



## Waiting For Isaac

Genesis 21

### 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:**

Raise your hand if you like waiting.... Waiting for dessert? Waiting for your birthday? Waiting to open Christmas presents? Waiting can be really hard! Describe how you feel when you’re waiting for something super special or exciting. *Pause for responses.*

Last week, we heard about a very special promise that God made to Abram. Abram and Sarai were told they would have a child. They were waiting for the promise of a child that God had given them. It probably wasn't easy to wait for such a big promise to be fulfilled. We're going to learn more about them waiting for Isaac, in our large group! Before we dive in, let's do an activity.

**MAKE:**

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

**Isaac's Birth – Tent Craft**

**Supplies:** Isaac's Birth Tent page (one per kid), colored triangle, scissors, markers, glue sticks

**Say:** Today we are going to hear about how God kept His promise to Sarai. Do you remember what that promise was? We are going to make a tent for Sarai, Abram, and Isaac.

**Directions:** Pass out scissors, markers, and glue sticks to children. Give each child a picture page and a colored triangle. Have the children cut a line going up the middle of the triangle to make flaps. Have them glue the triangle over the picture to make a tent. Children can color and decorate their pages and answer the question at the top: "Is anything too hard for God?"

## 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: Waiting for Isaac***

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: none***

God made a promise to Abraham. I think Abraham thought the promise would be fulfilled right away. Today, maybe. Or next week. But he had to wait years for his baby to be born. Then finally, God gave Abraham an answer and said that the baby would be born the next year.

Abraham got into some trouble while he was waiting. He thought maybe he could get a baby another way. He sinned while he was waiting. God always fulfills His promises so even though Abraham messed up, God still did what He had promised.

What about YOU? Are you waiting for something? Maybe you're waiting to move to a different state. Maybe you were promised you could be on the team. Maybe you are waiting for a new sibling or even a new puppy.

- What will you do while you're waiting? The Bible says: "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:14
- Do you have some ideas of how you can wait courageously? How can you be strong while you're waiting? *Let kids answer.*

Sit quietly with the Lord for a little bit. Talk to Him about waiting. Maybe you're discouraged that your promise hasn't been fulfilled yet. Maybe you're a little angry or frustrated. Can you trust God? Remember a couple of weeks ago we talked about promises God makes. God promises:

I will be with you. I will protect you. I will be your strength. I will answer you. I will provide for you. I will give you peace. I will always love you.

What are you waiting for?

Are you happy while you're waiting or are you angry or sad? Let's take some time to think about this!

You can pick up a little stone and put it on the happy face or the sad face. Think about how waiting makes you feel and tell Jesus how you feel about it.

He understands. He always loves you.

***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 God has a plan for your life. Sometimes you have to wait for it, but you can't mess it up. He loves you and will forgive you as soon as you ask.***

Encourage kids to share this blessing with a friend near them after you say it over them. Encourage them to try to remember it to say to their parents, grandparents, or guardians.

## 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 Isaac (Gen 17-21)**
2. **What was God's covenant** (remember that is another word for promise) **to Abram?** (That He will make him a father of many nations)
3. **What did Sarah do when she heard that she would have a son?** (She laughed, and said that an old woman cannot have a baby)
4. **Did God keep His promise to Abraham?** (Yes)
5. **Who was the most important descendant of Abraham?** (Hint: Abraham was 14 generations before Him) (Jesus)
6. **What does impossible mean? If you were told that something impossible for man was going to happen, how would you feel?**

**Closing Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank You for being the promise keeper. You promise us that You will be with us, You will protect us, You will be our strength, You will answer us, You will provide for us, You will give us peace, and You will always love us. I pray that You will help us continue to trust in You, and the promises that You give to us.

#### **Older Kids:**

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

1. **Read Gen 17:1-6.**

**What was God's covenant** (remember that is another word for promise) **to Abram?**

**What does the name Abraham mean?** (Father of many nations)

2. **Read Gen 17:15-17.**

**What does the name Sarah mean?** (Mother of nations)

3. **Read Gen 18:9-14.**

**What was Sarah's reaction when she heard that she would have a son?** (She laughed, and said that an old woman cannot have a baby)

4. **Read Gen 21:1-7. Did God keep His promise to Abraham?**

5. **Who was the most important descendant of Abraham?** (Hint Abraham was 14 generations before Him) (Jesus)

6. **What does impossible mean? If you were told that something impossible for man was going to happen, how would you react? Would you react like Sarah and have doubts, thinking it was impossible?**

**Closing Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank You for being the promise keeper. You promise us that You will be with us, You will protect us, You will be our strength, You will answer us, You will provide for us, You will give us peace, and You will always love us. I pray that You will help us continue to trust in You, and the promises that You give to us.

## 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.

#### **Birth of Isaac Coloring Page**

**Supplies:** 1 coloring page per child

**Say:** *It's so exciting to remember that our God is in control and He will always take care of us no matter what. God loves us and takes care of us. Sarah trusted God to take care of her and He gave her a son, Isaac. God Promised Sarah that she would have a son and He kept that promise. God keeps His promises to us, too.*

**Directions:** Pass out a coloring page to each child and have them color using the markers and crayons.

## 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.*



# Is anything too hard for God?

Genesis 18:14



