

Grades 3-5
Session 5

Opening prayer

Sign of the Cross and the Our Father.

Everyone knows this by heart for sure, how about the Hail Mary. If you need time to look it up, it is in your prayer book in your folder.

Before beginning,

1. Can anyone tell us the story of creation?
2. What happened with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?
3. Even though they messed up, did God still love them and take care of them?
4. See if someone wants to re-tell the story of Noah.
5. God made a promise to Noah, what was the promise?
6. What was the sign of the promise?

(Now everyone should be caught up at least to a degree in case there are any stragglers)

Teacher re-cap-

So first in the story of Adam and Eve we read that they fell and God still loved them but there were consequences.

And in Noah's story we know that the humans on the earth became wicked, all but Noah and his family. So mankind fell again! But God came to tell us that He still wanted us to come to Him so He made a new promise since the world had broken the last promise.

After Noah, his son's and grandson's turned away from God. So now what is going to happen? Let's find out.

Read together on pg 39 Genesis 12:1-5

Now we have Abram and his wife Sarai. At that time, many people had turned away from God. But Abram and Sarai were special. They knew who God was and knew that they should listen to God in order to live a good life.

Remember when back in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve, God told them not to do something. They were told not to eat of the special fruit on a special tree. They didn't quite understand why, so they did it anyway. And they got into a lot of trouble and took us with them.

But Abraham was different. God told him to do something very hard. There were no moving vans, and he was an old man. God said leave everything and go somewhere that I will show

you when you get there. Even though Abram didn't know why God wanted him to move or even where God wanted him to move to, he packed up and went.

Discussion questions

1. When you get in a car with Mom or Dad, do you ask where you are going?
2. Do you ask how long it is going to take to get there?
3. If you didn't know where you were going, would it make you nervous?
4. Why?

God did tell Abram that he would get 3 things.

1. Lots of land
2. Lots of descendants
3. Lots of blessings

Vocabulary words

Land
Descendants
Blessings

Ask the kids to give examples.

If Abram was so important to God, why didn't God let him have any kids if He knew Abram and Sarai wanted them so bad?

- A. God wanted Abram and Sarai to see that he was in control of the situation. If He were to just give Abram and Sarai things in the usual way, they wouldn't have been able to see how much God himself was taking care of them. Even though each child is a miracle and a gift from God, it is unusual for someone to have children when they are old. But still God promises this to them.

There were lots and lots of people on the earth by now, why do you think God chose to talk to Abram instead of someone else?

- A. If we really wanted to look at the Bible closely, we can see that Noah is the great-great (lots of great) grandson of Adam! The very first one God breathed his own life and spirit into. And since Adam was the one God breathed his life and spirit into, and Adam is an adopted child of God, that makes Noah all those things too. And guess who Abram's great-great (lots of greats) grandpa is. Noah! So Abram is one of God's children and he is also special because he has such a trust in God.

Lets look at this trust further though, Read Genesis 15:1-8 (pg 41)

So it sounds like Abram is trusting God, but kind of not. Abram is doing everything that God asks him to do without question and this makes God happy. But now Abram is asking about proof. Is this okay? Yes it is. He is not saying that he doesn't trust God. But sometimes we get impatient. Even old men like Abram. And as for the land, God didn't exactly hand him a deed

like when we buy a house or some land now that we can show that it is ours. Abram needed to know that the land was his.

Read Gen15:8-21

So what is with the dead animals and the torch? In ancient times, when someone would make such a big agreement like this, there would be a sacrifice. A sacrifice is something important that you give up. There are different types of sacrifice and this one is for a contract or a "covenant". Abram cuts the larger animals in half, each of them very valuable. When the time is right, God tells him when he is going to get all the land he had promised Abram. I bet he wasn't expecting to get it long after he was dead and gone. But he is okay with that.

The fire pot and torch are symbols of God and God walking between the animal halves and are the way that God "signs his name" to the contract. So God is showing Abram that he promises that he will have all the things promised and if the promise is broken, then what has happened to the animals will happen to God.

That is a pretty big promise. We do things differently now, but back then, that was how some things were handled.

This craft can be done if there is time to the class. It was more for the littler kids but they might still enjoy doing it. If not, just send the baggie home and the kids can do it when they get home. Please have them leave their glue sticks on the desk though.

Kids Craft.

Abram and Sarai move
Put your name on it!
Color the pages
Cut out the stuff to pack
Pack your camel!
Trace the word "trust" at the top.

Closing Prayer

Dear God, you know that sometimes it is hard for me to see why you want me to do something, but please help me to trust you more everyday so that I always live the way you want me to. Help me to know and understand that you know what is best for me even more than I do just like you did for Abram and Sarai. Please come into my heart and help me to see how good things happen when I listen to you and do good things.

Hail Mary

If we have time we can play the song Father Abraham

Father Abraham Lyric & Dance Video/ Kids on the Move

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASXowiv3FAc>

I can have that up and ready at 10:05 in the cafeteria for those classes that have the time and wish to do it. If you would like to bring them, just spread them out good. If you arrive late, no worries, the kids will catch up, it's an easy song.