

Abraham

“Promise to Abram”

Series Objective: Students will:

- Know that we can trust God
- Understand that we should be patient as we wait for God to work out his plan in his time
- Recognize that God is able to overcome any obstacles that seem to get in the way of his promises
- Know that God has a plan and is in the process of carrying it out

Series Theme Verse: Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God... Deuteronomy 7:9

Lesson Passage: Genesis 13:14-18; 18:1-15; 21:1-6

Materials Needed: computer/iPad, sand, magnifying glass, tweezers

Lesson Plan:

The Story: Before reading the story from the Bible, show the YouTube Video: “Try Not to Laugh Challenge!! – Dad Jokes Edition” by the Eh Bee Family. After this video discuss how difficult it was not to laugh and ask when are times that we laugh? (When we’re happy, when something funny happens, when something unexpected happens, when we’re shocked, when we’re nervous, etc.)

Read the first section of the story: Gen. 13:14-18 and retell the story to the students.

Talking Points:

- Who is talking? (God/The Lord)
- Who is God talking to? (Abram)
- What do you know about Abram? (Gen 12:1 – God called him to leave his country and family to a place God would show him. He was obedient to God. He’s old. AKA Abraham. Married to Sarah. Song Father Abraham.)
- What 2 things does God say to Abram? (1. Look around, all the land you see I give to you and your family. 2. I will make your offspring like dust of the earth.)
- What is dust? (small pieces of sand, dirt, lint, etc.)
- Why is God saying Abram’s children will be like dust? (so much you can’t even count it)

The Story Retold:

- Pass a cup of sand around and ask every student to get out a pinch.
- Then tell each student to count out exactly 10 pieces of sand.
- Give them some time to try to do it on their own; then offer them tweezers or a magnifying glass to help
- How was your experience trying to count out 10 pieces of sand?
- How likely are you to count all the grains of sand you pulled out of the cup? The whole cup?

- What makes this activity difficult? (the sand is so small it's hard to separate, hard to count)
- This is God's promise to Abram. His children will be like the sand on the shore or the stars in the sky -like there are too many to count.

The Story Continued: Now read Genesis 18:1-15 and Genesis 21: 1-6 and retell it to the students.

Talking Points:

- Who visited Abram? (The Lord; 3 men/angels)
- How did Abram treat the visitor(s)? (offering hospitality – food, water, rest)
- What was the message to Abram? (next year you'll have a son)
- Where was Sarah? (in the tent)
- How did she react? (she laughed)
- Why did she laugh? (she didn't believe it)
- What was the result in Chapter 21? (God did what he promised; Sarah and Abram had a son)
- What did Abram and Sarah name their son? (Isaac)
- What does Isaac mean? (he laughs)
- What does this story teach us about God? (trustworthy, faithful, keeps promises)

The Story and Me:

- Read the memory verse together.
- Ask volunteers to read it.
- What does covenant mean? (promise)
- What promise(s) did God make to Abram today? (all the land he saw would be his, his descendants would be like the sand, he'd have a son)
- What promise(s) does God make to you?
- Read the verse and remember that God loves you. God is God. God is Faithful. God keeps his promises.