



God is Faithful – God’s Promise to Abram

Genesis 12 & 15

God Statement: God is Omnipotent!

KEY VERSE:

“God created them as male and female. God blessed them.” Genesis 1:27b-28a, NIRV

CHECK-IN

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you’ve completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child brings money for offering, allow them to put the money in the class offering bank. Thank them for sharing with others.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

CONNECT WITH KIDS

Purpose: Building relationships & prioritizing safety for our youngest children.

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

The 4 Ss are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:

When a child feels...(most of the time)

SAFE: physically and emotionally

SEEN: known and understood

SOOTHED: calmed and supported

They can become **SECURE.**

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 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 Faithful – God’s Promise to Abram

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about Abram. God promised to give him a son.

Say: Abram is a man in the Bible. He lived many years ago. Let’s say Abram together – Abram!

Say: Even though he was very old, God promised to give him a son. A new baby. God is omnipotent (*Flex muscles as you say this*). He can do anything! Even give a baby boy to an old man. And not just one baby but through the years God made Abram’s family grow. More than the stars!

MAKE: The Night Sky

Supplies: ½ sheet black or dark blue construction paper, chalk

Directions: Invite kids to come up to the table a few at a time to complete today’s craft. Each kid gets a half sheet of construction paper and white chalk. Encourage the kids to decorate the paper with stars (or dots). Then, encourage them to try counting the stars after they draw them.

Say: *God told Abram to count the stars in the sky. He would have as many children and grandchildren and great grandchildren as the stars in the sky someday. Can you count how many stars you drew?*

While you are working with each child say:

- Can you make a lot of stars on your paper?
- Can you count your stars?
- How many stars are in the sky?

CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.

Try singing: “Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere.”

LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton’s house for Large Group time.

WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

Offering – ask: Did anyone bring money for an offering today? This money is used to help other people. You may put your money in the class offering bank.

WORSHIP

Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, **go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.**

- *Twinkle, Twinkle (not on video. Sing it with the kids:
Twinkle Twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are. Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky. Twinkle Twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are.*
- *My God is so Big! (He is omnipotent!)*

READ A BIBLE STORY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!

This week, read about a story about God's Friend/God's Promise in **Jesus Calling Storybook p. 42- 43.**

BIG IDEA:

God is omnipotent! He will do what He promises – like giving an old man, like Abram, a child!

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as you read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!

BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God is Faithful – God's Promise to Abram

Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is holding a star. (star sticker or glow-in-the-dark star)

Say: Hamilton! I see you have a star. **Hamilton holds up the star excitedly.** Oh, you went camping? You can see a lot of stars in the dark sky when you're camping. Have any of you ever been camping? Have you seen the stars in the sky at night? We will hear about stars in our story today.

Read the Abram story from the Jesus Calling Storybook on page 42-43.

Say: God has a plan for Abram's family. But Abram didn't have a family yet!

Say: God can do anything! He is OMNIPOTENT! (ahm nip' oh tent) **Flex muscles as you say this word and encourage the kids to flex their muscles.** He can make His plan happen. His plan was for Abram and Sarah to have a family with many, many children. Those would be God's special children. Did you know that each of you are God's special children? God loves each of you SO much!

Say: Hamilton, how does it make you feel to know that you are God's child and He loves you? **Hamilton hugs the teacher and looks excited.** Thanks for helping us learn our story today, Hamilton. Let's all tell Hamilton thank you – Thank you! See you next time, Hamilton. Bye! **Hamilton waves goodbye and goes back to his house.**

SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

We are learning that God is omnipotent. (ahm-nip'-o-tent) He can do anything. Say **“God is OMNIPOTENT”** (Make muscles with your arms every time you say the new word.) Wow! That is a fancy word. Omnipotent! That means that God can do anything. He has all the power! (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times). **God is omnipotent!**

WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)

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.

Encourage class to sit quietly.

Say: God wants us to rest and think about Him. He calls that “Sabbath.” Let’s sit for a minute now and REFLECT on God. You may lie down if you would like.

Say: What is God like? What does He do? He is omnipotent! That means He can do anything. Let’s say “THANK YOU, GOD! WE LOVE YOU.”

Pray to close Large Group time out.

BLESSING (1 minute)

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.

Say: Our verse is **“God created them as male and female. God blessed them.”** (Genesis 1:27b-28a, NIRV)

Have kids hold out hands to receive the blessing:

May you always remember, friends, that created YOU and He blesses YOU.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

PLAY: Twinkle, Twinkle Game

Supplies: none

Directions: Kids should sit on ground in a tight little ball. When you tap them on the shoulder, they can stand up and twirl then sit down again. If you'd like you can add that they "twinkle" their fingers. You can say, "God is omnipotent! He can do anything."

PLAY!

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

Suggestions of activities:

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball

CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent.

Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"