



God Gives Abram a Promise

Genesis 12

God Statement: God is Our Promise Keeper

KEY VERSE: “The Lord will keep all his promises. He is faithful in everything he does.”

(Psalm 145:13, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is Our Promise Keeper

In today’s lesson, we are going to continue learning about how God is Our Promise Keeper.

SAY:

Have any of you heard of a man named Abram? (pause for response) Maybe you know him as Abraham? Today we’re going to learn about Abram and Sarai, his wife, and some

very special promises they were given. But before we do that, we're going to do a little activity... Ready?

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Promise Maker

Supplies: none, clear off classroom tables and floor prior to starting activity

Directions: Gather children on one side of room and go through the following "Say" section with them to get the kids thinking about the importance of promises.

SAY: *We're going to have a race today... Are you ready? The first person to hop on one foot, as they go around and touch every classroom wall, and then give me a high five might get a special prize. Ready? GO!!*

After the race, celebrate the winner and have all the other kids give him/her a round of applause. Then have everyone sit back down as you look in your pocket/purse/classroom drawer for a "prize." (BE DRAMATIC. DON'T PULL OUT AN ACTUAL PRIZE).

SAY: *I'm glad I didn't PROMISE to give you that prize because it looks like I didn't actually bring it with me... Would you take a fist bump instead?*

ASK: *I told you all that the winner might get a special prize... Do you think it makes a difference that I didn't say, "I promise to give the winner a special prize"? Why or why not?*

SAY: *Turn to the person sitting next to you and tell them about a time that someone kept a promise to you and a time someone didn't keep their promise to you. (give kids a few minutes to share with one another, then ask a few volunteers to share with the group).*

ASK: *How do you feel when someone doesn't keep their promise to you? Why is it important to keep promises?*

SAY: *In our Bible lesson today, we're going to learn about the importance of promises. Did you know there is another word for a promise? (Allow kids to guess.) Can you all say COVENANT with me? Let's say that – Covenant. A covenant is a special promise that is made between God and people. God made a covenant, or promise, with Abram, and we're going to see how God always keeps His promises.*

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the Key Verse slides..****

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God's Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.****

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it's not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

**** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God Gives Abram a Promise

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies prepared AHEAD: 1-2 large mirrors stationed around the room with the words “God has a purpose for my life” written on it in expo marker, “purpose” words cut up and scattered on the floor around the mirrors.

We learned today that God had a purpose for Abram. Abram didn't always do the right thing, but God's purpose carried through. God's purpose for Abram was to make his family a great nation and from that nation, Jesus would be born!

- We're going to see over the next few weeks how that plan was challenged over and over. Lots of the people in the family Jesus would be born into made mistakes and sinned and went the wrong way but that never stopped God!
- God has a purpose that will never be thwarted or prevented. God has a purpose for you and His purpose will not be prevented, no matter what your decisions are or what other people do to you.
- Here at Woodmen, we say that our purpose is to *LOVE WELL AND CHANGE LIVES, THROUGH CHRIST*. How can you live out that purpose? What does “loving well” look like?
- Let's think about this for a minute. What if your parents ask the kids in your family to choose a movie?
 - Do you always want to win?
 - What if you let someone else choose the movie this week?
 - What if your mom asks you to take your dishes to the sink?

- Do you run away and go play? Or do you obey the first time?
- Are there kids at school that nobody seems to like? How can you be a friend?
- Will you play with them at recess? Will you include them? Will you invite them to sit with you at lunch?

I bet you can think of other ways to love well. When we love well, we show God's love to those around us. That changes their lives so they might follow Jesus too.

Here are some words to help you remember what we talked about.

- Obey. Obey your parents the first time they ask.
- Note. Write a note to encourage someone.
- Support. Support your friends.
- Friend. Be a friend.
- Lunch. Eat lunch with someone who needs a friend.
- Movie. Let someone else choose the movie.
- Defend. Defend or stand up for someone who is being picked on or bullied.

Have kids sit quietly for a minute and think about those words. When they are ready, allow them to come up to a mirror station and choose a word from it. As they pick the word, encourage them to look at themselves and pray, "thank you, God, for making me for a purpose!"

After everyone has had a chance to participate, gather the group back together to close out the time.

Look at the word you chose. This is the purpose you can focus on this week! When you get home, maybe ask your parent/guardian to help you write your word on a mirror, so it's easier to remember. Look at yourself and ask God to give you strength to do what He is asking you to do.

Take the little paper with you and remember to Love well.

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

****After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the “Compassion International” slide.****

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

****After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.****

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

****After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.****

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, may you always remember that you have a purpose from God. God is love, so you can always ask Him to help you love well.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Re-tell the story of God's Promise to Abram** (Gen 12:1-9)
2. **What did God ask Abram to do?** (move to a new land)
3. **What 3 promises did God make to Abram?** (He would be a great nation, the world would be blessed through his family, God would give them the land of Canaan.)
4. **Does God always keep His promises?** (Yes)

Closing Prayer: God, thank you for how you kept your promises to Abram. But more importantly how you kept your promise to send a savior through his family line and nation.

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **Read Gen 12:1-3**
2. **What did God ask Abram to do?**
3. **What 3 promises did God make to Abram?**
4. **What is another word that the Bible uses for promise?** (Covenant)
5. **If you were put into Abram's situation, would you have been faithful to obey and trust in the promises that God gave Abram? Do you think it was easy for Abram to trust in the promises God gave to him?**
6. **Does God always keep His promises?**
7. **Do you have faith in God? Why or why not? Will you obey Him when he asks you to do something like Abram did?**

Closing Prayer: God, thank you for how you kept your promises to Abram. But more importantly how you kept your promise to send a savior through his family line and nation.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

MAKE:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

Map Abram & Sarai's Journey!

Supplies: writing utensils, Abram & Sarai's Journey Page

Directions: Pass out the activity page to each kid. Encourage them to work in groups to complete their maze as they think about how it must have felt to be Abram and Sarai on this complicated long journey to their new home.

Say: *God told Abram and Sarai to move to a new land. He promised to make Abram's sons and daughters into a great nation. God said that one day the whole world would be blessed through a child born from Abram's family. Why was that so hard for them to believe? (They were much older) We're going to keep learning next week about how God kept His promises, but for now, let's help Abram and Sarai find their new home... Looks like it's going to be a crazy journey.*

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.

OBEY

NOTE

SUPPORT

NOTE

SUPPORT

FRIEND

SUPPORT

FRIEND

LUNCH

FRIEND

LUNCH

MOVIE

LUNCH

MOVIE

DEFEND

MOVIE

DEFEND

OBEY

DEFEND

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NOTE

OBEY

NOTE

SUPPORT

Map Abram & Sarai's Journey!

Genesis 12-13

