

# Adventures with GOD!

## FAITH IN A MOMENT OF DECISION (B.3.FALL.6)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 13:5-18
Key Verse	Psalm 119:173
Key Concept	Faith in God helps me make good choices.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Narrate how Abraham and Lot made decisions about their future</li> <li>2. Name some ways that they can make good decisions</li> <li>3. Explain how to deal with anger in a way that is positive and helpful</li> </ol>

### LIFE APPLICATION

It is important to talk about the things that irritate us and make us angry. Abraham and Lot didn't do it when there were problems between their servants and this forced them to make a decision to go in different directions. In life there are things that are difficult and sometimes making decisions are difficult. We need to be prudent and seek advice when we need to make decisions.

### *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
Bible exploration	Bibles	10 minutes
Activity	Activity sheets	10 minutes
Bible verse		10 minutes
Conclusions		5 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 13:5-12) 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:** Give each child an activity sheet "Making a tent." When they have finished talk about the different homes that people lived in during the time that Abraham and his family were alive and how they are different from our homes today.

**Bible exploration:** It's important to previously have read the story to be able to tell it in your own words (Genesis 13:5-18). One idea for an illustration is blow up a red balloon and draw an angry face on it (don't tie it, but let it disinflate) previous to the class. As you are telling the story, blow up the balloon little by little. At the point that you are talking about the fighting and disagreements between Lot's people and Abraham's people, blow the balloon until it pops. Or if you don't want to use a balloon, you can have a clear glass, which you draw an angry face on. In a pitcher you can have red colored water. As you tell the story fill the glass little by little until it overflows.

After you've told the story, ask them questions about what they've heard and seen. If you were Lot and had the opportunity to choose land for you, which would you choose? Would you choose the better one or let your family/friends have it? Talk about examples of

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when we have to make decisions. For example, when there are two toys to play with, which one do you choose?

Abraham was wise and once again he saw God's faithfulness as he settled in Hebron. Look on the map to locate Hebron.

There are many things that can be emphasized in the Scripture today:

- Sometimes what seems like the best option isn't
- When we let others have the best option, we are showing God's love and this pleases God
- When we are angry, it's important to talk about our feelings so that we don't let it build and build and create barriers between us and other people.

**Activity:** There is an activity sheet that the children can do either individually or in a group. When they've finished, they can share their answers with each other.

**Bible verse:** Have them break up into different groups, or together in one group, make up actions for the Bible verse (Psalm 119:173). Talk about how it relates to the story of Abraham and Lot.

**Conclusions:** Spend time dialouging about how as Christians we make decisions. There are some questions we can ask ourselves before we make a decision. For example:

- Will my decision be pleasing to God?
- Is it something Jesus would do?
- Could it hurt me or someone else?
- Would it help me to know Jesus better or help other people?

Ask them to think of other questions to ask before they make a decision.

## **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

### COUNTING SHEEP

Abraham and Lot had to separate, because the land wasn't big enough for all their flocks. The sheep labeled with "A" belong to Abraham and the ones labeled with a "L" belong to Lot. Observe them closely and then answer the questions. Color the drawing.

¿How many sheep have the letter A?

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¿How many sheep have the letter L?

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¿Who will you give the sheet that don't have a letter to? ¿Abraham or Lot?

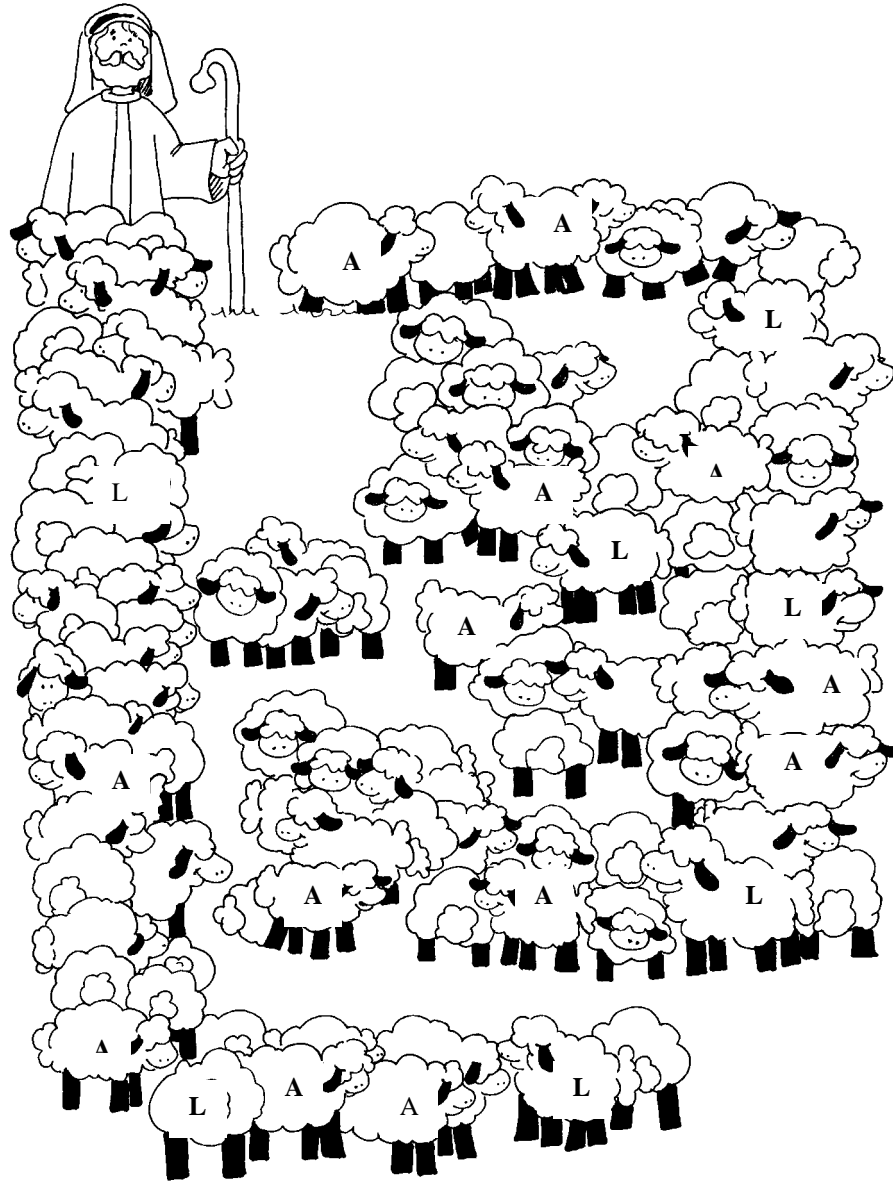
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¿Why?

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## ACTIVITY SHEET

### SEWING A TENT

Abraham and his family lived in a type of tent. They would move from one place to another and would look to set up their tent near a body of water. When Abraham returned from Egypt with his family, servants, and flocks and livestock they ended up settling near Hebron. The tents they lived in were made out of goat's hair and they would use several posts to make the tent sturdy. The tents usually had two divisions, one part was for women and children and one was for the men.

Connect the dots in order of the numbers to see what you have sown.

