ABRAHAM, A FATHER TO ALL BY FAITH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ROMANS 4:13-25



The STORY

Read about the faith of Abraham in Romans 4:13-25. (The children may have a difficult time following this passage so feel free to review once you have finished or as you go and paraphrase the biblical text where needed.)

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What was the important thing that Abraham did? (Abraham trusted God by faith.)
- What is faith? (Faith is trust in something or for something that has not yet occurred but we believe will one day be there. Faith is also trusting in someone's word about something we didn't see.)
- What did Abraham have to trust God for? (God promised Abraham he would give him a son in his old age and that through this son all the nations on the earth would be blessed.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Abraham praying. Engage the children by asking:

- Why do you think Abraham might have prayed to God? (Abraham depended on God to guide him and lead him, so he might have prayed for God to help him know what to do.)
- How are we like Abraham? (We need to trust God and believe in Him. We need to pray to God for help so we can believe. Faith is a gift we receive from God.)
- What do you think was hardest for Abraham to trust God for? (Accept any answer.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Why is Abraham a good example to us? (Abraham believed God.)
- What do we need to believe about God? (We need to believe that God is real, that God sent His only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins and that Jesus was raised again on the third day.)
- Does everyone believe the Gospel story? (No, everyone does not believe the Gospel story. Only those to whom God gives faith to believe will believe the Gospel story. Even when Jesus was alive on the earth, not everyone believed he was the Son of God.)

Where Is the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Paul directly ties the faith of Abraham trusting in God's future redemption with our trusting in God's past work on the cross and resurrection. Just as Abraham's faith was "counted to him as righteousness" (Romans 4:22) so "It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification." (Romans 4:24-25)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

