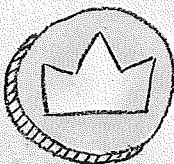


THE GOSPEL

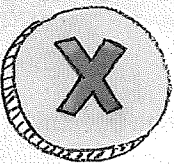
GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.



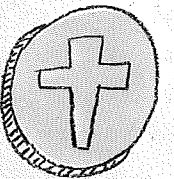
GOD RULES.

Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



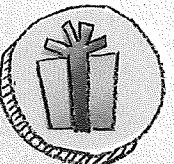
WE SINNED.

Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED.

Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES.

Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND.

Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.

Bible Study at a Glance



Leader Bible Study

Familiarize yourself with the content and context of the Bible story and how it relates to God's plan of redemption.

Preparation

Pray for your kids and contact families during the week. Gather and prepare session materials.

Pray for your kids

Send a parent e-mail

Print/download printables

Assemble supplies

Prepare videos

Opening Activities

Activity Page

Small Group Opening

Engage kids and introduce the day's Bible story.

Say what?

Use the suggested "Say" dialogue to easily move between segments.

Large Group Leader

Communicate the day's Bible story and discover God's big story.

Sing

Big Picture Question

Giant Timeline

Key Passage & Bible Skill

Bible Story

Discussion Starter



Suggested times

The times provided allow you to complete the session plan in an hour and fifteen minutes. Lengthen or shorten the session as needed.

Unit 2: God the Covenant-Maker

Session 1:

Bible Story:

God's Covenant with Abraham

Bible Passage:

Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-21; 17:1-9

Main Point:

God promised to bless all the world through Abraham.

Session 2:

Bible Story:

God Tested Abraham

Bible Passage:

Genesis 22:1-19

Main Point:

Abraham trusted God even when he didn't understand God's plan.

Session 3:

Bible Story:

The Promise Reaffirmed

Bible Passage:

Genesis 25:19-26; 26:1-6; 28:10-22

Main Point:

God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.

God's Covenant with Abraham

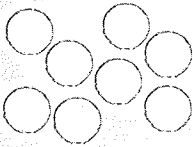
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-21; 17:1-9

MAIN POINT: God promised to bless all the world through Abraham.

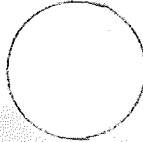
KEY PASSAGE: Romans 4:3

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.

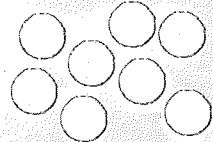
SMALL GROUP OPENING
(10–15 MINUTES)
PAGE 108



LARGE BIBLE STUDY
(25–30 MINUTES)
PAGE 110



SMALL GROUP LEADER
(25–30 MINUTES)
PAGE 116



Leader BIBLE STUDY

God is a covenant-making God. After the great flood, God made a covenant with Noah and his family and all the living creatures. God promised to never again flood the entire earth. He put a rainbow in the sky to confirm His covenant. (See Gen. 9:8-17.) God's covenant with Noah was unconditional; it did not depend on Noah in any way.

Years passed, and Noah's family grew. His son Shem had a family. Shem's seventh-great grandson was named Abram. (See Gen. 11:10-26.) Abram traveled toward the land of Canaan with his wife, Sarai; his father, Terah; and his nephew, Lot. But they stopped in Haran and settled there.

you win an important game and brag about how well you played or you make the best grade on a test and brag about it to your friends? You probably don't feel quite as great about it as you did when it happened.

Our glory doesn't last. One minute, everyone says you are great, and the next minute no one remembers what you did. How does that remind us that we should focus on giving glory to God? Our glory doesn't last long, but God's glory lasts forever! We can give Him glory by obeying Him and pointing others to Him.

Make sure each child secures this week's sheet in the journal, and then collect them. Keep the journals in the classroom so they will be available every week or as often as you wish to use them.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the coloring page provided with this session. Pray, thanking God for showing us that He is the only One worthy of glory. Ask God to help everyone present to give glory to God instead of seeking glory for themselves. Pray that others would begin to love and trust Jesus because of the way that kids give glory to God by obeying Him.

Unit 2: God the Covenant-Maker

Unit Description:

God entered a covenant relationship with Abraham and all of his descendants to continue His plan of redemption. It is through this family, the nation of Israel, that God would bless the entire world by bringing forth the Messiah, Jesus.

Unit Key Passage:

Romans 4:3

Big Picture Question:

What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.



or draw their favorite five toys. Ask them how they would feel if God asked them to give up those five items. Ask writers to write a sentence or two describing how Abraham must have felt. Then, guide all kids to write *I can trust God, even when it's hard*.

SAY • Abraham trusted God even when he didn't

understand God's plan. We can trust God in every situation, too. We know God will be faithful to us because He has always been faithful to His people. The Bible teaches us that God will continue to be good to us.

Make sure each child secures this week's sheet in the journal, and then collect them. Keep the journals in the classroom so they will be available every week or as often as you wish to use them.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the coloring page provided with this session. Pray, thanking God for giving us a picture of what He would do for us through Jesus in this story. Ask God to help kids remember that He is good, faithful, and in control even when they don't understand His plan.

The Promise Reaffirmed

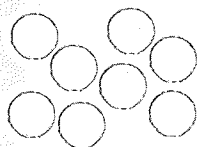
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 25:19-26; 26:1-6; 28:10-22

MAIN POINT: God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.

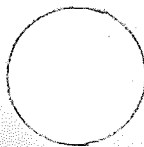
KEY PASSAGE: Romans 4:3

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.

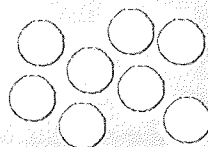
SMALL GROUP OPENING
(10-15 MINUTES)
PAGE 140



LARGE BIBLE STUDY
(25-30 MINUTES)
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SMALL GROUP LEADER
(25-30 MINUTES)
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Leader BIBLE STUDY

In His covenant with Abraham, God promised land, descendants, and a blessing to all the nations of the earth. (Gen. 22:17-18) God reaffirmed the promise to Abraham's son Isaac and to his grandson Jacob. (Gen. 26:3-4; 28:13-14)

God had a plan for Abraham and his family all along. When Isaac's wife, Rebekah, became pregnant with twins, the babies struggled with each other inside her. God explained their future. The older son (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob). Their families would separate and become two nations, one stronger than the other.

These things came true. Esau and Jacob did not get along. Jacob tricked his father and brother to steal the blessing that usually went to the oldest son. To escape his brother's anger, Jacob fled to his uncle's house.

On the way, God spoke to Jacob in a dream. Jacob saw a stairway to heaven, and he saw God there. God repeated the promise to Jacob. He promised to be with Jacob.

Jacob would become the father of a nation. He would have twelve sons, and they would be the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel. Through the nation of Israel, God would keep His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob by sending His Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world.

Remind the children of the tower of Babel. People tried (and failed) to build a tall tower with its top in the heavens. Explain that, like the stairway in Jacob's dream, Jesus bridges the gap between heaven and earth. (See John 1:51.) God the Son came down to earth as a baby, as Immanuel, "God with us." Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Sin separates people from God, but when people turn from their sin and trust in Jesus, Jesus brings them into God's family.



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come from Abraham's family. Jesus would bless all the world by paying for sin by dying on the cross and rising again three days later. Let's sing about God's faithfulness to us!

Sing together "Always Faithful."

Key passage (4 minutes)

- Key Passage Slide or Poster
- "Abraham" song

LEADER • That's right. God is always faithful to His people! Abraham knew that God would be faithful in keeping His promises. Our key passage says that Abraham trusted God, and his faith in God was credited to him as righteousness. God chose to view Abraham as righteous because of his faith. Similarly, when we put our faith in Jesus, we get to put on His righteousness. He takes our punishment for sin that we deserve and gives us His place of perfect righteousness before God.

Sing together "Abraham."

Tell the Bible story (10 minutes)

- Bibles
- "The Promise Reaffirmed" video
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- Main Point Poster

LEADER • Today, our Bible story comes from Genesis 25–28. We continue to learn about the promise that God made to Abraham and all of his descendants. ***What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.*** Listen closely to see how God reminded Abraham's family of the promise that He made.

Open your Bible to Genesis 25. Show the video or tell the Bible story in your own words using the script provided. For a shorter version of the story, read the bolded text.

LEADER • ***What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people to Abraham.*** This promise

wasn't just for him, but for all who would love and trust God who would come after Abraham. It was a promise for Abraham's children and his children's children. Jacob was not in the best situation when God gave him a dream. He was going to his uncle's house because he was afraid for his life. God promised that He would be with Jacob wherever He went. Jacob's family would be numerous and would spread out over all the earth. **God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.**

Ask the following review questions:

1. Who were Isaac and Rebekah's sons? (*Jacob and Esau, Genesis 25:25-26*)
2. What did God promise Isaac? (*God told Isaac that He would make Isaac's family as numerous as the stars. All the nations would be blessed because Abraham had listened to God's voice and obeyed; Genesis 26:4*)
3. What happened in Jacob's dream? (*He saw a stairway or ladder come down from heaven. Angels were going up and down it. Then God spoke to Jacob and told him that God would give Jacob the land that he was sleeping on. He also gave the covenant He made with Abraham to Jacob; Genesis 28:12-15*)
4. **What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.**

Discussion starter video (4 minutes)

LEADER • The promise God made to Abraham was for many generations after him. Let's watch our video and see what happens.

Show the "Unit 2, Session 3" video.

• "Unit 2, Session 3"
discussion starter
video

LEADER • Aiden didn't invite all the extra people, but they came anyway. What should Aiden do? Aren't you glad God's promise to Abraham wasn't just for him? God chose to bless all the world by sending Jesus. Whom do you know who needs to hear about Jesus? We can tell our friends, family, and neighbors about Jesus.

Spend some time praying for people that kids may know who do not know Jesus. If time allows, you may choose to make cards for those people.

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me (optional)

Use Scripture and the guide provided with this session to explain to boys and girls how to become a Christian. Assign individuals to meet with kids who have more questions. If this is not possible, encourage boys and girls to ask their parents, small group leaders, or other Christian adults any questions they may have about becoming a Christian.

Big picture question and prayer (3 minutes)

Show the big picture question poster.

• Big Picture Question
Poster

LEADER • Let's all say it together at once. *What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.*

Guide kids to find a friend beside them and to take turns asking the question and saying the answer.

Before transitioning to small groups, make any necessary announcements. Lead kids in prayer. Praise God for keeping His promises. Thank God for sending Jesus to bless the world. Pray that God will help kids to trust all of God's promises and that they will trust Jesus as their Savior.

Dismiss to small groups

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:19.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus.

Small Group LEADER

SESSION TITLE: The Promise Reaffirmed

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 25:19-26; 26:1-6; 28:10-22

MAIN POINT: God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 4:3

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.

Key passage activity (5 minutes)

- Key Passage Poster
- gray construction paper
- markers
- scissors
- tape

Cut out a stone shape from gray construction paper. Use this stone as a pattern to cut out other stones. Write one word of the verse on each stone. Hide the stones around the room.

Guide kids to find the stones. When they have found a stone, ask kids to lay their heads on the stone like it is a pillow until all the stones are found. Then, help kids tape the stones to the wall in order and read the completed verse together.

SAY • When Jacob rested his head on a stone and slept, God spoke to him in a dream. God reminded Jacob of the promise that He had made to Abraham and Isaac, and He told Jacob that the same promise He made to them was now for Jacob and his descendants.

Bible story review & Bible skills (10 minutes)

- Bibles, 1 per kid
- Main Point Poster
- Small Group Timeline

Guide kids to find Genesis 25 in their Bibles. Explain that today's story comes from Genesis 25–28. Use the small group timeline to show kids today's Bible story. Review the stories that kids have learned over the past three weeks about Abraham. Help kids review how God had been faithful to Abraham and his family so far, and how He

had promised to continue being faithful throughout their generations. **God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.** This promise continued to Isaac and Jacob, and it continues on to all people who trust Jesus. Read today's story using the bolded text, or summarize the story in your own words.

Guide kids to stand on one side of the room. Explain that you will ask a question, and kids should hop to the opposite side of the room when they know the answer.

Ask the following review questions:

1. Who were Isaac's and Rebekah's sons? (*Jacob and Esau, Genesis 25:25-26*)
2. When did Jacob and Esau begin fighting? (*before they were born, Genesis 25:22*)
3. What did God tell Isaac about His plan for his family? (*God shared the covenant He had made with Abraham. God said He would give land to Isaac's family and make them more numerous than the stars; Genesis 26:2-6*)
4. What did God tell Jacob in a dream? (*God would continue the promise He made to Abraham and Isaac to Jacob. He would give Jacob's family the land that he was sleeping on and would be with him wherever he went; Genesis 28:12-16*)
5. **What did God promise? God made a covenant to bless His people.**

Activity choice (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Time capsule

Give each child a piece of paper and ask them to write a letter to someone who might find it years from now. Ask them to include details about what life is like now, and also



- paper
- markers

how they have God's faithfulness in their lives. Encourage them to write to whomever may find the letter to tell them that God will continue to be faithful in the future, too. God always keeps His promises.

SAY • God has always been long before we were born and He will always be faithful long after we're gone. In today's story, **God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.** God keeps every promise He has made, even now. God has shown us that He is faithful in the way that He has loved us and provided for us. The greatest thing God has ever provided for us was Jesus! Jesus is the greatest blessing God has given to people. Jesus paid for sin on the cross and rose from the dead three days later, showing that He had victory over death and would give eternal life to those who trust Him.

OPTION 2: Memory board

- small cork square
- ribbon
- push pins
- paper
- markers
- craft glue
- scissors

Give each child paper and markers and guide her to decorate it however she chooses. Affix the paper on the cork using the craft glue and cut away any excess paper. Use push pins to add a piece of ribbon to the top of the cork so that kids may hang it on their door at home. Guide kids to write notes to remind them of God's faithfulness and pin them to the cork.

SAY • We made a message board so that we can always be reminded of God's faithfulness to us. Any time you begin to worry that maybe God will not keep all of His promises, you can look at this message board and remember that God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is also for those who trust Jesus! Every situation in our life might not end up how we would hope,

but we know that God is in control and that He has given us the best blessing through Jesus' payment for sin on the cross and His resurrection three days later. Sometimes, we need a reminder of the greatness of God. In our story today, **God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises.**

Journal and prayer (5 minutes)

Distribute each child's journal and instruct the kids to draw a picture of one way that they can remember God's faithfulness to Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob. Writers may make a list of ways that God was faithful to Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob. Guide kids to write *God is faithful* under their drawings or lists.

SAY • God reminded Abraham's family that He always keeps His promises. God also keeps His promises to us, and the promise He made to Abraham extends to all who follow Jesus. God is always faithful to us.

Make sure each child secures this week's sheet in the journal, and then collect them. Keep the journals in the classroom so they will be available every week or as often as you wish to use them.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the coloring page provided with this session. Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus as the ultimate blessing to the world. Thank God for being a faithful God who always does what He says He will do.

- Journal Page
- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons and markers
- *Big Picture Cards for Families: Kids*