

# Lesson 13: The Life of Abram and how it Points to Christ

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 12: The call of Abram and the separation of Abram and Lot.
- 2) Learn that God makes promises to Abram and keeps them and how those promises point to Christ.
- 3) Learn the good and bad characteristics of Abram.

**Supplies:** Coordinator will ensure these supplies are already in your room.

## Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Map of Abram's Journey – one per student
- Follow Along Activity Sheet – one per student

## **Optional:**

- Storybook of the life of Abram with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
- Flannel Display Board with the story of life of Abram etc. (if available)
- Story book – “God, I Need to Talk to You About Lying” by Susan K. Leigh (if available)

## **Snack:**

- Animal Crackers enough so every child gets some
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

## **Lesson:**

### **1) Introduction to lesson**

**2-5 minutes**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Once children are seated say:

**“Last week what did we learn about?** The descendants of Shem all the way to Abram

**This week we will continue to study about the descendants of Noah and learn about Abram!**

### **2) Follow Along Activity and Genesis 12**

**15-25 minutes**

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to Genesis 12. Read verses 1-5. After reading hand out the “Follow Along with Abram” sheet – one to each child and have them look at the first picture. Hand out pencil crayons and then read the first direction at the bottom aloud and ask them to do the first direction on the page for number 1. For younger students, ask an older student to point to the word Haran at the bottom so the student knows how it is spelled.

Say, **“Just do the directions – we will color the pictures when we are done our discussion and reading the Chapter.”**

Then ask the following question.

**What promises did God make to Abram?** Abram would be made into a great nation, he would be blessed, his name would be great, God would protect him, and everyone on earth would be blessed because of Abram.

**We will learn in the next quarter that God kept all His promises to Abram. Listen while I read from the New Testament:**

**Galatians 3:14**

He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

**You need to know that Abram is Abraham – his name is changed by God later in his life. Also, you need to know that Gentiles were anyone who was not of Jewish descent – that includes Canadians, Americans, Chinese, and Africans, anyone who was not Jewish was called a Gentile. Redeemed means to recover ownership of by paying a specified sum or to free from captivity by payment of ransom – Jesus paid our debt so we could be freed from sin. Finally, in this verse Paul is talking about Jesus when he says “He”. Now let’s read the verse again. Read verse again.**

**Jesus redeemed us and gives us salvation through our faith and obedience to Him through baptism. When we are baptized we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. In this way the blessing that was given to Abram is given to all of us – if we believe and are faithful like Abram was – we will be protected and saved by God!**

**Now listen while I read verse 29:**

**Galatians 3:29**

If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

**How do we become Abraham’s seed – even if we aren’t Jewish or related to Abraham? If we belong to Christ!**

**How?** We become heirs or inherit the same promise when we follow and obey Christ, including baptism when we are old enough.

**This points to Christ because it was through Christ and His lineage from Abram that we all benefit and have the chance of salvation! Because Jesus redeemed us and saved us through His death and resurrection – we too can be blessed and be heirs of God just as God promised Abraham!**

**Now let’s turn back to Genesis 12, listen while I read verses 6-7. Read verses.**

**What promise did God give Abram at Shechem?** That Abram’s descendants would get this land.

**On your Follow Along sheet, do the directions for picture number 2.** (Read the directions aloud and help younger students as needed.)

**Now let’s go on to the next verses.** Read verses 8-9

**On your Follow Along sheet, do the directions for picture 3.** (Read the directions aloud and help younger students as needed.)

**Now listen while I read verses 10-20.** Read verses.

**On your Follow Along sheet, do the directions for pictures 4-6.** (Read the directions aloud and help younger students as needed.)

### **Discussion Questions:**

**What good things did Abram do in Chapter 12?** Did what God told him to do. Built altars and worshipped God. Called on the name of the Lord.

**What lie did Abram tell?** He asked Sarai to lie and say she was only his sister and not also his wife.

**What happened as a result of his lie?** Pharaoh was afflicted with diseases and told Sarai and Abram to leave.

**Should we lie or tell the truth?** We should always tell the truth! Colossians 3:9 says "Do not lie" Turn to **Colossians 3:9** and read it aloud. **We see lying is unacceptable to God!**

\*\*\*Allow for questions, most students will want to list some extreme scenarios for when it might seem like a good idea to lie – the bottom line is – we are never to lie, so there is never a good enough reason to lie. And that is why prayer is important, we can pray that those types of scenarios never happen, but if one of the extreme scenarios they mention does happen – we should stop and pray to God but not lie. He will help us so we don't ever need to lie!

State that you will come back next week with answers if the questions are too big for you to deal with this week and address the person next week if appropriate.

Allow children to color the page if time, if not tell them they can take it home and color.

### **3) Map of Abram's Journey**

**10 minutes**

Hand out one map to each child along with pencil crayons.

Say to the students: **Over the next few weeks we are going to study Abram and his life. Abram travelled a lot so we are going to make a map of his journey. I will keep these maps over the next few weeks and we will add to them each time Abram travels.**

- 1) First let's name the 2 big rivers. Write their names beside each river in small letters. You should have Euphrates and Tigris.** (Help younger students as needed.)
- 2) Next write the seas – you should have Red, Great, Caspian, Dead and Persian.** (Help younger students as needed.)
- 3) In the middle of the map at the bottom write Arabian Desert – this is why all the towns and areas are in a "U" shape around the desert – no one lives in the desert area because it is too hot and dry and so anyone going from Ur to Canaan would have to travel around it.** (Help younger students as needed.)
- 4) Now find "Ur" and write it in. That is where Abram and his family came from and where Terah his father moved them from it is at the bottom of the two rivers.**
- 5) From there find Haran and write it in. That is where Terah died.**
- 6) Next find Shechem and write it in.**
- 7) Find and write in Bethel.**
- 8) Find and write the Negev.**
- 9) Find and write in Egypt.**
- 10) Now draw a line to connect them all starting from Ur and ending at Egypt.**

**These are all the places Abram travelled in Chapter 12.**

**Abram did not know where he was going, just that God told him to travel to the land of Canaan. Abram went and did as God said because Abram believed and trusted God. Abram had faith and so should we!**

**4) Optional – Read a Story about Lying 10-15 minutes**

If time and available, you can read the story “**God I need to talk to you about lying.**” It comes with verses that relate to being honest and discusses why we need to be honest to be pleasing to God. It gives practical examples of how a child can be dishonest and the alternative - honesty. This little book relates to the story of Abram and how he lied to Pharaoh the king.

**5) Optional – Snack : Animal Cracker 5 minutes**

Hand out animal crackers along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, “**When Abram went to Egypt he acquired a lot of sheep, cows, donkeys, and camels. See if you can find any of those in your animal crackers!**” Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

**6) Optional – Songs 5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you. Some examples:

**1) Old Testament Books of the Bible – Sung to the Alphabet song**

**2) This is my Father’s World** (Should be in church song book)

**3) Father Abraham Song**

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!

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, left arm!

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

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, left arm, right foot, left foot,  
turn around!

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, left arm, right foot, left foot,  
turn around, sit down!

**ACTIONS:**

**Right arm:** Clench fist, bend and extend arm upward repeatedly throughout song

**Left arm:** Add left arm in same motion as right

**Right foot:** Add right foot stepping up and down

**Left foot:** Add left foot stepping up and down

**Turn around:** Add turning in place while continuing other motions

**Sit down:** Sit down

## 7) Close in prayer

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Pray that we will always remember not to lie but to be honest, because honesty is pleasing to God!  
Pray that we will remember the lessons we learned from Genesis and see how the Bible points to Jesus all the way through.

Pray that our hearts will want to draw near to God and that we will be blessed because of our faith in God like Abram had.

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Thank you for serving Christ in this way!