

*Preschool Summer*  
*Lesson 4:*  
*Genesis – Abram and the Stars in the Sky*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- Study Genesis Chapter 15: God's covenant promise to Abram
- Play games that remind them of God's promise to give Abram a family as numerous as the stars

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1 for ideas

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**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.  
All sheets and templates will be on the CD or in the Binder.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – enough for each child to have one every lesson for 13 lessons
- Scissors for teacher or assistant to cut out stars and shields before class
- Find the Stars Color Activity Page – one per child
- Stars in the Sky Activity Sheet – one per child
- Stars Template – one sheet per child cut out before class on yellow card or construction paper or if possible cut out one star as template and then trace onto craft foam to make multiple stars for children to do activities with – at least 3 stars per child
- Basket or box (about the size of a laundry hamper)

**Optional Activities**

- 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)
- God Is Our Shield Decoration Page – printed and cut out onto white paper – one per child (There are two shields on each page)
- Stickers to decorate shields – enough to share
- Count the Stars Dot to Dot Activity Page – one per child
- Finger Puppet Template(s) – cut out puppets before class – one set for teacher to wear and if desired one set per child
- Dolls or Play dough for children to make Abram, Sarai and Lot as they pretend to replay the story of Abram and Lot separating and Abram letting Lot choose first.
- Soft Ball
- Dolls, especially baby boy and man doll; foam stars (can use ones from activity above); Paper or toy shields – enough to put in basket or box to play “Feel it” Game
- Star Shaped Cheese and/or Bread, Cookies    2 per child
- Napkins
- Cups with water or milk
- Puppet to tell students the real events from the Bible

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**Lesson:**

**1) Introduction to lesson:**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Write each child's name on the sheet provided. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Have them sit around the table.

Say to students, "**Last time what did we learn about Abram? We learned that Abram trusted God and let his Nephew Lot chose where to live. This was very nice of Abram to let his Nephew have the first choice. Today we are going to see that God made Abram a special promise for being a good follower He promised Abram that he would have lots of people in his family over time and that God would be his shield or protect Abram.**"

First let's sing a song:

### God Made Me

- Sung to Farmer in the Dell Tune

**God made the sun,** (Raise arms in circle overhead.)

**God made the tree,** (Spread arms out to indicate branches.)

**God made you,** (Point to another person.)

**And God made me!** (Point to self.)

**God made Abram.** (Point to the boys.)

**God made Sarai.** (Point to the girls.)

**God made you, and God made me.** (Point to others and then yourself.)

**We are going to continue to study about Abram and his family!**

## 2) God's Promise and the Stars in the Sky Activity Sheet 10 minutes

**\*Optional:** If you have a puppet you can use the puppet to tell the event in the Bible.

**\*Optional:** if you have a book with pictures showing this story you can show the pictures as you read from the Bible, or if you have flannel characters, etc. you can use those as visuals while reading from the Bible.

Say, "**I am going to read from the Bible about Abram in Genesis Chapter 15.**

**Follow along as I read about Abram and God's promise to him.** (if children are too restless you can hand out the page for them to look at while you read)

\*Read the story from **Genesis 15:1-6** and then ask the following questions.

### Discussion Questions:

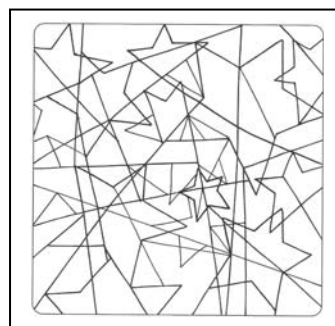
**What did God promise Abram?** I am your shield and very great reward. God would protect Abram!

**What else did God promise Abram?** That Abram would have a son and he would have so many descendants he could not even count them!

**What was Abram's response?** He believed the Lord.

**Any words you don't understand or questions you have?**

Answer if you can, tell them you will get back to them and do next week if you need to ask someone for help in answering the question.



Hand out the Stars in the Sky activity sheet along with crayons. Read the directions aloud. Let them find the 5 stars and color them. Clean up the area and then continue with a song.

**Let's sing a song about worshiping God – just like Abram did.**

Sing:

**This is the Way**

Sung to the tune of Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush

This is the way we sing to God,  
Sing to God, sing to God.  
This is the way we sing to God,  
When we worship Him.

This is the way we pray to God,  
Pray to God, pray to God.  
This is the way we pray to God,  
When we worship Him.

(Show hands together as if in prayer)

This is the way we read our Bible,  
Read our Bible, read our Bible.

This is the way we read our Bible, when we worship Him.

(Show hands opening as if your hands were a book and you were trying to read)

**Twinkle Twinkle – Abraham's family Song**

– Sung to "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" Tune

Twinkle Twinkle little stars  
No one knows how many there are.  
God promised Abraham a son.  
Isaac was the promised one.  
Now Abraham's family is like the stars.  
We can't count how many there are.

**3) Catch the Stars Action Game**

**5 minutes**

Before class make sure you have cut out the paper or foam stars from the templates and have enough so each child can catch them as they gently fall.

Tell the students to try and catch the stars the teacher gently tosses in the air – just like stars fall from the sky. This is to remind us that God told Abram – you would have as much offspring or family as the stars in the sky! Let children try and catch the stars (make sure you are playing in an open safe area because children will be busy looking up into the air and not paying attention as to what is around them)

**4) Put the Stars in the Bucket Action Game**

**5 minutes**

Take the foam or cardstock paper stars that you cut out before class and place a bucket or box on the floor. Have students line up behind the box about 2 feet away. Then tell them that **just like Abram was to count the stars we will try to toss the stars gently in the bucket and try and count how many you can all get in the bucket. We are counting stars just like God said Abram could try and do to see how many family members he**

would have over time. Let's see if we can get our stars in the bucket! Help students and let them play for a few minutes, try and help them count as well.

### 5) Find the Stars Color Page

10 minutes

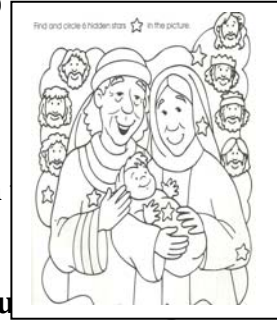
Hand out one sheet to each child with pencil crayons or crayons. Help students put their name on the page and then help them find the stars that are hidden in the picture. If they find one they can color it or circle it.

**Discuss:**

**God told Abram he would have a family as many as what?** Stars in Sky

**God told Abram that God would be his what?** Shield

**God blessed Abram and God blesses us too! We should be thankful for us all good things in our lives!**



Have students finish coloring before moving onto the next activity.

### 6) Follow God – Abram Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

**Say to the students: I am going to say “Abram and then an action word.” I want you to follow and do what I say. Just like Abram followed God and went where God told him, we are going to follow along and do what I say, ok? Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job**

Abram – touch your hands together

Abram – say “Thank You God.”

Abram – pack your bags (pretend to pack bags for moving)

Abram – say “I follow God”

Abram – say “God made our family”

Abram – say “Lot you can choose first”

Abram – pray to God

Abram – Count the stars (pretend to count the stars in the sky)

Abram – turn around

Abram – sit down!

**Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.**

### 7) Optional - God is Our Shield Decoration Craft

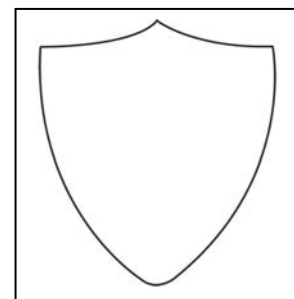
10 minutes

Cut out shields before class.

Hand out shields, have students turn in their Bibles (if they have them) to Genesis 15:1 –read the verse aloud. Say to the students, **God said He is Abram’s shield.** Ask:

**What is a shield?** Something that protects soldiers from getting hurt.

**God is our shield today too, if we let Him. God can protect us today – He can protect us by guiding us to do good things and avoid bad things that might hurt us!**



**Let's decorate and color our shields. You can even draw a few ways that God protects you in your life. When done, we will help you write your name on the back of the shield!** \*If you have them, hand out stickers to help the children decorate their shields.

Clean up before moving on to the next activity.

### **8) Optional - "Feel It" Box Game 5 minutes**

Before class fill up a box or basket with things that show today's lesson. Have students take turns reaching their hand in the box and finding something to take out without looking. Once they have an item, let them look at it and figure out how it relates to today's lesson.

(\*Basket with things that show today's lesson: examples dolls to show Abram and the descendants he was promised, foam shaped stars from the activity above, shields – either paper or toy)

When finished, go through each item and explain what each shows about today's lesson.

### **9) Optional: Follow the Leader – Abram Follows God Game 5 minutes**

Have students line up behind you. Tell them they are going to play follow the leader – just like Abram followed and obeyed God. Have teacher assistant go at the back of the line so he/she can watch the children and keep them in line. March around the room doing different actions that they are to follow as you go, examples are pat your head, once everyone is marching and patting their head, then switch to put arms in the air and back down, jump up and down, hop on one foot, tip toe, crawl, etc. The idea is to get the children to follow you. When finished, tell them **"Good job – you followed just like Abram did. Abram left home and went where God told him – you followed me and went where I told you. Let's remember that it is good to follow God and do what He says. Abram also followed God by putting others first before him. Abram did that by letting Lot choose where to live first. We should put others first too and remember to be kind. God blessed Abram with the promise of a family as numerous as stars in the sky!"**

### **10) Optional: God is Our Shield - Roll the Ball Game 5 minutes**

During class, tell the kids, **"Let's all sit on the floor in a circle. While we are in the circle we are going to pass the ball to one another, as you pass the ball gently to a person and the person gets the ball; I want them to say, "God is Our Shield!"**

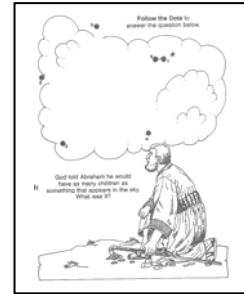
**You can only pass the ball to someone who hasn't had a turn yet, if someone catches the ball that already had a turn, you must give it to someone who hasn't so we call get a chance to play, ok? "**

**Remember, the person who gets the ball, must say "God is Our Shield!"**

Make sure each child gets a turn before doing another round or moving on to another activity.

### 11) Optional: Count the Stars Dot to Dot Activity Sheet 5-10 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child and read the directions aloud. Hand out pencil crayons so that they can trace the numbers to make a picture to show what God told Abram he would have as many family as.... Help children connect and count the numbers with their crayons to make the picture and then let them color the page if time.



### 12) Finger Puppet Play

5 minutes

Before class print and cut out one set of finger puppets for the teacher and if desired one set per child.

The teacher can use each puppet while retelling the story while the children hold up the corresponding fingers.

Say, **“Hold up the finger with the star on it”**

**God said to Abram, “Count the stars. That’s how big your family will be.”**

Say, **“Now hold up the finger with Abram on it.”**

**Abram believed God and trusted in him.**

Say, **“Now hold up the finger with Sarai on it.”**

**Even though Abram and Sarai were old and had no children. Abram believed what God said.**

Say, **“Now hold up the finger with baby Isaac on it.”**

**Then God helped them have a baby when they were very old and they learned to believe everything they were told.**

Say, **“Now hold up the finger with the Bible on it.”**

**God speaks to us in His Bible, you see.**

**Let’s hear and obey what He says to you and me!**

Let children play with their finger puppets if you made them a set, or move onto the next activity.

### 13) Sing

**Choose songs from the Songs section of the binder especially songs about Abraham**

### 14) Optional – Snack Star Shaped Cheese, Bread or Cookies 5 minutes

**“You’ve all done a great job this morning learning that Abram followed God and that God promised to give Abram a family as numerous as the stars and that God also promised that He would be Abram’s Shield!**

Hand out 2 or 3 star shaped pieces of bread along cheese or cookies. Add to this a glass of juice or water to each child. Explain that, **“God promised Abram he would have more descendants (or family) than stars in the sky. Let’s think about what that means as we eat are star shaped snacks!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands.

Discuss questions while snacking!

After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

### **15) Close in prayer**

Ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray, then say: Thank You God for the world You made and for showing us people in the Bible who followed You. Thank you God for our families too. Thank God that we can follow You and worship You and have You as our shield to protect us from evil and harm.

We pray also that we always remember to thank God like Abram did for what God blesses us with!

Thank you God for your Son Jesus who loves us too and thank you God for everyone here today and those who could not be here because they were sick or away. We pray you will bring us all back to Sunday school next week safely. In Jesus name, Amen.

### **16) Remind students**

To take home any sheets or crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!