



Preschool Ministry Curriculum for
June 19, 2016

Dear Teacher,

This week we continue our summer curriculum, which is following the theme and preaching from the Sanctuary service. This summer we will look back at most of the characters we studied this past year. The point of each lesson will center on the journey each person was on and how they ultimately looked to Jesus “as the author and perfecter of our faith.”

Sally Lloyd Jones writes “When God promises to bless you, he is saying, “I’m going to make you into everything I ever meant for you to be!” (Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing, 48) In this week’s lesson God chooses Abraham, calls him to leave home and family, travel to an unknown land to live in, and gives Abraham 7 promises. These are BIG promises that point towards God’s BIG promise of the Rescuer that is to come (Genesis 3:15). Through one person, Abraham, God creates a nation, but in Christ, God saves a people, His people, and blesses the world through them. Only in Christ is everything we are meant to be fulfilled; we become who we truly are because of Him!

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

Lesson: The Journey: Abraham, Part 1

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God calls and blesses Abraham and through Abraham, God will continue to carry out His promise to send a Rescuer. This Rescuer will save many people, and many people will be blessed by and through Him.

Scripture: Hebrews 11:8-10; Genesis 12:1-9

Story: Vos Children’s Bible, Pages 19-21; The Gospel Story Book Bible, Pages 16-17; The Beginner’s Bible, Pages 41-47.

Teaching Points:

- God chooses Abraham – and we do not know why – but God had a special purpose for him.
- God commands Abraham to leave his home and family and go to another place He will show Abraham.
- God made 7 promises to Abraham.
 1. I will make you into a great nation
 2. I will bless you
 3. I will make your name great
 4. You will be a blessing
 5. I will bless those who bless you
 6. Whoever curses you I will curse
 7. All the people on earth will be blessed through you.
- Abraham is obedient to the Lord and follows His instructions.
- God promises Abraham a child (offspring); Abraham’s child will inherit the land Abraham lives in.

Preschool Ministry – Morning Overview

For the Sunday Schedule, please see “Sunday Schedule for Preschool” found in Handbook on the teacher’s table.

First Hour

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5’s – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom’s: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3’s/4’s – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom’s: 169, 168, 167, 166, 165, 164)

Craft: Tent

Supplies: Tan cardstock tent, piece of fabric, glue

Instructions: Fold cardstock on dotted lines to form a tent, tape bottom flaps together, glue cloth to top of tent.



Snack

Second Hour

Craft: Yarn Star

Supplies: Yellow cardstock star, small piece of yellow yarn for loop, colored yarn, tape

Instructions: Help children string small yellow yarn piece through hole to create loop for hanging, tape one end of 2-3 different colored pieces of yarn to the back of star, have children wrap yarn around star, secure ends of yarn to star.



Story: The Journey: Abraham, Part 1

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question:
 - a. (Younger Kids) Who has ever been on a trip before? Or vacation? Where did you go? (Allow time for answers) What did you bring with you? (Change of clothes, suitcase, favorite toy, etc.). What if you had to go somewhere for a long time? You would have to pack everything you have and move! Today’s story is about Abraham and how he moved far away from home but He knew God was going to take care of him.
 - b. (Older Kids) Who here has to clean up their room sometimes (or another chore) or put away your toys in your room? Who tells you to clean up (allow time to answer)? Well sometimes we are given instructions and follow them because it’s safe, respectful, and we want to be obedient. But what if someone told you to move far away from home? Would you follow their instructions? (Allow time to answer). Today’s story is about Abraham and how he followed God’s instructions which meant he had to move far away from home.
3. **TELL** the Story. When applicable or desired, use the Vos Children’s Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner’s Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Singing

Scripture Memory (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Catechism Questions (1-10)

Optional Activities

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who left a city and lived in a tent?
- Who made Abraham a promise?

Questions for Older Children:

- Where was Abraham born?
- What were some of God's promises?
- How many children did Abraham have when he left Haran?
- Who went to Canaan with Abraham?
- What did Abraham build that showed he worshipped God?

Scripture Memory for Summer:

2 and 3 year olds:

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus." Hebrews 12:1-2

4 and 5 year olds:

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith." Hebrews 12:1-2

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*

Story

The Journey

Today we continue on our journey together. We won't actually go to a far land or country. We won't have to pack up our suitcases or food or get in a car or a plane. Nope, we will stay right here! This journey is special. This journey takes us into the Old Testament and we get to see how people trusted in Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

The past few weeks we have learned about several people. Can someone name those characters we have learned about the last two weeks? (Abel and Noah) Today our journey still continues in the book of Genesis, and you may have heard of this guy before. His name is Abraham. Let's find out how Abraham trusted God.

The City of Ur

Abraham lived long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem. We read about Jesus here (show Matthew), but we read about Abraham way back here (show Genesis)! God was always getting the world ready for the Lord Jesus. The whole Bible tells us about him. It doesn't say his name, Jesus, in the first part, but it talks about God's promise and that promise was Jesus. The first thing God did to make the world ready for the Savior to come was to choose a man and to separate him from everyone else. In Genesis 12, God chose Abraham to be that special man. Abraham had a father whose name was Terah. He also had two brothers. One of his brothers had a son named Lot. That made Abraham Lot's uncle. Abraham had a wife too. Her name was Sarah.

Abraham was born in a city called Ur. Ur was a very nice city with roads and buildings, a busy market and a harbor where ships would come. Men would leave their ships and bring beautiful fabrics and jewelry to trade in the city. In Ur there was even a library and a school. Oh my, Ur was certainly a rich and comfortable city, but there was a big problem. People in Ur did not worship God. They did not believe in Him. Instead they worshipped idols, pretend gods. Ur was a very bad city. One of Terah's sons died while the family lived in Ur. But then the day came when Abraham's father, Terah, took his son Abraham and Sarah, and his other son Nahor and his family and Lot with all their servants and belongings and they all left the city of Ur and traveled toward the land of Canaan.

But before they arrived in Canaan, they came to a city called Haran. The Bible says Terah and his family settled there. That means they decided to live in Haran. Time passed. Soon old Terah died. That left Abraham and Sarah, Nahor and his family and Lot living in the city of Haran. The Bible says they had many flocks of sheep and herds of cattle. We might say that Abraham and his family were very rich.

The Call

One day while living in Haran, the Bible says the Lord called Abraham. He said, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you." Oh my, God did not even tell Abraham where the new country was. But then God gave Abraham 7 promises:

Seven Promises

God said:

1. I will make you into a great nation
2. I will bless you
3. I will make your name great
4. You will be a blessing
5. I will bless those who bless you
6. Whoever curses you I will curse
7. All the people on earth will be blessed through you

God was promising Abraham that even though he was leaving his country, God would take good care of him and that Abraham would know God's goodness. God was promising Abraham that many people would know who he was and that he would be a blessing to others. But the most important promise that God made to Abraham that day was the last promise. God said, "All the people on the earth will be blessed through you." When the Lord said those words He was speaking about Jesus. You see, one day long after Abraham was alive, Jesus would be born. Jesus was part of Abraham's family and that would be a great blessing to everyone - even you and me who have been born long after Abraham. The Bible says that Abraham and his wife, Sarah, didn't have any children then. But still they believed. The Bible says that Abraham was 75 years old when God spoke to him the first time. That's pretty old. That is older than your parents; it's older than me. Seventy-five is probably older than your grandparents!

Abraham Obeys

So Abraham said goodbye to his brother Nahor, and his family at Haran and Abraham left, as the Lord had told him with Sarah and Lot, his nephew. They took their servants and all the possessions they had gathered while they lived in Haran and the Bible says they set out for the land of Canaan.

It wasn't easy to move in those days. Remember there were no trains or cars or moving vans or anything like that. Everything you wanted to take needed to be packed carefully and carried on camels or donkeys. Abraham and his family even had to take their beds and tents to sleep in. They would travel during the day and sleep in tents at night.

God's confirms and Abraham worships

After a long trip, Abraham arrived in the land of Canaan. People called Canaanites lived there. One day the Lord appeared to him again. "To your children I will give this land." God told Abraham. The Bible says Abraham built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him. Then Abraham continued to move toward the hills east of a city called Bethel. Abraham traveled near cities but he chose to live outside of them in tents. Abraham moved a lot and only lived in tents. I'm sure it was hard to pack up his things constantly to move to a different spot. But Abraham trusted God. Abraham believed that one day the land he was traveling in would be his land, and not only his land but his children's, grandchildren's, and great-great-great-great grandchildren's land. Abraham trusted that God would keep His promises. And there he built another altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. Then Abraham continued on and God continued to bless him and his family with lots of cattle and sheep.

By Faith

The Bible tells us more about Abraham many years after he died. The book of Hebrews, where our memory verse is found, says, "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place." We are told more a few verses later; here is what the Bible continues to tell us about Abraham. "By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents...For he [Abraham] was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God."

Faith is trusting that something will come true. Faith is having confidence or being sure that if a promise is made it will certainly come true at some point. The Bible tells us that Abraham had faith in God. Abraham believed that what God said He would do, God would certainly do it! So that's why Abraham left his home and traveled to a far away land because He believed what God had promised Him. Abraham knew that God would take care of him while he was living in a faraway land.