



## 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.*

### **WORSHIP & CHLOE'S RULES**

**Worship Leader & Host**

#### **WORSHIP**

*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!*

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing

them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

### CHLOE'S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe's Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

*\*\*\* After Worship & Chloe's Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.\*\*\**

## MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

### Host

### MAIL TIME!

*Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.*

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

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

**"The Lord will keep all His promises. He is faithful in everything He does." Psalm 145:13, NIRV**

### WARDROBE OF WONDER

*The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.*

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

### What's It: Star

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

**ASK:**

Ohh, I think I know what this star is doing in our Wardrobe today... Do you? Let's hear your guesses. Last week, we heard about the very special promises that God made with Abram. One of those promises was that Abram and Sarai would have as many children/grand children as there are stars in the sky. That's a lot! Can you count all the stars in the sky? I can't either! Let's learn more about this promise and see if God kept his promise to Abram. Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

*\*\*\* After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to 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 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.\*\*\****

## 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.

## 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





