

Lesson 6: Abraham's Three Visitors

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 18: Abraham receives three visitors and Abraham pleads for the righteous people in Sodom and Gomorrah
- 2) Learn that God can do amazing things
- 3) Learn of Abraham's willingness to plead for the righteous and to be hospitable.

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Abraham and the Three Visitors Color Page – one per student
- Break the Code – Genesis 18 & 19 Activity Sheet – one per student

Optional:

- Real tent or blanket to use as tent
- Storybook, flannel display board, or visual aids of the life of Abraham with pictures to show kids (if available)

Snack:

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| - Graham Crackers | 2 per child |
| - Mini Marshmallows | 4 per child |
| - 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. Once children are seated say:

“Last week what did we learn about?” God also continued the covenant He began with Abraham, he changed Abraham and Sarah's names and brought in the covenant of circumcision.

This week we will continue to study about the life of Abraham, he will be visited by three men and be called God's friend. And, we will see Abraham try and rescue Lot and anyone else who was righteous from being destroyed with the evil people in Sodom and Gomorrah.

2) Abraham and the Three Visitors - Genesis 18

15 minutes

Note: Optional – Abraham and his family lived in tents. Let the kids help you set up a tent as you tell the story, or if you don't have a tent, use a sheet or two and drape them over a table and crawl inside while you share the story of Abraham.

Optional: if you have a book with pictures or visual aids showing this story you can show the pictures as you read from the Bible.

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to **Genesis 18**.

Read the story aloud for students from **verses 1-8** as they listen and follow along.

Then ask:

How was Abraham hospitable?

He was eager to welcome strangers into his home, provided water to clean their feet, to rest and brought them a meal.

How can we be hospitable today? Be kind when friends come over – offer them a drink or snack. Welcome family into our home and be helpful to them when they come. Help your parents when people are over – be willing to get drinks or snacks or help clean up!

Read **verses 9-15** then ask:

What did the Lord ask Abraham? Is anything too hard for the LORD?

Why did Sarah lie? Because she was afraid after being caught laughing.

Read **verses 16-33** then ask:

What did Abraham do when he found out God was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah?

He pleaded for any righteous people who were living there to be spared death.

Do you think there were 10 people in the city that were righteous? Allow for answers.

Allow for questions, 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.

Do you think God was patient and kind for listening to Abraham, even though Abraham kept pleading and pleading? Allow for answers.

If we have a prayer for others, what does Abraham's plea teach us today? We should keep praying and ask God to intervene in the lives of others and help those who are in areas where there is much sin and evil!

3) Break the Code – Genesis 18 & 19

10-20 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child along with pencils. Read the directions and then go around the room helping the students if needed break the codes. Make sure you read the descriptions aloud at the end and confirm the right answers were found. *Remind students that this week we are only studying chapter 18, but there is a question for chapter 19 as well – stating what will happen.

Answers:

Promised a son

Listened to Abraham

Destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah

Hospitality, Faith, and Plead for the Righteous

4) Abraham is Visited Color Page

15 minutes

Hand out one color page to each child, ask them to write their name on the page and then color the page. For older students, who can write well, have them write all they can remember about what they learned today about Abraham and his good characteristics that he displayed. They can write them all around the page. Examples: hospitable, kind, thinking of others, prayerful, humble, etc. You can also write these words down on a big piece of paper and have it sit in the middle of the table so students can see how the words are spelled to make it easier for them to write them down.

You can talk about the idea of being hospitable and how nice it is, you can discuss the idea that Abraham was willing to plead for people in the towns of Sodom and Gomorrah – knowing his Nephew Lot lived there. You can also talk about God’s willingness to listen to our pleas like He did for Abraham!

Hand out crayons and allow children to color, clean up before moving on.

*Note: you can recite memory verse while students are coloring or do separately.

5) Memory Verse	1-2 minutes
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Recite the Memory Verse **Genesis 15:6** as a group. You can choose from one of the following:

Abraham believed God, and He (God) accounted it to him for righteousness. (NKJV)

Abram believed the Lord, and He (God) credited it to him as righteousness. (NIV)

*Remind students that this means because Abram was a good, faithful man who obeyed God, God said Abraham was righteous or made right before God. Abraham was right for believing God and that belief led him to obey and be faithful.

What righteous things did Abraham do that we learned today?

6) Optional – Snack: Build a Tent	5 minutes
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Hand out 2 graham crackers and 4 mini marshmallows to each child along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, **“As we have been studying about the people from the Bible we have learned that Abraham and his family lived in tents. To help us remember we are going to make tents out of our crackers. Lean the 2 crackers together to make the tent then put a marshmallow at each corner as tent pegs. Once you have it standing – eat it!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

7) Optional – Songs	5 minutes
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Have children sing songs with you. Some examples:

- 1) **Old Testament Books of the Bible – Sung to the Alphabet song**
- 2) **God Made Me** – see lyrics from lesson 5
- 3) **Twinkle, Twinkle – Abraham’s family son** – see lyrics from lesson 5
- 4) **Father Abraham Song with Actions** – see lyrics from lesson 3.
- 5) **Abraham’s Stew Song:** tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

Abraham had visitors
And made them stew to eat.
We can help him,
We can help him, won’t that be a treat!

Then ask: **What would you like to put in Abraham’s stew?**

(Point to the child on your right).

Whatever the child says goes –
anything from carrots to dirty socks.

Pretend to put the child’s suggestion into an imaginary pot of in the middle of the circle.

If you can it is even more fun if you and the children pretend to cut up the carrots or
hold the stinky socks at arm’s length while

you put them in the stew. Then ask the next child what he or she would put in the stew.

After everyone has put an ingredient or two into the pot, yell – **Soup’s on!**

8) 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 remember to be hospitable, kind and prayerful like Abraham was! Pray that we will pray for others in need this week like those who are sick, weak, or having trouble in school or home and remember to continue to pray for people in need.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!