

Adventures with GOD!

ABRAHAM AND SARAH'S FAITH IS AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW (B.3.FALL.13)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 24:10-21, 42-51
Key Verse	Genesis 24:1
Key Concept	Learning about the faith of others helps me to put my trust in God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe what Abraham wanted to see happen before he died 2. Name the people in the story who showed faith in God 3. Identify people in their lives who have been examples of faith in God

LIFE APPLICATION

Abraham wanted his son to have a good wife. He asked his servant to go into the land to find a wife for Isaac. In this story we see not only the faith of Abraham, but also of his servant, of Rebekah, her family and of Isaac. We see that Abraham served as an example of faith for many. Abraham is an example of faith for us. There are other people in our life who also show us what it means to have faith in God. This week the children will have the opportunity to identify those people who are examples of faith in their lives.

Possible activities and class plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction	Map, activity sheet	5 minutes
Bible exploration	Bibles	10 minutes
Craft	Box, cards, playdoh/modeling clay, colored paper, markers, scissors, glue	15 minutes
Activity	See options	10 minutes
My GROW adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do so first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out-stretched, palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the biblical reference for the day (Genesis 24:10-21) two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the story?

Introduction: The lesson today will not only include the story of choosing a wife for Isaac, but also will serve as a review of the past lessons. To begin, give each child a copy of the Activity Sheet and together talk about the important places they learned about these past weeks and what important events took place there.

Bible exploration: The Bible story is found in Genesis 24. This is a long chapter, so the best idea is to summarize the story in your own words, engaging the children in a drama or using illustrations, or together read a section of the story (for example, vs. 34-48). Some important highlights are:

- Abraham was old and asked his servant to return to the land where he had come from and find a wife for his son Isaac.
- The servant obeyed Abraham and set out with gifts for Isaac's wife to be.
- When the servant of Abraham arrived at the city of Nahor (near Ur), he prayed to God asking for wisdom to know what to do. And there he came up with a plan for how to



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choose Isaac's wife. He decided that the woman who was kind to him and offered him a drink would be the chosen one for Isaac.

- Rebecca arrived at the well and was kind, giving him and his camels something to drink. She also invited him to her home.
- The servant discovered that she was from the same family line as Abraham.
- The servant told Rebekah's family why he was there and what Abraham's petition was. They also spoke about how God had prospered and blessed Abraham.
- Rebekah and the servant went to where Isaac was and he loved her and took her as his wife.

As you conclude, talk about the various people in the story and how they showed faith in God. Ask them to name people who have been examples for them of faith in God.

Craft: "The memory box." Each child will make a souvenir based on the life of Abraham. When we take trips and visit special places we often buy a souvenir to remind us of our journey (ex. Key chain, post card, a t-shirt, etc.). Before class decorate a box that will serve as the memory box. During the class have materials ready so the children can make their souvenir and then put it in the memory box. Brainstorm together ideas of what they can make. Provide materials like playdoh or modeling clay, colored paper, markers, glue, scissors, pipe cleaners, beads.

Activity: In the following pages you will find two different activities to choose from. Choose the one that best suits your situation and group.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W: Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

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Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen.

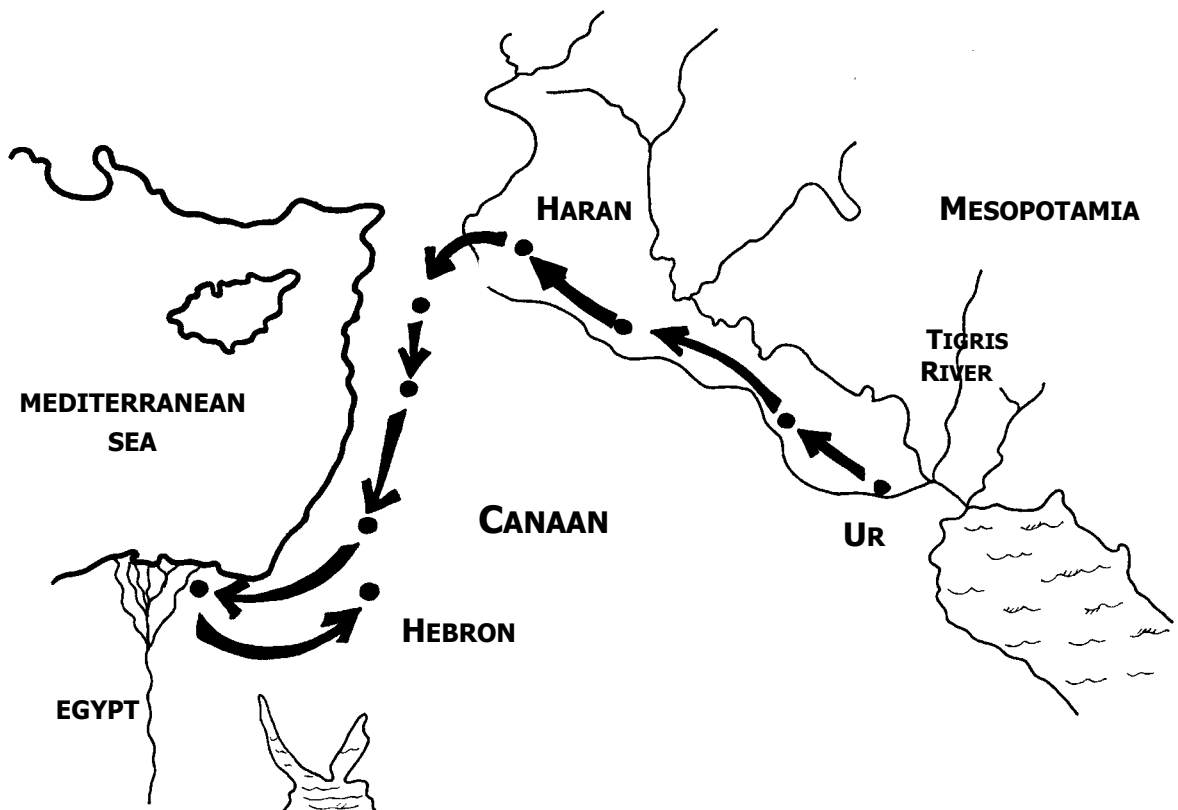
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ACTIVITY SHEET OPENING ACTIVITY

The map below indicates places where Abraham and Sarah lived. Answer the questions, which will help you to review the story of Abraham and Sarah that is found in the book of Genesis.

Questions: Abraham y Sarah....

1. First lived in: _____
2. Left where the first lived and went to: _____
3. Built an altar in _____
4. Were hungry and went down to _____
5. Settled near the river _____

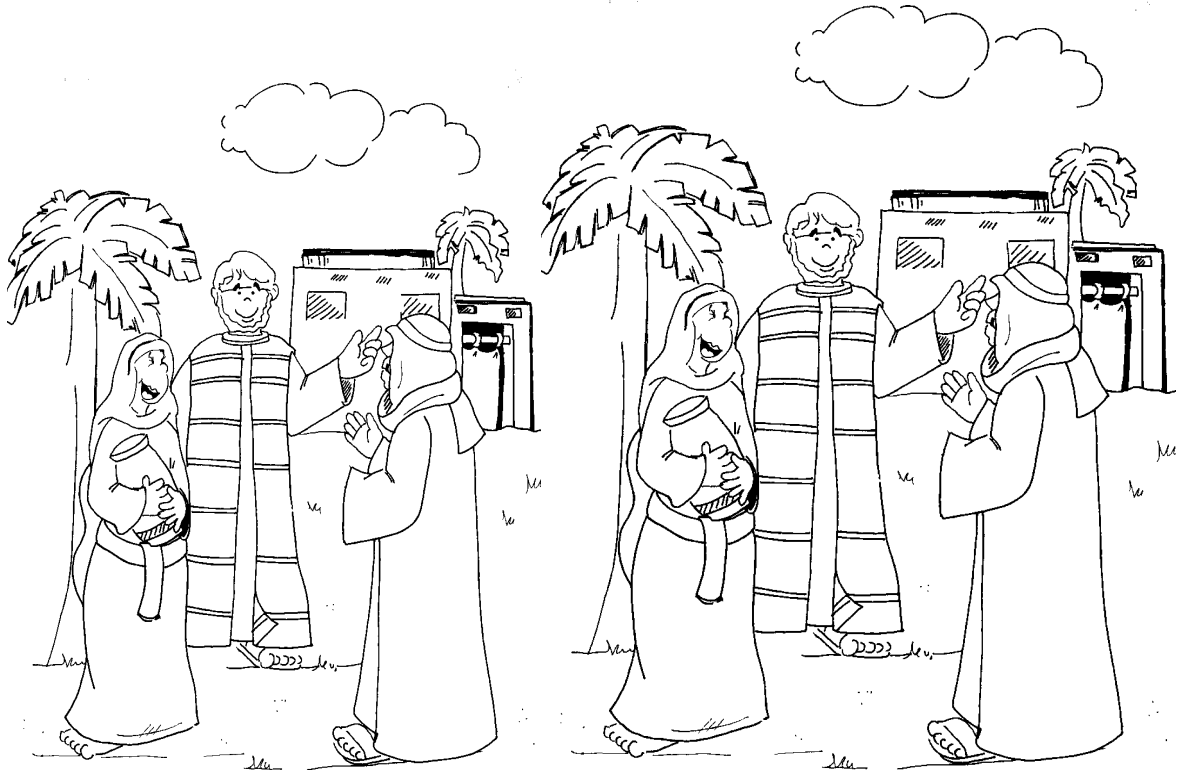


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ACTIVITY OPTION 1

FIND THE DIFFERENCES

Look at the pictures. Can you find 12 things that are different? Circle them or write them on the side of the image. Then color the images that show the part of the story when Laban invited the servant of Abraham to come into their house.



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ACTIVITY OPTION 2 MAPPING OUT MY FAITH JOURNEY

Abraham and Sarah left their home, traveled to many different places, met new people, made important decisions, prayed specific prayers, waited for God to show them what to do next, helped people, worshipped God.

Make a map of your own adventures in following God. You can include:

The place where you were born, the people who have been important in your life, important events, special days, lessons you've learned, difficult situations, prayers you've prayed, etc.

The day I learned about Jesus' love.

My first day at school. My teacher's name was....

My birthday party.
■ ■ ■ ■ ■

A special day camping with family
☾

I learned something special in Sunday school. My teacher's name was...

Jesus answered a special prayer request.

My sister was born

INCLUDE THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN AN EXAMPLE OF FAITH IN YOUR LIFE.



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ILLUSTRATION



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