his home in Haran and ended up in Bethel, which is in Canaan.** If a map is available, point out the distance between Haran in Ancient Turkey and Bethel in Canaan.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Genesis 12:1-8. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Genesis 12:1.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

Listen carefully as we read how God called Abram. Read Genesis 12:1-8.



Trusting God's promises

THE WAY

What were the seven promises God made? Read Genesis 12:2-3. **Abram trusted God to keep those promises even though they must have seemed impossible. Which promise do you think would have been the most difficult one for Abram to believe?** (Children respond.) **If God made these promises to you, how might you picture them coming true?** (Children respond.) **Which promise would be most important to you?** (Children respond.)

The great tree of Moreh (Mō'rē) was a holy place for the town's false god. What did Abram do there? (Built an altar to the Lord.) **What did he do when he pitched his tent near Bethel?** (Built an altar and called on the Lord.) **How were Abram's choices different from the choices of those who built the tower of Babel that we read about last time?** (The builders followed their own plan for greatness, instead of trusting God's plan. They did not acknowledge or worship Him.)

Abram knew Pharaoh might want Sarai to join his harem. Why did Abram lie and claim Sarai was his sister? (Pharaoh would have killed Abram to get Sarai.) **What did God do to cause Pharaoh to release her?** (He gave serious diseases to Pharaoh, his family, and his workers.) **How might God's actions have strengthened Abram's faith that God would keep His promises?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

God called Abram to leave his home and give up his old way of life to go wherever God would lead him. God has called us, too. Let's read about it.



FIND IT FIRST > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap.** Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Matthew 16:24-25. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Matthew 16:24-25.

How does Jesus describe what any follower must do? (Deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Jesus.) **What does it mean to deny yourself?** (Children respond.) **To take up your cross means to be willing to suffer and die for the Lord's sake.**

What does it mean to lose your life for Jesus? (Not necessarily to physically die for Jesus but to give up your life as it is and to dedicate yourself to following Him and putting Him first.) **What promise does Jesus make to those who lose their lives for Him?** (They will find their lives.) **What does Jesus say about those who want to save their lives?** (They will lose their lives.) **That means those who do not give their lives to follow Jesus, but instead live just for themselves, will not receive eternal life with God.**

What things in your life make it difficult for you to follow Jesus? (Children respond.) **Is there anything in your life that you are treating as more important than God? Think about Jesus' call to deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Him. This week ask God to help you trust Him enough to do that.**

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a compass. What is a compass used for? (Finding the right direction to travel.) **Abram followed God's directions to a new land. Each time you look at your compass, remember Jesus called you to follow Him. You can trust and obey His directions because they will lead you in the right way.**

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #31. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Abram and his family traveling to Canaan. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: ON THE TRAIL MIX

Purpose: To enjoy a snack of trail mix while discussing travel to new places.

Snack Suggestion: Trail mix (usually includes nuts, chocolate, and dried fruit)

Teacher Tip: Due to potentially serious allergic reactions, you may want to avoid serving peanuts.

In today's story, Abram obeyed God's call to travel to a new land. Today, when people go on camping trips or hikes, they may eat trail mix to give them energy for their trip. Let's enjoy some right now.

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drinks.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Questions: **Where is a place you have traveled to? How did you know how to get there? What is it like to visit or move to a new place?**

GAME: SAND BUCKETS RELAY

Purpose: To learn a connected passage (Genesis 22:17) which reveals details of God's plan for Abram.

Supplies: Sand, two buckets per team, optional: sheets or long cloths

Prepare: For each team, fill one bucket with sand. You may want to lay down sheets or long cloths to catch any sand that is spilled.

When God called Abram, He said He would make him into a great nation. In Genesis 22:17, God said the number of people in Abram's nation would be more than the stars in the sky or the sand on the shore. Let's remember that promise with a sand bucket relay.

Directions:

1. Divide the children into 2 teams.
2. Line each team up at one end of the play area. Set a bucket of sand by the first child in each line.
3. Place an empty bucket for each team at the other end of the play area.
4. On your signal, the first child on each team fills a spoon with sand, runs it to the empty bucket, and dumps it in.
5. Continue until time runs out.
6. The team with the most sand in its bucket wins.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: CANAAN SCENES

Purpose: To remember Abram trusted and obeyed God and God kept His promise.

Supplies: Shoe box, yarn, multiple colors of sturdy paper, items from nature (e.g., flowers, leaves, twigs, sand, pebbles), scissors, glue

Prepare: Cover the work area with a protective covering.

Optional: If time allows and you are in a location where you can go outdoors, have the children collect their own nature items.

God called Abram to move to a new land called Canaan. God promised to give him the land and to make him the father of a great nation. Abram trusted God and obeyed.

Let's work in teams to create what we think Canaan looked like in the boxes I will give you. When everyone is done, we will share our scenes with each other.

Directions:

1. Form teams of 4-5 children and give a box to each team.
2. Show the children the supplies that are available to them. Encourage them to use their imaginations to create what they think a land promised by God would look like. If children are unsure of what to create, you may wish to offer suggestions such as sand for the base of their scene, twigs for trees, and blue sturdy paper for water).
3. After the teams have completed their scenes, let them share them with each other.

DISCUSSION: DID YOU KNOW?

Purpose: For children to discover facts that relate to and/or support the lesson content.

Supplies: Bible

Abram listened to God's call and obeyed. God kept his promise by giving Abram many descendants (children, grandchildren, etc.). His family did become a great nation, just as God promised. They became the nation of Israel. Abraham is known as the father of Israel because everyone in the nation of Israel comes from his family. He is also known as the father of the Christian faith. In the beginning, we knew God's people as the Israelites. Later, they were called the Jews. But, since Jesus came to save the Jews and the Gentiles (non-Jews), God's people are now all those who believe in His Son Jesus.

Listen carefully and see if you can put into your own words why all who believe in Jesus are now part of Abraham's family—God's people. Read Galatians 3:6-7, 14. Encourage children to explain this scripture in their own words.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Proverbs 3:5-6 to each child or group.
2. Direct each child or group to quickly stand, say the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and then down to the thighs, and then sit down.
3. Repeat three times, saying the verses faster each time.

GAME: YAHWEH—TRUST IN THE LORD

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song “Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord,” CD player, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Display the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster. Create a hand jive or dance motions to go with the verse or plan to have the children help you create motions.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song while children sing along.
3. Add a hand jive or dance motions.
4. Sing again with the motions. Challenge the children to keep the motions going as the song goes faster and faster.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Noah (Circa 2350 B.C.) How does the Bible describe Noah? (Righteous, blameless, he walked with God.) How did God save Noah from the flood? (God gave Noah exact directions for how to build an ark that would keep everyone on it safe.) What is your favorite part of this story? (Children respond.)

Tower of Babel After the flood, God planned to fill the world with people by scattering them. Why did the people build the Tower of Babel? (To make a name for themselves and to not be scattered.) What did God do to stop the building of the tower? (He confused their language so they could not work together. The people were scattered.)

Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) Initially named Abram, God later changed his name to Abraham. What was the first thing God asked Abram to do? (Go to a new land God would give to him and his family.)

How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350.B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

Unit 10: John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)