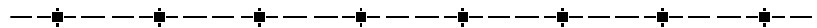


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

# Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

A Family Leader Follows God

Abraham

Genesis 12-13, 15

A Family Leader Follows God  
Genesis 12:1-4; 13:15-16

### Memory Verse:

Abraham believed God. God accepted Abraham's faith, and so his faith made him right with God.  
**(Romans 4:3 NIV)**

### Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that God revealed Himself to Abraham.
2. Understand that Abraham had faith.
3. Understand that Abraham obeyed God.

Last week, we learned about Job. Job obeyed and trusted God in spite of his circumstances. Job didn't know why bad things were happening to Him. Job praised God anyway. God wants us to do the same. In the end, Job was restored. God blessed him even more. He had more children and even got to see his grandchildren.

### Read the Bible

**READ: Genesis 12:1-4 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

### Begin with Prayer

Today's lesson is about a man who is considered the father of faith. His name was Abraham. Let's find out more about Abraham's faith.

Abraham's family moved from Ur of the Chaldeans to Haran. (Genesis 11:31) The Bible tells us that Terah, Abraham's father, worshipped idols. (Joshua 24:2) But God revealed Himself to Abraham. In Acts 7:2, Stephen said, "The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham." (NIV) The Bible does not tell us very much about how God appeared to Abraham, only that He did. It was enough for Abraham to believe God from that point on. God wants us to believe in Him and trust Him like Abraham did.

Have you ever spent the night somewhere? Have you ever gone to visit grandparents for the summer? Have you ever gone to summer camp? Did you miss your parents and friends? Were you ready to go home? God called Abraham and told him to leave his family, to leave his country, and to go to a place that God would show him. (Genesis 12:1) That meant Abraham would never be able to return home. Abraham had strong faith. The Bible says that Abraham obeyed God and went. He did not know where he was going. But Abraham knew the God who had called him. His wife, Sarai, went with Abraham. He was a family leader. His wife and nephew went with him. (Genesis 12:5) God wants us to be willing to go wherever He calls us and whenever He calls us. Abraham also received a promise that God would bless him. (Genesis 12:2) Abraham was called a friend of God. (James 2:23) Can you imagine being God's friend? Good friends help us know what is right. They help us when things are hard. Good friends are good listeners. God wants to be your friend like He was Abraham's friend.

Abraham talked to God about not having any children. A servant would receive all his riches when he died. (Genesis 15:2-3) Abraham was 75 years old when God called him. (Genesis 12:4) But God promised to give Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars. The Bible says that Abraham believed God. (Genesis 15:5-6) God wants us to trust Him even when it is difficult. God

### Abraham Bible Facts

1. God called Abraham.
2. God promised to bless Abraham.
3. God promised to make Abraham a blessing.
4. God promised to give Abraham descendants.
5. God promised to give Canaan to Abraham.

accepted Abraham's faith, and so his faith made him right with God. (Romans 4:3 NIV) Abraham would have his own children. He would be a family leader for them.

God also promised to give Abraham the land of Canaan. Abraham's response was to build an altar to honor God. (Genesis 13:14-18) As a family leader, Abraham led his family in worship. Abraham did not ask God what he was getting out of being obedient. Sometimes when people ask us to do something we want to know what we will get in return. When your parents ask you to clean your room, do you ask, "What are you going to give me for cleaning my room?" When your parents ask you to share with your brother or sister, do you ask what you will get in return? The Bible says that Abraham just believed and obeyed God. In Romans 4:3, Paul says, "Abraham believed God. God accepted Abraham's faith, and so his faith made him right with God." (Romans 4:3 NIV) God wants us to believe and obey.

You may be the only believer in your family. Pray that God will help you to believe and obey, and that your family will believe and obey, too.

Do you believe God's promises? Abraham lived a hundred and seventy-five years. He had several sons when he died. (Genesis 25:1-7) Abraham did not live to see all the promises of God fulfilled, but Abraham knew the God who made those promises. He believed God would fulfill those promises.

#### Review questions.

1. **Who called Abraham?** (God)
2. **What did God promise Abraham?** (God promised to bless him and to make him a blessing.)
3. **What did God say about children?** (God promised to give Abraham many descendants.)
4. **What did God say about the land of Canaan?** (God promised to give Abraham the land of Canaan.)

**Do you know Jesus?** God promised Abraham that he would be a blessing to others. (Genesis 12:1) That was a promise to send Jesus. Jesus was a descendant of Abraham. Jesus came so that we could know God. God wants to be our friend the way that He was Abraham's friend. But we can know Him in an even closer relationship because, when we invite Him into our lives, God sends His Spirit to live in us. In order to know Jesus, we have to ask God to forgive our sins. We need to invite Him to come and be a part of our lives. When we confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in our heart that God raised Him from the dead, then we are saved. (Romans 10:9-10) When that happens, we can be friends with God and know Him.

#### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can be friends with God.
3. Ask God to help you believe and obey.
4. Pray for friends and family members who do not believe.

#### Application

"Abraham had faith, so he obeyed God. God called him to go to a place he would later receive as his own. So he went. He did it even though he didn't know where he was going." (Hebrews 11:8 NIV) God wants us to believe in Him and trust Him like Abraham did. God wants us to be willing to go wherever He calls us. God wants us to trust Him, even when it is difficult. God wants to be our friend like He was Abraham's friend. God wants us to believe and obey. if you ask Him to help you, God **will** help you.

#### Planning for the next week:

**Abraham and Lot (A Family Leader Seeks Peace) — Genesis 13**

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: Genesis 12:1-4 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

**Sing:** “Father Abraham” or a song related to the story.

(Decorate your area with stars made out of construction paper. Ask the children to bring towels or sleeping bags to lie on as you tell today’s story. Or create a tent using bed sheets. Have the children sit in the tent while you tell the story.)

God met with a man named Abraham and Abraham believed God from that point on. God wants us to believe in Him and trust Him like Abraham did. To trust God means to obey what He says.

Have you ever spent the night somewhere? Have you ever gone to visit grandparents for the summer? Have you ever gone to summer camp? Did you miss your parents and friends? Were you ready to go home?

God told Abraham to move away from his family. God would show him the place. (Genesis 12:1) Abraham trusted God. The Bible says that Abraham obeyed God and went. He did not know where he was going, but Abraham knew God. Abraham knew that he could trust God. Abraham’s wife and nephew went with him. (Genesis 12:5) God wants us to trust and obey Him like Abraham did.

God promised to give Abraham as many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as there are stars. Abraham would have his own children. He would be a family leader for them. The Bible says that Abraham believed God. (Genesis 15:5-6) God wants us to trust Him even when it is hard. God was pleased with Abraham's trust in God, and that made him right with God. (Romans 4:3 NIV) Trusting God helped Abraham live the way God wanted him to live.

God also promised to bless Abraham. (Genesis 12:2) Abraham was called God’s friend. (James 2:23) Can you imagine being God’s friend? You can be! God sent Jesus to be our friend. Good friends help us know what is right. They help us when things are hard. Good friends are good listeners. God wants to be your friend like He was Abraham’s friend.

## Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can be friends with God.
3. Ask God to help you believe and obey.
4. Pray for friends and family members who do not believe.

**Did you know?** Preschoolers need to know what is expected of them. They will respond to those expectations.

Consider creating a chart of expectations. Your chart could include the following items.

In this class: We are nice. We share. We take turns. We raise our hands to ask for permission.

## Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity**— Use construction paper to cut out tent shapes. Write one word on each card. Don't forget the reference. Have the children practice the verse by putting the cards in order.
- **Test your memory**— Divide the children into two teams. Ask the children to retell the story. Let them make up questions and answers. One team will tell the story and ask questions. The other team will answer the questions.
- **Taste activity**— Brings nuts or dried fruits. Tell the children that Abraham and his family lived in tents.
- **Think about it** — Tell the children about your favorite vacation. Ask the children if they have ever spent the summer, or any length of time, away from home. Ask them how they felt. Tell them that Abraham had to leave his father and his country. Reassure them that God is always with us.
- **Touch activity**— Bring items you would use on a camping trip. If you are able to bring a tent, a cot, etc., set them up for the children to enjoy. Bring cooking utensils you would use on a camping trip. Bring a snack that you would have on a camping trip (smores or fruit). Decorate your area with stars made out of construction paper.
- **Run and play**— Have the children dictate a list of everything they will need to go on an overnight trip. Write one item on a piece of construction paper. Ask the children to illustrate. Tape the paper to different places in your area. Divide the group into two teams. Choose two leaders. Students will collect the pieces of construction paper (items they need for their trip). Each leader will tell a member of the team to collect five items they must take on their trip. Have those members run a relay to see to who can collect the things they need the quickest. Play until everyone has had a chance to run. Tell the children that Abraham obeyed God when God told him to move.  
  
Bring maps. Have children plan a trip. Ask them to find what road they would need to take. Show them how to read the map. Tell them the Bible is our map to know what God wants us to do and how He wants us to live.
- **Listen**— Remind the children that those who belong to God are never alone. Have them imagine sitting on God's lap or being hugged by God as they take time for silence.
- **Sing**— Sing "Father Abraham," or a song related to the story.

## Memory Verse

Abraham believed  
God.

God accepted  
Abraham's faith,  
and so his faith  
made him right  
with God.

(ROMANS 4:3 NIRV)

## Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Abraham

Believed

God

## Word Puzzle

Y L B T N E P T E S F D  
Q X P E I R A F M X E N  
M G B R L R R E O S H T  
A E G I M I A B C S F R  
H I S O E T E E X E A N  
A L N N D Y N V Q L V D  
R F D H E D S P E B E H  
B S R D A J R B U D N P  
A V E N M H A O Z V Q I  
F J T A I G T S S G A V  
L S D N P E S I M O R P  
M A N X Q Z U D N L H R

ABRAHAM

OBEYED

BELIEVED

GOD

BLESS

DESCENDANTS

PROMISE

FRIEND

STARS



# Word Puzzle

Y	L	B	T	N	E	P	T	E	S	F	D
Q	X	P	E	I	R	A	F	M	X	E	N
M	G	B	R	L	R	R	E	O	S	H	T
A	E	G	I	M	I	A	B	C	S	F	R
H	I	S	O	E	T	E	E	X	E	A	N
A	L	N	N	D	Y	N	V	Q	L	V	D
R	F	D	H	E	D	S	P	E	B	E	H
B	S	R	D	A	J	R	B	U	D	N	P
A	V	E	N	M	H	A	O	Z	V	Q	I
F	J	T	A	I	G	T	S	S	G	A	V
L	S	D	N	P	E	S	I	M	O	R	P
M	A	N	X	Q	Z	U	D	N	L	H	R

ABRAHAM

OBEYED

BELIEVED

GOD

BLESS

DESCENDANTS

PROMISE

FRIEND

STARS

## Anagram

1. dybeeo- \_\_\_\_\_

2. asstr- \_\_\_\_\_

3. dsdsctnneae- \_\_\_\_\_

4. veeidbl- \_\_\_\_\_

5. rdeinf- \_\_\_\_\_

6. uttsr- \_\_\_\_\_

7. ohwpsri- \_\_\_\_\_

8. hatif- \_\_\_\_\_

## Anagram

1. dybeeo- obeyed

2. asstr- stars

3. dsdsctnneae- descendants

4. veeidbl- believed

5. rdeinf- friend

6. uttsr- trust

7. ohwpsri- worship

8. hatif- faith