



God is Our Promise Keeper

Genesis 12

God Statement: God Cares for Me

KEY VERSE:

The Lord will keep all His promises.” Psalm 145:13a, NIRV

CHECK-IN

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 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 S's 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**.

READ A BIBLE STORY

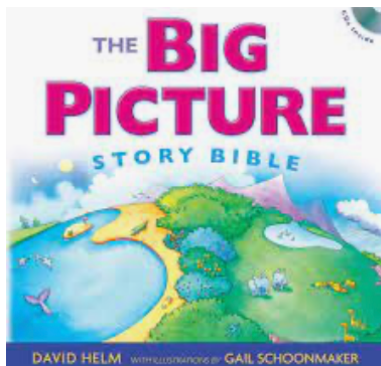
Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!

This month, read about a story about a shepherd named Abraham in *The Big Picture Story Bible* on pages 68-75, 78-81.

BIG IDEA:

Like a good shepherd cares for his sheep, God takes care of us. Let's see how God promises to take care of Abraham when he calls him to move to a new land.

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as your 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!



SING SONGS

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.

This month, please introduce the following songs:

- Jesus Loves Me
- My God is So Big

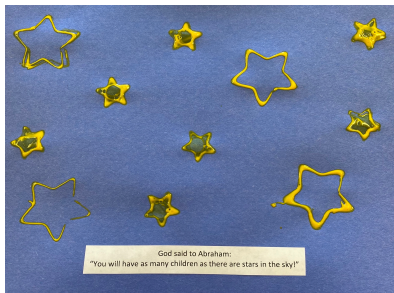
- Father Abraham (not on Plex, lyrics and video link provided below)

LEAD AN ACTIVITY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by doing a variety of learning activities! (Most are designed for 1 year olds.)

WEEK 1: STAR STAMPS / Oct 2 & 3

Highlight God's promise to Abraham about his descendents while you make star stamps.



1. Glue paper strip of story recap at the bottom of blue paper and write child's name and date on the bottom right corner with a black sharpie.
2. Pour white or yellow paint onto a paper plate. Select star cookies cutters, there are a variety of sizes.
3. Assist each child in putting the star shape into the paint.
4. Allow shape to sit in the paint for a few seconds in order to be well covered by paint on all edges.
5. Allow child to decide where to place star shape on paper.
6. Assist them with holding the shape in place to allow adequate paint coverage and then repeat for however many stars they want on their picture.
7. Allow to dry and send home with child at the end of the service.
8. Please be sure to wash paint off of cookie cutters before it dries.

While you are working with each child:

- Talk about how God cares for us and how he keeps his promises.
- Help them count the number of stars on their picture when complete.
- Repeat story recap of God's promise & scripture
 - You will have as many children as there are stars in the sky!
 - "The Lord will keep all His promises." - Psalm 145:13a, NIRV

WEEK 2: Sticky Sheep / Oct 9 & 10

Use Sticky Sheep as a simple and fun activity which allows kids to explore different textures, work on fine motor skills, counting skills, and of course talking about Abraham, who was a shepherd.



1. Use painter's tape to attach sheep to the wall.
2. Remove front side of contact paper to expose sticky side.
3. Allow children to take turns sticking cotton balls onto the body of the sheep.
4. Count with them out loud as you go to make it more fun and interactive.

While you are working with each child:

- Tell them about Abraham and how he worked was a shepherd.
- Explain that a shepherd takes care of sheep. They feed, take care of and keep them safe.
- Share that God takes care of us, like a good shepherd takes care of his sheep!

WEEK 3: COUNTING STARS / Oct 16 & 17

Counting Stars is a fun and easy game to play. As you toss and count, recap the story of Abraham and how God told him, "You will have as many children as there are stars in the sky!"



Have children try to toss the bean bag on a plate. Then countdown to zero from that number. If the bean bag lands on the ten there is a lot more counting to do then when it lands on the number one.

While the children take turns playing:

- After re-reading the story of Abraham, play a simple game of counting stars. God promised that Abraham would have more children than stars in the sky.
- Recite Key Verse: The Lord will keep all His promises." Psalm 145:13a, NIRV
- Did God keep His promise? Yes, He did!
- Celebrate that God is a Promise Keeper!

WEEK 4: ABRAHAM COLORING SHEET / Oct 23 & 24

Have each child color the Abraham coloring sheet.



While the children color the coloring sheet:

- Talk about Abraham and how he was a shepherd.
- Point out the sheep. What sound does a sheep make??
- Count the stars in the sky on the picture.
- Read the God statement and Key Verse.

WEEK 5: PLAY INSTRUMENTS AND SING “FATHER ABRAHAM” / Oct 30 & 31

Get out the instruments and sing Father Abraham.

[Video Link](#) to learn song.

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm, right foot

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot
Chin up

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot
Chin up, turn around

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's just praise the Lord
Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot
Chin up, turn around, sit down

While the children play & sing:

- Dance and sing with them!
- Celebrate that God is a Promise Keeper!
- Pray and thank God for how He takes care of us!

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 for Babies & Younger 1 Year Olds:

- Play Peek-A-Boo
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball
- Roll a large car back and forth
- Take turns putting toys in a bin or bucket

Suggestions of activities for Older 1 Year Olds & 2 Year Olds:

- 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.)

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)!"

PLEASE RETURN:

Use this checklist of items to return at the end of the month.

☐ **Paint**

October 2021 | Babies

- ☐ *Star Cookie Cutters*
- ☐ *Toddler Crayons*
- ☐ *Painter's Tape*

Note: Please keep "The Big Picture Story" Bibles at your campus



God Statement: God Cares For Me

Memory Verse: The Lord will keep all His promises." Psalm 145:13a NIRV