



The Search for Rebekah

Lesson Aim: To show how to obey and pray throughout every task we are given.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Keeps His Promises

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67

What He Has Done: God helped Abraham's servant find Rebekah.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Always pray."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

Unit 7: The God Who Keeps His Promises			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
32	Abram and Lot, Genesis 13:1-2, 5-11, 14-18	God gave Abram the land and blessed it.	To see how to live in peace with one another.
33	Hagar and Ishmael, Genesis 21:12-20	God kept His promise when He rescued Hagar and Ishmael in the desert.	To know God watches over us.
34	Abraham's Visitors, Genesis 15:5-6; 18:1-14	God sent three men to say His promise would come true.	To know God can do anything He promises.
35	The Search for Rebekah, Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67	God helped Abraham's servant find Rebekah.	To show how to obey and pray throughout every task we are given.
36	Jacob and Esau, Genesis 27:30-35; 32:5; 33:4-11	God kept His promised plan for each brother.	To know we can forgive each other.
37	Life of Jacob: The Dream, Genesis 28:12-17	God told Jacob in a dream He would keep His promise.	To trust God to keep His promise to be with us wherever we go.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Philippians 4:4-7. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for hearing our prayers. Call Your children to a life of prayer. Give us all an understanding of doing our work for You. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of praying hands
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Always pray."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Am with You" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Will Always Obey Your Law" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" Additional Song Suggestions: "Father Abraham" "Trust and Obey"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 35
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 24:42 Visual: Pottery jar for water
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Praying Hands	Flesh-colored standard-size sturdy paper; pictures or cutout shapes of a hand, a foot, a heart, and an ear; glue; crayons or markers
		Game: Chore Charades	Paper, pen or pencil
		Game: Say & Do	None
		Snack: Always Pray	Any favorite snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 35 Color This Story: "The Search for Rebekah"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67	None
	Up to 10	Game: Stand Up and Say It!	None
	Up to 10	Song: Father Abraham	None, optional: recording of "Father Abraham"
	Up to 10	Game: Wherever You Go	Chairs (optional)
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story that expresses God's love

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Always pray

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of praying hands. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of praying hands remind you of how Abraham's servant loved to pray. Today's Whisper verse is "Always pray."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Always pray."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

- "Always"** The circular movement of the hand with forefinger extended represents a circle that does not end.
- "pray."** The palms are pressed together in a gesture of prayer.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Always pray," Luke 18:1. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who keeps His promises

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 “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who keeps His promises. God has promised to be with us wherever we go. Because He always keeps His promises, we can trust He always hears us when we pray. That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse, “Always pray.” Let's say it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: “Always pray.” Include sign language.

In today's story, Abraham sent his servant on a journey to find a wife for his son, Isaac. The servant prayed God would give him success in finding her. God heard and answered the servant's prayer. Even though he was in a faraway land where he knew no one, the servant found the wife God had chosen for Isaac. Her name was Rebekah and she was beautiful.



God wants us to always pray, just as Abraham's servant did. Before we collect our offering today, let's pray and ask God to use this offering to help others grow closer to Him. Sing: “The Lord Is Faithful” while the offering is collected.



Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about the servant's search for Rebekah. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 35.



God was with Abraham's servant. He promises to be with you, too. Sing: “I Am with You” and “He Is Mighty to Save.”

God heard the servant's prayer and led him to Rebekah, the one God had already chosen to be Isaac's wife. Then, the servant gave thanks to the Lord. Let's celebrate and give thanks as the servant did that day. Sing: “Give Thanks to the Lord.”



The servant prayed and obeyed

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our **Classroom Promise with the motions.**

With my eyes on my teacher;

Point to eyes.

My mouth quiet as can be,

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

I will listen to hear,

Cup hand around ear.

How God loves you and me.

Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we heard how God kept His promise to give Abraham and Sarah baby Isaac. Today, we will see how a faithful servant found a wife for Isaac when he grew up. Let's open our Bible to the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 24:42.

WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 24:34-46, 61-67

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a pottery jar for water. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for his son.
- The servant wondered, "How will I know she is the one?"
- If I find her what happens if she won't say yes?"
- Abraham said that God's angel would bring him success.

- So the servant travelled far, and he stopped at a spring.
- He prayed the right young woman would give him a drink.
- He prayed she would offer his camels water, too.
- It would be the sign that she was the one he should choose.

- Before he even finished this prayer from his heart.
- Beautiful Rebekah shared the water from her jar!
- She went with the servant to become Isaac's wife.
- Then Rebekah and Isaac lived a happy married life.

The servant prayed to God for help. How can we be like that servant? (Children respond.) The answer is in our Whisper Verse. Let's say it together, "Always pray." Include sign language or hand motions.



What did the servant ask for in his prayer? (He prayed the right woman would give him a drink. He prayed she would offer his camels water, too.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Genesis 24:42 from the teacher's Bible.



We can obey and pray

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: PRAYING HANDS

Purpose: To show children how to obey instruction and pray throughout the task.

Supplies: Flesh-colored standard-size sturdy paper; pictures or cutout shapes of a hand, a foot, a heart, and an ear; glue; crayons or markers

Prepare: Fold a standard-size sheet flesh-colored paper in half like a book. Trace your hand on the paper with the pinky side of your hand along the fold, your fingers together, and your thumb slightly extended. Cut out the hand shape, being careful to leave the fold. On a label or on the front of the hands print: **Abraham's servant prayed and obeyed. Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67.** On the hand picture, print: **"Help others."** On the foot picture, print: **"Follow directions."** On the heart picture, print: **"Be kind."** On the ear picture, print: **"Listen carefully."**

Directions:

1. Open praying hands to reveal the inside.
2. Glue the hand picture to the top left side.
3. Glue the foot picture to the top right side.
4. Glue the heart picture to the bottom left side.
5. Glue the ear picture to the bottom right side.
6. Color the pictures and praying hands.

Craft Discussion:

- **Abraham told the servant to go and find a wife for Isaac. What do your parents tell you to do?** (Help others, follow directions, be kind, listen carefully, etc.)
- **When Abraham's servant went to find a wife for Isaac, whom did he ask for help?** (God.) **How do we ask God for help?** (Through prayer.) **What is our Whisper Verse?** ("Always pray.")

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: CHORE CHARADES

Purpose: To help children see opportunities to pray.

Supplies: Paper, pen or pencil

What are some of the things others have asked you to do at church, at home, or at school?
(Children respond.) Teacher writes down the children's answers.

Directions:

1. Teacher whispers one activity on the list to a child who then fully acts out the activity without speaking.
2. After the activity is guessed, talk about how we can ask God's help with doing our very best at that activity.
3. Play until each child has a turn.

GAME: SAY & DO

Purpose: This pantomime version of the story helps children remember the sequence of events in the servant's search for Rebekah.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **We are searching for Rebekah.** (Hand at forehead in search pose.)
- **We are sent by Abraham.** (Stroke imaginary white beard.)
- **God has sent His angel** (Hold hands in a circle over head as the angel's halo.)
- **To show the right one to him.** (Point as if to a person.)

- **How will we know she is the one?** (Shrug shoulders.)
- **And what if she will not come with us?** (Fold arms and shake head no.)
- **Abraham promised that God's angel would bring success.** (Raise hand in a promise then give a thumbs up.)
- **We are searching for Rebekah.** (Hand at forehead in search pose.)

- **We are praying at the spring.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **We pray that Isaac's wife would be** (Raise praying hands for emphasis.)
- **The one to give us a drink.** (Raise index finger, then pretend to drink.)
- **She shared her jar with the servant.** (Pretend to hold large pitcher.)
- **She served the camels, too.** (Pretend to offer jar to many camels.)

- **This was our true sign from God.** (Point to heaven.)
- **Rebekah, we should choose!** (Clap hands 3 times in celebration.)
- **When Isaac saw Rebekah** (Cup hands around eyes, as if using binoculars.)
- **He loved her very much!** (Hug self.)

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: ALWAYS PRAY

Purpose: To remember God always wants us to pray and ask for His help.

Snack Suggestion: Any favorite snack

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Abraham's servant prayed God would help him find the right wife for Isaac. God always wants us to pray and ask for His help. That reminds me of our Whisper Verse. Who remembers today's Whisper Verse? ("Always pray.") Let's say it together.**
 - **Just like Abraham's servant, we can ask God to help us make good choices. With what choices can you ask for God's help? (Children respond.) What else do you pray about? (Children respond.)**
 - **Next time you have to make a choice or you do not know what to do, remember to ask God to help you.**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



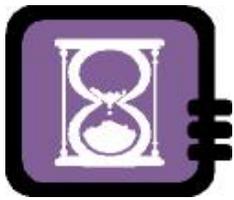
When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Praying Hands" craft. Tell everyone how God answered the servant's prayer and helped him do a good job.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how we can obey and pray through every task we are given.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "The Search for Rebekah." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Am with You," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: GENESIS 24:34-46, 61-67

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for his son.** (Point far away.)
- **The servant wondered, "How will I know she is the one?"** (Raise index finger.)
- **If I find her what happens if she won't say yes?"** (Shrug shoulders.)
- **Abraham said that God's angel would bring him success.** (Point to heaven.)

- **So the servant started searching, and he stopped at a spring.** (Search pose.)
- **He prayed the right young woman would give him a drink.** (Pretend to drink.)
- **He prayed she would offer his camels water too.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **It would be the sign that she was the one he should choose.** (Raise index finger.)

- **Before he even finished this prayer from his heart.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **Beautiful Rebekah shared the water from her jar!** (Pretend to pour water.)
- **She went with the servant to become Isaac's wife.** (Walk in place.)
- **Then Rebekah and Isaac lived a happy married life.** (Hold heart.)

SONG: FATHER ABRAHAM

Purpose: Children will identify themselves as stars connected to Abraham's family.

Supplies: None, optional: recording of "Father Abraham"

Abraham had baby Isaac. Moses, David, Jonah and Jesus all belong to Abraham's family. All who believe in Jesus are part of the family too! That means you and I can also be called children of Abraham. Let's praise God for including us in this family. We will sing (or chant) "Father Abraham" and raise each body part as we say it.

**Father Abraham had many sons. Many sons had Father Abraham.
I am one of them and so are you. So let's all praise the Lord.
Right arm!**

Repeat the first two lines with the following actions:

Right arm, left arm!

Right arm, left arm, right foot!

Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot!

Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, chin up!

Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, chin up, turn around!

Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, chin up, turn around, sit down!

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go." Genesis 28:15

GAME: STAND UP AND SAY IT!

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us. We can remember that promise by saying it to one another. Practice saying the Bible Memory Verse together a few times.

Directions:

1. Say, **"If you are a girl, I want you to stand and say God's promise together."**
2. The girls stand and say, **"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go."**
3. Repeat steps 1-2 with various groups such as:
 - If you are a boy,
 - If you love God,
 - If you are wearing something blue,
 - If you have a brother or sister,
4. Play as often as you like, announcing different groups each time.

GAME: WHEREVER YOU GO

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Chairs (optional)

Prepare: In this game, the children will pretend to travel to various locations. You may choose to set up two rows of chairs next to each other as a pretend car or the children can sit in rows on the floor.

In the Bible, God made a promise to watch over us wherever we go. What are some of the places we go? (e.g., Grandma's house, store, playground, doctor's office.)

Directions:

1. Children sit in the chairs or sit in rows on the floor.
2. **Let's pretend we're riding in a car.** Ask one of the children, **"Where should we go?"**
3. Have fun pretending to drive the car to that location. Pretend to stop for traffic or to take a wrong return. When you arrive, say, **"We're here!"**
4. You may choose to have the children get out of the car and act out an activity they might do at that location, such as hugging grandma, buying milk, or running in place for the playground.
5. Ask, **"Is God with us when we are at name of location?"**
6. Lead the children in saying, **"God says, 'Yes! I will watch over you wherever you go.'"**
7. If the children got out of the car, have them take their seats again. Play as often as you like or as long as children are interested. You may choose to change the vehicle into a bus, train, or airplane depending on the location to which you are traveling.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story that expresses God's love.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 7, Lesson 35: The Search for Rebekah

PONDER! Read Genesis 24:34-46, 61-67 with your family. The servant obeyed Abraham and asked for God's help to do his best in this task. Talk about each family member's responsibilities at home, at school, or at work. How can God help you do your best at these?

PRAY! Pray this prayer, each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for leading the servant straight to Rebekah. Help us be more like the servant who obeyed and prayed. Amen."

PLAY! Gather for a game of chore charades. Silently act out various household chores and responsibilities. Afterward, brainstorm ways to pray with God about doing your best.

Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse: Genesis 28:15

"I am with you and I will watch over you wherever you go."