



Abraham and Isaac

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to a more active faith.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Keeps His Promises

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 22:1-2, 6-18

What He has done: God fulfilled His promise of a son for Abraham and tested Abraham's faith.

Key Verse: Genesis 22:8

THE WAY

Christ Connection: 1 John 4:9

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11-13

Unit 7: The God Who Keeps His Promises			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
32	Abram and Lot, Genesis 13:1-2, 5-18	God gave Abram the land and blessed it.	To learn how to be a peacekeeper.
33	Hagar and Ishmael, Genesis 16:7-16; 21:9-20	God watched over Hagar and Ishmael and gave them a promise.	To see God watches over us and ensures His plans for us.
34	Abraham and Isaac, Genesis 22:1-2, 6-18	God fulfilled His promise of a son for Abraham and tested Abraham's faith.	To challenge children to a more active faith.
35	The Search for Rebekah, Genesis 24:34-51	God helped the servant fulfill his mission and find Rebekah.	To challenge children in each job they have been given to obey, pray, and give themselves away.
36	Jacob and Esau, Genesis 25:29-33; 27:19-23, 32-36	God had a plan for each brother, Jacob and Esau.	To understand the role of God's mercy in the lives of those He chooses to use in His plans.
37	Life of Jacob: The Blessing, Genesis 32:24-30; 33:4, 8-10; 35:1, 10-12	God kept His promises to be with Jacob and to make him into a nation.	To inspire spiritual growth in pursuing God's blessings and in mending relationships.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 23. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, God, for watching over us, hearing our cries, and rescuing us. Comfort the children with this story of rescue and promise. Amen."

Permission is granted to reproduce these materials. Not for resale. Use is subject to the Terms of Use available at ResourceWell.org. Terms are subject to change without notice. All other rights are reserved.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Test of Faith	Pencils, markers, copies of the test (See GOT TIME? for student copies.)
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "You Will Seek Me" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Am with You" "I Lift Up My Eyes" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Standing on the Promises" "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:9-10	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 34 High Seas Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Genesis 22:1-2, 6-18	Map—Mount Moriah in Jerusalem area of Ancient Israel, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: 1 John 4:9	
	Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—(Glow-in-the-dark) star, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "You Will Seek Me," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: As Many As the Stars	Bread, jelly, plates, spoons, large star-shaped cookie cutters
	Up to 10	Game: Trusted Provision	Planters, pots, or hanging baskets (1 per team, large enough to plant a few seeds), potting soil, water, flower seeds, paper and markers, newspapers or plastic
	Up to 10	Craft: Faith Stars	Yellow sturdy paper, scissors, pencils, glue, glitter, hole punch, yarn, markers or glitter pens
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Scrambled Promise	Sturdy colorful paper, Bible or Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Understanding the Promise	None
	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: Who is the oldest person you have ever met?

GAME: TEST OF FAITH

Purpose: To introduce the story about Abraham's faith being tested, children will take a test.

Supplies: Pencils, markers, copies of the test

Prepare: Make a student copy of the "Test of Faith" (found in GOT TIME? segment) for each student.

Today, we are going to learn the story of Abraham and Isaac. We will discover God tested Abraham's faith to make it stronger. Before we get started, let's take a test of our own. Just like Abraham's test, this one is not for a grade. It is to learn more about God and your faith in Him.

Directions:

1. Give each child a pencil and a copy of the test.
2. Read the directions, scripture, and questions aloud for the children.

TEST OF FAITH

The Lord has given a special promise to us found in Hebrews 10:16-17.

Directions:

1. Listen and follow along as your leader reads this covenant promise from the Lord.

**"This is the covenant (promise) I will make with them
after that time," says the Lord.**

**"I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."
Then God adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."**

2. Circle your choice (true, false, or not sure) for each statement below.

True	False	Not Sure	God's perfect memory never forgets the sins of a believer.
True	False	Not Sure	The Lord helps us know what He thinks is good and right.
True	False	Not Sure	Even if I fail, I trust God will still keep His promises.

3. Trade tests with the person next to you. Explain your answers to each other.



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 music as children move to the designated area.

Welcome! Today, we worship the God who keeps His promises—no promise is too hard for Him to keep. In today’s story, we will read how God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac. To sacrifice is to give up something special to you. Abraham proved he was willing to give up his special son, just to obey God. This was a picture of a future time when God would send His one and only Son to be the sacrifice for the whole world.



Read 1 John 4:9-10. **Today, the types of sacrifices Jesus wants from each of us are to love God and to love one another.**



As we give our offerings, let’s offer the sacrifice of praise by telling God how much we love Him. Sing: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” while the offering is collected.

Sing Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: “You Will Seek Me.”

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God sending His Son.



Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 7, Lesson 34.



Abraham trusted and obeyed God

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 learned about Hagar and her son Ishmael. What did God do for Hagar and Ishmael in the desert? (He watched over them and gave them water.) What promise did the angel make to Hagar? (That God would make Ishmael into a great nation.)

Today, we will read about Abraham and the special son he had with Sarah. God promised a son to Abraham. He said Abraham would become the father of a nation through this special son. But after many years had passed, he still did not have the son God had promised. In fact, he and his wife Sarah became too old to have a baby. Finally, when Abraham was 100 years old, he and Sarah did have a baby, just as God had promised. It was a miracle! They named their son Isaac. If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. Through this miracle, Abraham and Sarah saw God really could do anything!



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 22:1-2, 6-18. **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 22:8.**

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.

When Isaac was older, God tested Abraham. This test took place on Mount Moriah. If a map of Ancient Israel is available, point to Mount Moriah. It is located between Mount Zion and the Mount of Olives, just outside of Jerusalem. **Abraham's test involved a sacrifice. Remember, a sacrifice is something special to you that you give up. During Abraham's lifetime, people used to give special things to God by burning them on a mound of stones called an altar. Let's read Genesis 22:1-2, 6-18. Read.**



We can have faith as Abraham did

THE WAY

Earlier you were given a test (See THE WELCOME.) to help you grow in your faith. What does it mean to have faith in God? (To trust God and to believe everything He says is true and will happen as He says.) It's not always easy to trust God will provide what we need, but remembering what He has already done in our lives builds our faith. How does this story help you trust God more? (Children respond.)

What did God ask Abraham to do? (Sacrifice his son.) **For this test, Abraham knew the four things listed below.** Discuss why each of these would have helped Abraham to trust and obey.

1. Isaac was a special gift from God.
2. God had promised Isaac would live to have children.
3. God always kept His promises.
4. God could do anything He promised.

Knowing these things, Abraham was able to trust God enough to obey, even though it looked like obeying would ruin everything. Abraham had faith in God to keep His promise. Hebrews 11:19 explains Abraham reasoned that if he sacrificed Isaac, God would raise him from the dead so all God's promises about Isaac would still come true. Who did God send to stop Abraham from sacrificing Isaac? (An angel.) What did God provide to be sacrificed instead of Isaac? (A ram.)

God gave a special test of faith (trust in God) to Abraham by asking him to give up his son. What do you think Abraham learned about God during that test of faith? (Children respond.) How might the test have helped Abraham trust Him even more? (Children respond.) Just as Abraham trusted God, when we obey His instructions and trust Him to keep His promises, we get to see God do amazing things! What amazing things have you seen God do that have helped you trust God?



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Over 2000 years after God provided the ram, God provided His Son Jesus as a final sacrifice to pay for our sins once and for all. This showed God's love for us.



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: 1 John 4:9. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read 1 John 4:9.

The Bible says God did this so we might live through Jesus. Do you trust Jesus can give you life forever close with Him? (Children respond.) Ask God to build your faith so that each day you can trust and obey Him in all things as Abraham did.

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 (glow-in-the-dark) star. Each time you look at it, remember God kept His promise to Abraham and made him the father of an entire nation with more family members than there are stars in the sky!

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 34 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Abraham and Isaac finding the ram in the bushes. 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 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "You Will Seek Me," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: AS MANY AS THE STARS

Purpose: To enjoy a snack while understanding the magnitude of God's promise to Abraham.

Snack Suggestion: Bread, jelly, plates, spoons, large star-shaped cookie cutters

God promised Abraham he would have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. How many stars exist? (More than anyone can count.) So how many children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and so on did God promise? (More than anyone could ever count.) God made an amazing promise to Abraham, even when it seemed impossible to do! Let's make a star-shaped snack and talk about some of the amazing things we have seen God do.

Directions:

1. Give each child two slices of bread, a spoon, plate, napkin, and water.
2. To create a sandwich, spread a spoonful of jelly on one slice of bread and place the other on top.
3. Use the cookie cutters to cut out a star shape(s) from each sandwich.
4. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
5. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"Have you ever had a time when you have waited for a miracle from God?"**

GAME: TRUSTED PROVISION

Purpose: Teams complete a planting project to benefit others while learning to trust God will provide.

Supplies: Planters, pots, or hanging baskets (1 per team, large enough to plant a few seeds), potting soil, water, flower seeds, paper and markers, newspapers or plastic

Prepare: Decide where the plants can be used, such as gifts to the elderly or the hospitalized or for your classroom. Protect the work area with newspapers or plastic. Hide the container of seeds in your pocket or in a bag you carry with you.

I have a very important project for you to work on today. Let's plant some seeds that will grow into beautiful flowers. Then, we can give them to location where the flower gifts will go. They will be so happy to receive your great gifts! You can trust me to make sure you have everything you need for this project.

Directions:

1. Divide children into groups of two or three.
2. Give a planter and some soil to each team and show them how to fill the container with soil.
3. As the teams finish filling their containers, they may begin to ask you for the seeds. Keep telling them to trust you because you will provide the seeds at the right time. To add to the suspense, you might wish to lead the group in singing a song or provide markers and paper for them to create cards to accompany the gifts.
4. Provide the seeds and guide the teams through the planting instructions on the seed packet. Be sure to finish by watering the seeds.

I promised to give you everything you needed to complete the project. What did you think when I did not give you the seeds right away? (Children respond.) God promised to give Abraham a son. How do you think Abraham felt as he waited until he was 100 years old for God to provide him with that promised son? (Children respond.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: FAITH STARS

Purpose: For children to create a star to help them remember how God has provided for them.

Supplies: Yellow sturdy paper, glitter, yarn, glue, scissors, pencils, hole punch, markers, optional: Bible open to Genesis 22:15-18

Prepare: Create a few large star patterns from the cardstock. Cut the yarn into 8" lengths.

We discovered today that God kept His promise to Abraham. Abraham trusted God could do anything, even the impossible! God must have been very pleased that he trusted and obeyed. God repeated His promise to Abraham that he would have many descendants through Isaac. How many? (As many as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore.) You may wish to reread Genesis 22:15-18. **Let's each make a star to help us remember how God has provided for us. We can trust Him, just like Abraham did!**

Directions:

1. Using a star template, each child traces and cuts out a star onto yellow paper.
2. On his or her star, each child writes or draws ways God has provided for them. Examples might include home, family, healing, His love, and Jesus' sacrifice.
3. Use glitter and glue to decorate the rest of the star.
4. Punch a hole in the top of the star.
5. Thread the yarn through the hole and tie it in a loop.

Hang your star at home. Each time you see it, remember what God has already given you. You can trust Him to keep His promises.

TEST OF FAITH

The Lord has given a special promise to us in Hebrews 10:16-17.

1. Listen as your leader reads this covenant promise from the Lord.
“This is the covenant (promise) I will make with them after that time,” says the Lord.
“I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.”
Then God adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”
Hebrews 10:16-17
2. Circle your choice (true, false, or not sure) for each statement below.
True False Not Sure God’s perfect memory never forgets the sins of a believer.
True False Not Sure The Lord helps us know what He thinks is good and right.
True False Not Sure Even if I fail, I trust God will still keep His promises.
3. Trade tests with the person next to you. Explain your answers to each other.

TEST OF FAITH

The Lord has given a special promise to us in Hebrews 10:16-17.

1. Listen as your leader reads this covenant promise from the Lord.
“This is the covenant (promise) I will make with them after that time,” says the Lord.
“I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.”
Then God adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”
Hebrews 10:16-17
3. Circle your choice (true, false, or not sure) for each statement below.
True False Not Sure God’s perfect memory never forgets the sins of a believer.
True False Not Sure The Lord helps us know what He thinks is good and right.
True False Not Sure Even if I fail, I trust God will still keep His promises.
3. Trade tests with the person next to you. Explain your answers to each other.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,

“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:11-13

GAME: SCRAMBLED PROMISE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Sturdy colorful paper, Bible or Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Cut out 17 large heart shapes (8-inch by 11-inch) from colorful sturdy paper. Print brief phrases of Jeremiah 29:11-13 on each heart as follows: For I know/ the plans/ I have for you/ declares the Lord/ plans to prosper you/ and not to harm you/ plans to give you hope/ and a future/ Then you will call/ upon Me and come/ and pray to Me/ and I will/ listen to you/ You will seek Me/ and find Me/ when you seek Me/ with all your heart

Directions:

1. Shuffle the hearts.
2. Give one heart to each child or group of children.
3. On your signal, children race to get the hearts in the correct order to unscramble the verse.
4. Variations of this game include relays, setting time limits, or timing each individual.
5. To simplify the game, display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

DISCUSSION: UNDERSTANDING THE PROMISE

Purpose: To help children understand the Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

In our Bible Memory Verse, God promises He has special plans for each of us. Read Jeremiah 29:11. **What does He say about those plans?** (His plans will be good for us: “...plans to prosper you and not to harm you.” We can look forward to what He has planned for us throughout our lives: “plans to give you hope and a future.”) **Just as God kept His promise to Abram, He will keep His promises to us. What plans did He have for Abram?** (God gave him a new land, a huge family that became a nation, and made him famous.)

Read Jeremiah 29:12-13. **What does God want us to do?** (Seek Him and pray to Him with all our hearts.) **What does God promise when we do these things?** (He will listen to us and we will find Him in our lives.) **Abram showed us how to seek God. Abram was always talking to God and was ready to listen each time God told him about His plan for him.**

How can we seek God? (Read the Bible, pray, worship, spend time with other Christians.) **Sometimes, God may show little bits of His plan to you over many years. Abram had to be patient and wait to see God’s plan for him, but it was worth the wait!**

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.

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.) **What did Abram do to keep the peace with Lot?** (He let Lot choose his land first.)

Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) What did God do for Hagar and Ishmael in the desert? (He watched over them and gave them water.) **What promise did the angel make to Hagar?** (God would make Ishmael into a great nation.)

Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) How did God test Abraham? (He told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac.) **Who did God send to stop Abraham before he sacrificed Isaac?** (An angel.) **What did God promise Abraham?** (He would have more family than there are stars in the sky.)

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.)