



Teacher's Guide: Ages 4-5
God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis through Joshua
Unit 6, Lesson 31

Abram Goes to a New Land

Lesson Aim: To know we can trust and obey God's direction.

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.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Let us go."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I will always obey Your law forever and ever. I will walk about in freedom." Psalm 119:44-45a

Unit 6: The God Who Provides			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
27	Adam and Eve Disobey, Genesis 3:1-13	God gave fair punishment to Adam, Eve and the serpent.	To know God wants us to obey Him.
28	Cain and Abel, Genesis 4:2b-7a	God showed mercy and justice to Cain.	To know God wants us to give our best, to be loving, and not jealous.
29	Noah Builds an Ark, Genesis 6:5, 7-9, 14, 19, 22; 7:16-18, 23-24; 8:1, 7-12; 9:13-15	God provided a way to save Noah and the animals.	To see how Noah trusted and obeyed God's directions for the ark.
30	The Tower of Babel, Genesis 11:1-9	God stopped the builders when they tried to be more powerful than Him.	To build in ways which show God's greatness instead of our own.
31	Abram Goes to a New Land, Genesis 12:1-8	God called Abram and promised to bless him.	To know we can trust and obey God's direction.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 105:1-9. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for keeping Your promise to Abram. Strengthen this generation that they might be able to obey You as he did. Amen."

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a tree or a leaf
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Let us go."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Will Always Obey Your Law" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Blessed Are Those" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Additional Song Suggestion: "Who Built the Ark?"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 6, Lesson 31
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Genesis 12:1-8	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 12:1 Visual: Suitcase
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Abram Finger Puppet	Plain index card, sturdy tan paper, tan pipe cleaner, label or white paper, googly eyes or eye stickers, tape, glue, crayons or markers
		Game: The Big Tree	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Always Obey Your Law," tree (Make or draw a tree on paper or use a tall chair or cabinet. If weather and time permit, travel outdoors and stand beneath an actual tree.)
		Game: I Packed My Bag	None
		Snack: A New Land	A favorite travel snack (e.g., trail mix, fruit, nuts, or crackers)
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 6, Lesson 31 Color This Story: "Abram Goes to a New Land"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Genesis 12:1-8	None
	Up to 10	Game: Follow the Leader	None
	Up to 10	Game: Freedom Walk	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Always Obey Your Law"
	Up to 10	Game: Bible Memory Verse Cheer	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about trusting and obeying God

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Let us go

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I am 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 a tree or leaf. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a tree or leaf remind you that Abram went to a new land. Today's Whisper Verse is "Let us go."** 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: "Let us go."

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

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

- "Let"** All fingertips point down and then move up with a slight forward movement.
- "us"** Hold the index and the middle finger together ("U" hand shape) and move across chest.
- "go."** Hand moves away from the body and gradually closes.

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:** "Let us go," Psalm 122:1. 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 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 “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 provides for us. That means He gives us what we need. He provided Abram with all he needed to go to a new land. God showed Abram how to get there. He even gave Abram the faith to obey and go! That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse, “Let us go.” Let's say it together and imagine Abram saying it as he headed to the new land. Review the Whisper Verse together: “Let us go.” Include sign language.



When God told Abram to go to the new land, Abram obeyed even though he did not know where he was going. He trusted God to show him the way. Let's imagine what Abram did once he came to the new land. Sing: “I Will Always Obey Your Law.”

As we give our offering today, let's sing and thank God for all He has done for us. Sing: “Let Everything That Has Breath” while the offering is collected.



Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about the new land where God sent Abram. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 6, Lesson 31.



God promised Abram he would be a blessing to others. He has been a blessing to people for thousands of years because of his example to us of how we should hear God's words and obey them. Sing: “Blessed Are Those.”

When we listen to God and obey Him, we can bless others, too. Sing: “I Will Listen.”



Abram obeys

THE WORD

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

With my eyes on my teacher,
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned the people did not please God when they built the Tower of Babel. Today, we will see what happened when God told Abram to move to a new land. Let's open our Bible to the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 12:1.

WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 12:1-8

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 small suitcase or travel bag. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- God told Abram,
- "Leave your country and people, too.
- Leave your father's family.
- Go to the land I will show you.
- "I will make you into a great nation.
- I will make your name great.
- You will be a blessing to others;
- I will bless you and your name!"
- Abram obeyed the Lord.
- He moved away as he was told.
- He took his wife and nephew.
- He was 75 years old.
- They set out for the land of Canaan.
- Abram traveled right through.
- At the big tree, God said, "I will give
- This land to your children after you."



What did the Lord tell Abram to do? (To move to a new country.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Genesis 12:1 from the teacher's Bible.

Abram obeyed God's directions. When God said, "Go," Abram went right away. When God tells us to do something, what should we do? (Go right away.) Let's say our Whisper Verse together: "Let us go." Include sign language or hand motions.



God wants us to obey

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: ABRAM FINGER PUPPET

Purpose: To remember Abram's physical journey to a new land.

Supplies: Plain index card, sturdy tan paper, tan pipe cleaner, label or white paper, googly eyes or eye stickers, tape, glue, crayons or markers

Prepare: Cut a tan pipe cleaner in two. At the bottom of an index card, cut 2 holes big enough for kids to poke a finger through each. From sturdy tan paper, cut a 2½-inch diameter circle. On a label or slip of paper, print:

**Abram Goes to a New Land
Genesis 12:1-8**

Optional: Draw and cut out the top half of a man, cutting 2 holes where the legs would be.

Abram trusted God and obeyed His directions to go to a new land. When he arrived, he thanked God. He was able to walk about the land in freedom because he trusted and obeyed God's direction. Today, we will make an Abram finger puppet that walks about in freedom in a new land.

Directions:

1. Attach eyes on Abram's face (paper circle). Draw on the rest of his face and hair.
2. Attach Abram's face to the top of his body (index card).
3. Use crayons or markers to draw and color a robe for Abram on the index card.
4. Use tape to attach the half of a pipe cleaner (Abram's arms) to the back of the index card.
5. Bend the pipe cleaner into arm positions.
6. Show children how to put their index and middle fingers through the finger holes for Abram's legs and feet.

Craft Discussion:

- **God had a special plan for Abram. He told Abram to move to a new land.**
- Sing the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song as you help your Abram finger puppet "walk about the land in freedom."

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: THE BIG TREE

Purpose: Children will learn the importance of choosing special places to give thanks and praise to God.

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Always Obey Your Law," tree (Make or draw a tree on paper or use a tall chair or cabinet. If weather and time permit, travel outdoors and stand beneath an actual tree.)

God brought Abram to a new land. When Abram came to the big tree, God promised to give the land to Abram's children. Abram stopped there and made an altar –a special place to thank God for all He had done.

Directions:

1. Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song as "traveling music."
2. Play the part of "Abram" and lead the children once around the room.
3. Stop at the tree and give thanks for something God has given you out loud, saying,
"I give thanks to God for _____."
4. Allow each child to play the part of Abram and repeat steps 3-4.

GAME: I PACKED MY BAG

Purpose: This memory game is a fun reminder that Abram packed and went to a new land.

Supplies: None

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Child 1 says, "**Abram packed a bag and in it he put** child names an item."
3. Child 2 says, "**Abram packed a bag and in it he put** item named by Child 1 **and** Child 2 names a new item."
4. Child 3 says, "**Abram packed a bag and in it he put** item named by Child 1, item named by Child 2, **and** Child 3 names a new item."
5. Continue with this pattern until each child has added an item.

Teacher's Tip: Encourage the children to help each other remember the list of items.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: A NEW LAND

Purpose: To remind us we can trust and obey God's direction.

Snack Suggestion: A favorite travel snack (e.g., trail mix, fruit, nuts, or crackers)

When God told Abram to go to a new land, Abram obeyed. He took his wife, Sarah, and his nephew, Lot, and many servants with him. When they traveled, they may have eaten a snack like we are eating today.

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.
 - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("Let us go.") **Let's say it together.**
 - **Have you ever moved to a new place?** (Children respond.) Children may suggest a time when they moved to a new city, home, school, church, or other move.
 - **How did you feel when you were moving?** (Children respond.)
 - **When you are nervous or sad, what could you remember from today's story that might help you feel better?** (We can trust and obey God's direction.)



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 "Abram Finger Puppet" craft and tell someone how God showed Abram a new land.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how we can trust and obey God's direction.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Abram Goes to a New Land." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Will Always Obey Your Law," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: GENESIS 12:1-8

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.

- **God told Abram,** (Cup hands around mouth to give a message.)
- **"Leave your country and people, too.** (Point far away.)
- **Leave your father's family.** (Wave goodbye.)
- **Go to the land I will show you.** (Point to eyes.)

- **"I will make you into a great nation.** (Spread arms wide.)
- **I will make your name great.** (Thumbs up.)
- **You will be a blessing to others.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **I will bless you and your name!"** (Point to heaven.)

- **Abram obeyed the Lord.** (Nod head as yes.)
- **He moved away as he was told.** (Walk in place.)
- **He took his wife and nephew.** (Hold hands with others.)
- **He was 75 years old.** (Bend over and pretend to be old.)

- **They set out for the land of Canaan.** (Point far away.)
- **Abram traveled right through.** (Walk in place.)
- **At the big tree, God said, "I will give** (Stretch arms out like big tree branches.)
- **This land to your children after you."** (Point to others.)

GAME: FOLLOW THE LEADER

Purpose: This familiar game reminds the children how a leader can show them the way to go.

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Always Obey Your Law"

Let's play "Follow the Leader" and remember how Abram trusted God to lead him to the new land.

Directions:

1. Choose a child as the leader.
2. As you play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, the leader leads the children around the room making up motions (clapping hands, waving arms, hopping, etc.) for the other children to follow.
3. Give each child a turn as the leader.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I will always obey Your law forever and ever. I will walk about in freedom."

Psalm 119:44-45a

GAME: FREEDOM WALK

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Always Obey Your Law"

Directions:

1. Stand in a circle with the children.
2. **Let's pretend we are standing in the Garden of Eden, as we say our Bible Memory Verse, then we will walk about in freedom.**
3. **Can you say our Bible Memory Verse with me? "I will always obey Your law forever and ever. I will walk about in freedom." Psalm 119:44-45a**
4. Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song while children roam freely about the room.
5. Make up motions. Be sure to walk and dance freely when you "walk about in freedom!"
6. Periodically, stop the music. Children stop where they are. Lead the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse together.

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHEER

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Directions:

1. Practice the Bible Memory Verse together.
2. Divide children into two groups. Each group stands on opposite ends of the play area.
3. Group 1 whispers, **"I will always obey Your law forever and ever."**
4. Group 2 whispers back, **"I will walk about in freedom."**
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 three more times, getting louder each time, until the children are using their strongest voices.
6. Have the groups switch phrases and play again.

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 about trusting and obeying God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 6, Lesson 31: Abram Goes to a New Land

PONDER! Read Genesis 12:1-8 with your family. Discuss how Abram trusted God to show him where to go. Talk about times you or your family members have moved to a new home or city, changed schools, or made another change. How can you help each other to remember to trust God in those situations?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for the land You have given us. Thank You for showing us new places. Help us trust and obey You as Abram did. Amen."

PLAY! Abram stopped at a tree in the new land God had given him. He made an altar there to worship God. Find a tree near your home where you and your family can gather to thank God for all He has given you. Each time you pass that tree, remember how good God has been to your family.

Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 119:44-45a

"I will always obey Your law forever and ever. I will walk about in freedom."