

MARCH 16
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
ABRAM FOLLOWED GOD
(GENESIS 11-13)

CHRIST CONNECTION: Abram believed God's words and obeyed Him. God promised to bless Abram and the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: *Psalm 100:5 "For the LORD is good, and his faithful love endures forever."*

STORY POINT: Abram obeyed God.

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Tell preschoolers about a time when you moved to a new place. Ask: "If you had to move to a new place, where would you want to move?" Select volunteers to answer the question.

SAY *In today's story, we will learn about a time when a man named **Abram obeyed God**. Abram moved from his home to a new place God promised to give him and his family. Let's learn more about God's promise to Abram.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask the following review questions:

1. What did you like about the Bible story? *(Answers will vary.)*
2. God told Abram to go to a new place. How would you feel if you had to move somewhere new? *(Answers will vary.)*
3. God promised to bless a man and make his name famous. Who was the man? *(Abram)*
4. What did God promise to give Abram? (the land of Canaan and many children and grandchildren)
5. Did Abram obey God? (Yes, Abram left his home and moved his family to the land God promised him.)
6. Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises.

SAY God told Abram to go to a special land called Canaan. He promised to give the land to Abram and his children. Because there was no rain in the land and not enough food, Abram and his family went to the land of Egypt, and Abram became very rich. Then, they went back to the land God promised to give Abram. God kept His promise and gave the land to Abram's

family. God also promised to give Abram many children and grandchildren. **Abram obeyed God** and believed His words.

7. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY *We have a brand new big picture question! Our question asks, **Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises.** He promised to bless Abram and his family. God promised to bless Abram and the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners.*

5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Marker at Psalm 100:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Teach the sign for the word "love" by making your hands into fists and crossing your arms across your chest. Read aloud the key passage, "For the LORD is good, and his faithful love endures forever." Repeat the verse several times, making the sign for "love" each time the word is mentioned.

SAY *God is good, and He loves us. He will always love us. He loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world.*

6. PRAY

SAY *God, thank You for loving [say each child's name]. Please help us obey You. Thank You for always keeping Your promises. Amen.*

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

DRAW A FAMILY PORTRAIT

Give each child a piece of paper (use the back of the activity page) and crayons or washable markers. Demonstrate how to draw a family portrait by drawing stick figures and naming those in your family. Prompt preschoolers to draw and add color to their own unique family portraits. As time allows, invite preschoolers to share the names of the family members featured in their pictures. (Note: Please be sensitive to preschoolers' family and home situations.)

SAY *Thank you for showing us a picture of your family. Today, we heard a story about God's promises to a man named Abram. God promised Abram that he would bless him with many children and grandchildren. God promised to bless the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners. **God always keeps His promises.***

PLAY ANIMAL FREEZE

Direct preschoolers to walk around the room. Call out an animal and lead the children to pretend to be that animal. Preschoolers can pretend to walk, crawl, fly, or even make animal noises. When you say, "Freeze!" children will freeze in place until you call out another animal.

SAY *Abram went where God told him to go. He took his family and animals with him. Can we obey God like Abram did? Yes, we can obey God!*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

As children color, review the Bible story.

SAY Abram believed God's words and obeyed Him. God promised to bless Abram and the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners.

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Storytelling Props are not included in the blue bin, but you may choose to bring them from home.

STORYTELLING TIPS

- Follow directions: Use arm motions to practice pointing left and right, as well as north, south, east, and west. Invite preschoolers to repeat the movements. When mentioning a direction in the story, stretch out your arm that direction and prompt preschoolers to do the same. Talk about God's promise to give the land of Canaan to Abram's family forever. Remind preschoolers that God always keeps His promises.
- Sit in a tent: Set up a large tent area using bedsheets or by using an actual tent. Sit inside the tent as preschoolers listen to the story.

Open your Bible to Genesis 11. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

ABRAM FOLLOWED GOD

God spoke to Abram. He said, "Go from your home and your family to a place I will show you. I will bless you and make your name famous, and the whole world will be blessed through you." Abram obeyed God. His wife, Sarai, and nephew Lot went with him.

God led Abram to the land of Canaan. God said, "This is the land I will give to your children." So Abram built an altar to the Lord there.

There was no rain in the land and the people did not have enough food to eat, so Abram and his family went to Egypt. After some time, they traveled back to Canaan and went to the place where Abram had built the altar. At this time, **Abram was very rich. He had many animals, silver, and gold. Lot was also rich with many animals and tents. But now they had a problem—there was not enough room in the land for all of the animals and people!**

So Abram and Lot decided to go different ways. He let Lot choose which land to live in. "If you go left, I will go right," said Abram. "If you go right, I will go left."

Lot looked out and saw that the land of the Jordan was beautiful and full of water, so he chose to live there. Abram traveled the other way and lived in the land of Canaan.

God again spoke to Abram. God said, "Look north, south, east, and west. I will give all that you see to your family forever. I will give you more children and grandchildren than you can count. Get up and walk through the land I have given you." So Abram moved his tent near some large trees in a place called Hebron, and he again built an altar to the Lord.

Christ Connection: Abram believed God's words and obeyed Him. God promised to bless Abram and the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

MARCH 16
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds
ABRAM FOLLOWED GOD
(GENESIS 11-13)

CHRIST CONNECTION: God blessed Abram and the whole world by sending Jesus to rescue sinners.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Who keeps His promises? God keeps His promises.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: *God is good, and His love is forever. Psalm 100:5*

STORY POINT: Abram obeyed God.

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

SAY *We live in an area where lots of construction work happens.*

Ask the children to tell you about any construction vehicles they have seen. Ask the children if they have seen any tall buildings being built.

SAY *In our Bible story today, we will learn about a tower people tried to build. They were building the tower for the wrong reason, though, and God did not allow them to finish it.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Place the key passage phrase marker at Psalm 102:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage.

Sing to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star":

"God made our wonderful world.

God made our wonderful world.

He made the heavens and the earth.

He made it all so wonderful.

God made our wonderful world.

God made our wonderful world."

SAY *Our key passage phrase says, 'God made our wonderful world.' God is wonderful and everything He made is wonderful too. That includes me and you!*

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

PLAY ANIMAL FREEZE

Direct toddlers to walk around the room. Call out an animal and lead the toddlers to pretend to be that animal. Toddlers can pretend to walk, crawl, fly, or even make animal noises. When you say, "Freeze!" toddlers will freeze in place until you call out another animal.

SAY *Abram went where God told him to go. He took his family and animals with him. Can we obey God like Abram did? Yes, we can obey God!*

SAY Abram Obeyed God. *God promised to bless Abram and make his name famous. God also promised to bless the whole world through someone in Abram's family. God kept this promise when He sent Jesus, who came into the world to rescue sinners.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- *Abram went where God told him to go.*
- *God promised to bless Abram and the whole world.*
- *God sent Jesus into the world.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Genesis 11 and tell the following Bible story:

God told Abram to go to a land called Canaan. God said, "I will bless you. I will bless the world through your family." Abram obeyed God. He went to Canaan with his wife, Sarai, and his nephew, Lot. God said, "This is the land I will give to your family." Abram worshiped God. Now Abram and Lot had a problem. They both had many animals and people with them. There wasn't enough room in the land for both of them. So Abram let Lot choose where to live. Lot chose to live in the land of Jordan, so Abram lived in Canaan. Abram set up his tent and worshiped God.

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.