

Lesson 8: The Birth of Isaac

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 20-21: The birth of Isaac and the lie of Sarah and Abraham
- 2) Learn that God keeps his promises – Sarah and Abraham have a son as promised!
- 3) Play a board game to review the life of Abraham

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Map of Abraham's Journey – from previous lessons hand out each child's map
- Color by Number – Abraham's Family Color Sheet – one per child

Optional:

- Game Board – print on Cardstock paper – one for every four children
- Dice – one die per game needed
- Questions Template – print on Cardstock paper, cut out before class – one set per board
- Game pieces – one per student example: buttons of different colors, small objects like coins.
- Storybook with pictures or visuals of the life of Abraham to show kids

Snack: (S'mores)

- Graham Crackers 2 per child
- Marshmallows one large one per child
- Chocolate pieces one piece 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?" That Lot had to flee Sodom and Gomorrah with his family, but his wife looked back and turned to a pillar of salt and we also learned that Abraham had visitors who told him that Sodom would be destroyed, and that Lot had two descendants – the Ammonites and the Moabites.

This week we will continue to study about the life of Abraham, we will learn that God keeps his promises because Sarah and Abraham have a son!

2) Genesis 20 – Abraham Lies Again

10 minutes

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

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to **Genesis 20**.

Before asking a volunteer to read the story, explain to the students:

Let's read the story about Abraham meeting King Abimelech. We will see what problems happen because Abraham and Sarah deceived or lied.

Ask for a volunteer to read **Genesis 20:1-9** and another volunteer to read **Genesis 20:10-18**.

Then ask:

Abraham moved to Gerar and there, the king of the area, King Abimelech did what?

The King took Sarah to be with him because Abraham said "she is my sister."

What happened to King Abimelech? God came to him in a dream and told him to give Sarah back to Abraham.

Was Abimelech angry at Abraham? Yes, because he lied.

What did Abraham do for Abimelech in the end? Prayed for him and God healed Abimelech and his household.

***Sarah must have been a very beautiful woman because men are still wanting her as a wife even though we know from Genesis 17:17 a few chapters back that Sarah was at least the age of 90 when this happened!**

What does this story tell us about lying? It doesn't work, causes problems, makes other people angry, truth comes out and when it does the liar gets in trouble, even though we lie God doesn't give up on us but we still have consequences for lying.

Abraham and Sarah sometimes forgot that God would take care of them. Sometimes we forget too. We think we need to take matters into our own hands. But, according to this story and many more in the Bible we need to remember that God is with us and will take care of us – we don't need to lie!

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. Then, move on to the next activity.

3) Genesis 21 – The Birth of Isaac and Color by Number Activity 15-20 minutes

Have students turn to **Genesis 21:1-7**, read the story aloud and then hand out one sheet to each student along with various crayons or pencil crayons. Read the directions aloud and have students color the picture of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac using the colors required. You may need to help students read the names of the colors.

Clean up after everyone is done and have students write their name on the page before moving to the next activity.



God keeps his promises!

Question:

Do you think Abraham and Sarah deserved God's promises even though they lied? Allow students to answer, reminding them at the end of the discussion that we too do bad things sometimes like lie, cheat, or hurt others, but thankfully God will forgive us when we ask in prayer and are baptized for our wrongdoings. God forgives us and God kept His promise for them and will keep His promise for us – Salvation in heaven if we obey and follow God!

Abraham was 100 years old it says in verse 5 when he had Isaac, because Sarah was 10 years younger than Abraham, she was 90 years old when she had Isaac! That can only happen with a promise from God!

4) Map of Abraham's Journey Fill in Activity**5 minutes**

Hand out one sheet to each student. Use the sheets they previously have been filling in along with pencil crayons.

Where did Abraham go this time in 20:1? Gerar.

Let's write Gerar on our map and draw a line from the last place he was to now Gerar. And then, hand back in your maps!

5) Memory Verse**1-2 minutes**

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)

***Notice in today's lesson that even though Abraham lied, God knows the heart and knew that Abraham was still trying to be right before God. Today we sin too, but God does not give up on us, just as He did not give up on Abraham. We can be thankful that God loves us and is willing to help us even when we make mistakes. Just like Abraham.**

6) Optional - Abraham Review Game**15-20 minutes**

Before class print out one game board for every 4 students along with printing one set of cards per board – print on cardstock paper and cut out cards. Bring along one die for each board game needed, along with four game pieces per game.

Set up students 4 per game. Tell them:

We are going to play a game to help us remember about what we have learned concerning Abraham. Each player will choose a game piece to represent them. Allow students to choose from various buttons or objects that can be used for game pieces.

We set our game pieces at start, we then each take turns, when it is your turn, get someone to pick a card and read it to you, if you answer correctly, you can roll the die and move that many places forward. The teacher has the answers to all questions if you as a group are unsure of the answers. If you get the answer wrong, you don't get to move and have to wait till your next turn to try again. The next person to go will then get a chance to answer the question. If no one gets the answer, I will tell you the answer. The first person at the orange circle that says finish – wins!

*For younger students, feel free to give them a little clue to help them answer the question if they are having difficulty.

*Tell students at the beginning that Ishmael – Abraham's other son – was an archer as this is not covered until the next lesson and they will need to know this if they get that question.

Help students read cards if needed and check answers if they are not sure. When finished, students can play again if time or clean up and move on to the next activity.

Answers:

1. Father of many nations
2. Ur before moving to Haran with his father
3. Sodom
4. Turned into a pillar of salt
5. They were destroyed with burning sulfur
6. 2
7. Yes

8. He lied that Sarah was his sister but did say she was also his wife
9. She lied about being Abraham's sister not wife, and also a student can say she lied about laughing when overhearing that she was going to have a son.
10. Hagar
11. Ishmael and Isaac
12. A. – You will have many descendants
13. King and Priest
14. Could be any place –Ur, Haran, Bethel, Hobah, Shechem, Hebron, Beersheba, Gerar, Negev, or Egypt
15. Many things some examples may be – helped rescue Lot, pleaded for the righteous, built altars to God and worshipped Him, believed God's promises, etc.
16. Their herdsmen were fighting over not having enough pasture to share
17. Yes
18. Laughed and then lied about it
19. A tenth of everything
20. Because the Amorites had not been evil yet to deserve being kicked out.
21. Hagar
22. Sarah
23. 100 years old
24. 90 years old
25. He would be against all his brothers and be a wild donkey of a man and be against everyone
26. Ammonites and Moabites
27. He was an archer

7) Optional – Snack: S'mores

5 minutes

Hand out 2 graham crackers, a piece of chocolate and a marshmallow to each child along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, **“When we think of sleeping in tents it usually means we have a camp fire and eat s'mores. When Abram lived in tents they didn't eat s'mores but they had all the other things that come with sleeping in tents – blankets, trying to keep warm, keeping bugs and animals away, packing up and setting up the equipment. Let's remember how hard it must have been living in tents for many years as we enjoy our s'mores!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking! Ask students what they remember most about Abraham, Sarah and Lot.

8) 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) **Twinkle, Twinkle – Abraham's family son** – see lyrics from lesson 5
- 3) **Father Abraham Song with Actions** – see lyrics from lesson 3.

9) 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 that lying never solves a problem and instead we should remember to turn to God for help.

Thank God that He keeps His promises for us today like He did for Abraham and Sarah! Thank God for Jesus that promises us salvation and eternity in heaven if we obey God's will.