

Adventures with GOD!

FAITH AND SAYING GOOD-BYE TO HARAN (B.3.FALL.3)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 12:1-5
Key Verse	Proverbs 1:33
Key Concept	Having faith in God helps to me hear and follow God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell how Abraham heard God 2. Explain how we hear God 3. Give thanks to God for guiding us when we listen and obey

LIFE APPLICATION

Abraham Heard God and was attentive to God's voice. We need to be attentive to God's voice. God speaks to us in different ways. The Bible is the word of God and it is there that we can hear God speaking to us. Sometimes God speaks to us through another person. Or in prayer God can speak to our hearts. This week the children will have the opportunity to thank God for speaking to us and guiding us.

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
Activity	Activity sheet	5 minutes
Introduction	Map	5 minutes
Game	Megaphone	10 minutes
Bible exploration	Illustrations and Bible	10 minutes
Activity	Activity sheets and learning stations	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 12:1-5) 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?

Activity: The instructions for "My traveling suitcase" are found in the following pages. Spend just a few minutes on this activity as children work on it individually.

Introduction: Spend a few minutes reviewing what they know about Abraham so far. Ask them if they remember where his journey of faith began? Refer to the map that you've made. Talk about what Abraham might have taken for his journey as he moved to a new place.

Game: It would be best to find a place outside of the classroom to play this game, "Listen up, Abraham." Find a space where you can make some noise. Beforehand, make sure you have a megaphone or make your own megaphone out of rolled up paper. One child will have the megaphone and the other children will just use their voices. There will be one volunteer who will be blindfolded and the other children will make a circle around him or her. The idea of the game is that all of the children will have a chance to call the name of

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one child who will be blindfolded in the middle of the circle. The child that is blindfolded will have to listen carefully to identify which one of his or her friends has the megaphone. The children in the circle can't move but they can try to make it more difficult for the person in the center, by raising their voices, etc. Once the child in the circle has identified the person with the megaphone, that person then becomes the one in the center of the circle. Play the game several times. Ask the people who had the opportunity to be blindfolded how they felt and the people in the circle how they felt trying to get the other children to listen to them.

Bible exploration: For the reading of Scripture you can either stay where you are and sit in a circle or go back to your classroom space. Read the Scripture, Genesis 12:1-5. Ask open-ended wondering questions that allow the children to think and respond. For example, "I wonder what it would have been like for Abraham and Sarah to travel by foot on dirt roads. I wonder what it would have been like for them to say good-bye to their family."

For an illustration make a giant picture of an ear, continue asking questions, "I wonder if it was difficult for Abraham to hear God's voice. I wonder what God's voice sounded like to Abraham. I wonder who helped Abraham to hear and obey. One of the ways God speaks to us today is through the Bible. How else does God speak to us? "

Some of the important things to emphasize about the Bible story are:

- God spoke to Abraham
- God gave Abraham a promise
- Abraham listened to and obeyed God
- In obedience to God Abraham took his family and started out on a journey

Activity: Make three different learning stations and children can choose which one to participate in. In the following pages you will find three different activities, one for each learning station. Two of the activities are more geared for children who can read. For learning station number three you will need art supplies in addition to crayons and markers, such as sand, felt, shredded crayons, lentils, etc.

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).

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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?

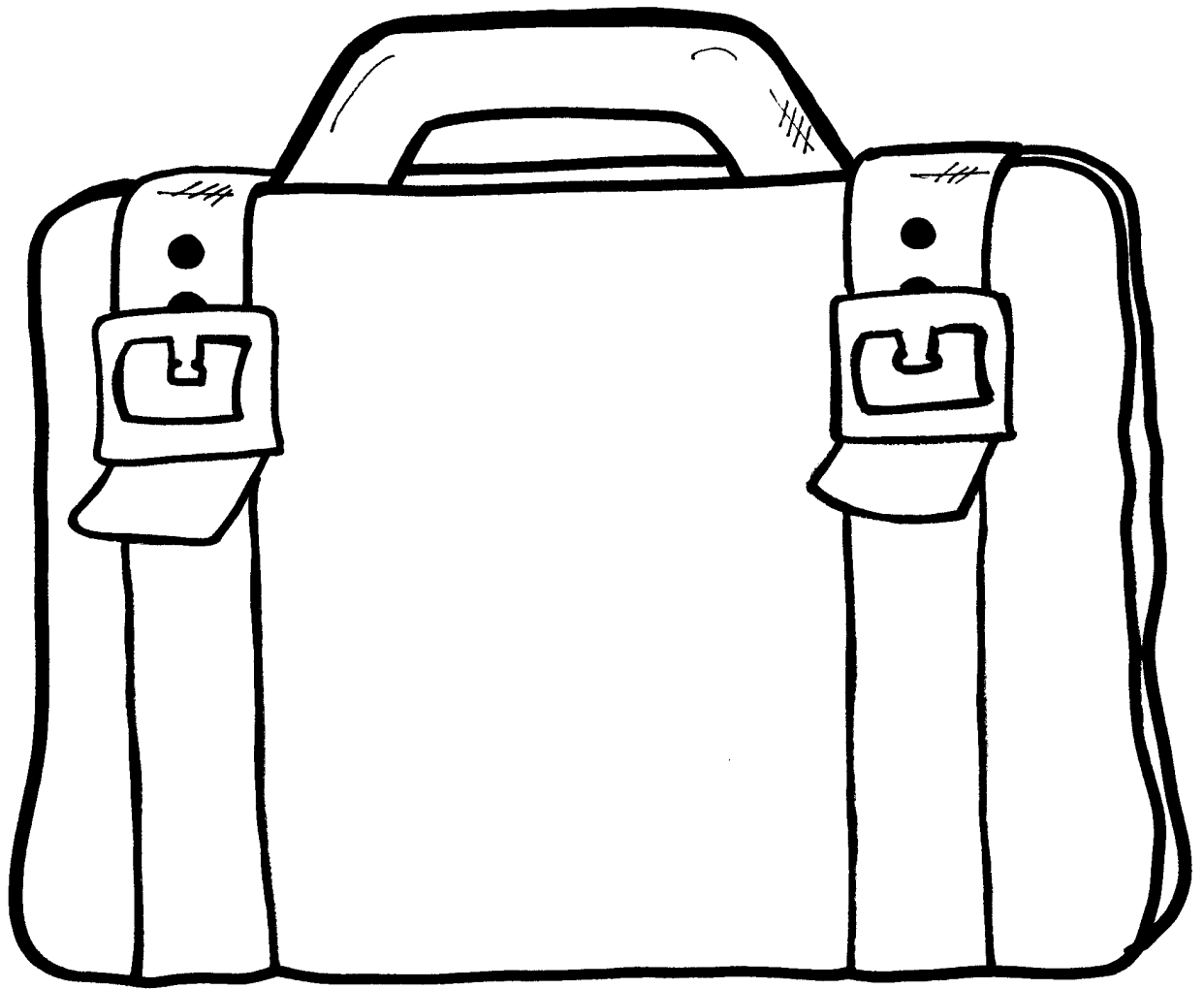
Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded,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

Inside the suitcase, write or draw pictures of things you would take on a trip if you were leaving your city or your country.



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WORKSHEET FOR LEARNING STATION

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM (ACTIVITY FOR CHILDEN WHO CAN READ)

God asked Abraham to leave his home and go on a journey to somewhere new. But God also gave Abraham a promise. Fill in the blanks with the missing words (The Scripture reference is Genesis 12:2-3) and then color the picture.

"I will make you into a _____ nation.

I will _____ you.

I will make your name _____.

You will be a blessing to _____.

I will _____ those who _____ you.

I will put a curse on _____ who _____ down a curse on you.

All _____ on earth will be blessed _____ of you."



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WORKSHEET FOR LEARNING STATION 2

LISTENING TO GOD

The words below are mixed up. Unscramble the words to reveal the different ways that God speaks to us.

1. het iblbie

2. repants

_____.

3. sewi cuosnelor

_____.

4. nauret

_____.

5. cimus

_____.

6. erpayr

_____.

7. pirsualt elader

_____.

8. doog riefdns

_____.

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ANSWERS TO SCRAMBLED WORD ACTIVITY

1. THE BIBLE

2. PARENTS

3. WISE COUNSELORS

4. NATURE

5. MUSIC

6. PRAYER

7. SPIRITUAL LEADER

8. GOOD FRIEND

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WORKSHEET FOR LEARNING STATION 3 ABRAHAM OBEYS GOD

Color the picture of Abraham on his journey. Use the art materials supplied – sand, felt, shredded crayons, lentils, etc.

