

SEPTEMBER

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM
FOUR YEAR OLDS - KINDERGARTEN**

Bottom Line
God Has The
Power To Do
All That He
Promises.



Week

Bible Story

Sep. 4

Abraham and Isaac
Genesis 21 -22



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you...”Jeremiah 29:11, NIV

SUGGESTED CLASS SCHEDULE:

9:35 & 11:35	Activity to introduce the story
9:50 & 11:50	Story & Snack
10:05 & 12:05	Activity to reinforce the story
10:15 & 12:15	Line up to travel to the Island
10:20 & 12:20	Island
10:40 & 12:40	Playtime until parents arrive

NOTE: If you wish to serve a snack, children are only to receive ONE cup of snack, not an unlimited supply.

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LEADER DEVOTIONAL

In Genesis chapter 17, God met with Abraham to remind him of various aspects of their covenant. Upon hearing this, Abraham was so moved that he fell facedown in awe. This reaction is elicited in other places in Scripture when God reveals His glory to His people. Abraham's posture of worship demonstrates reverence and submission before a holy God.

Keri Fox, a worship leader, explains, "Sometimes, positioning ourselves in a physical posture of worship—using our bodies to worship Him— can help to move our hearts to worship God as well." This week, before you participate in your weekend worship service, ask God to reveal Himself to you. Ask Him to free you from distraction so you may hear His voice. As you join with your faith community in a time of corporate worship, be aware of how God is directing you to respond to Him. What is the posture of your heart? What is your physical posture before Him? How does worshipping together with fellow believers impact your time of worship and experience with the Lord?



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STORY BACKGROUND

Genesis, the book of generations, documents not only the start of human history, but also the plan for the redemption of all mankind. Some scholars believe that each genealogy within this book contrasts the messianic lineage with a non-messianic lineage, revealing God's very specific focus to one particular family through whom the Messiah would be revealed.

Throughout the Bible, God refers to Himself in a number of ways. For instance: God Eternal, I AM, and Yahweh. Each time, He reveals a significant attribute about His character. In the first verse of Genesis 17, just before He renews His covenant with Abraham, God reveals Himself as El Shaddai. In English, this translates to God Almighty. Surely, Abraham was shocked that God would promise him a child at the age of 100. Using this name, God was informing Abraham of His ultimate power; He alone is God. He alone is able to accomplish everything He has planned to accomplish.

This moment holds great weight in our lives. God made an amazing promise to Abraham. His covenant with Abraham led to one of the most significant moments in history: the starting point for the family line of Jesus, paving the way to our own salvation. It is because of this family line that we can have a restored relationship with God the Father. We are ushered into God's family, grafting us into a faith community that stretches around the globe. We have brothers and sisters from every tribe and nation. This family, our family, has the unique opportunity to walk alongside one another in true worship of God Almighty. We can live in such a way that the world will desire to be in relationship with our God— El Shaddai.



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SEP. 4

Make It Fun:

The Name Game

The Name Game

What You Need: bean bag

What you do: Have the children sit around the floor. Encourage them to sing and play along with you. This would be a great game for the student leaders to lead.

What You Say:

"God made a way for us to be part of His family forever and ever! Since we all get to be part of God's family, let's play a game to learn one another's names. I'll start us off by singing a song, and when I pass the beanbag to you, you'll say your name. Then, we'll all repeat your name. Are you ready?"

To the tune of "Frère Jacques":

What is your name? What is your name?

Tell us please. Tell us please.

We would like to meet you. We would like to meet you.

What's your name? What's your name?

The child holding the beanbag will then pass it to the child seated next to him and the process is repeated until every child has a chance to say her name.



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SEP. 4

Make It True:

It is important to hold the Bible open while telling the story. We want the children to know that stories we tell are from God's Word and all of God's words are true.

Bible Story for Four's - Kindergarten

What You Need: A marked to Genesis 21:1-7; 22: 1-19 with lesson below.

SGL: I am so happy to see everyone this week. We have been learning about a man named Abraham. Can you tell me what is a covenant? (A special promise that can never be broken.) Hold your Bible up...What is this? That is right. It is the Bible. It is God's words and all His words are....(wait for the kids to answer) TRUE. Today, we learn more about Abraham. It may

seem like a crazy story, but remember that all of God's words are true and this shows us how strong Abraham's faith to God is and that God keeps all of His promises. Let's open our Bibles to Genesis (the 1st book of the Bible), chapter 21: 1-7; 22:1-19. (NOTE: Have your student leaders assist in finding the book and chapter with the children.)

God told Abraham that his wife, Sarah, was going to have a baby. When God made this promise to Abraham, Abraham and Sarah were getting older. They were certainly way too old to have a baby. But God had made them a promise. He was going to work a miracle and give Abraham and Sarah a child ... and we know that God never breaks His promises!

After God made the promise, Abraham and Sarah had to wait a long, long time before they had their son! Have you ever had to wait a very long time for something? How does it feel? (Begin to act out what it looks like to be patient. Then show what it looks like to be wiggly with impatience. Allow this to be a silly and very impatient moment.) When I have to wait, I get really excited, and impatient, and my whole body starts to feel all wiggly and I just can't sit still ... Do you know that feeling? Imagine feeling that way for ... a long ... long time!

It states in Genesis 21, (1) "Now the LORD was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised. (2) Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. (3) Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him. (5) Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. (6) Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me." A son was born as God promised. Isaac's name means "he laughs". Wow, that is so amazing!

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Now when Isaac was a young boy, God appeared to his dad Abraham and commanded him to sacrifice his son, Isaac, to God. Huh? Offer him as a offering to God? That

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Bible Story for Four's - Kindergarten (cont'd)

doesn't make sense since God promised to make Abraham a great nation. Let's see what the Bible has to say about this. In Genesis 22 it reads, "Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!." "Here I am," he replied. (2) Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." (3) Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. (4) On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. (5) He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." (6) Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, (7) Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

(8) Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

(9) When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. (10) Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. (11) But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

(12) "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

(13) Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. (15) The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time (16) and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, (17) I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, (18) and through your offspring all

nations on earth will be blessed because you have obeyed me."

Such an incredible story. Our God is so big, so mighty, and so powerful that nothing stops Him from keeping His promises!

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Bible Story for Four's - Kindergarten (cont'd)

It didn't make sense for Abraham to sacrifice his only son, but he was willing to do it for God. It didn't make sense to us for God to sacrifice His only son for our sins, but He did. Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. We need to accept Him as our Savior and that He is the ultimate promise to us. (NOTE: this is a great opening for you to offer the Plan of Salvation to the children.)

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SEP. 4

Make It Fun:

God's Promise

God's Promise

What You Need: God's Promise on card stock (1 per person), markers, glue sticks, items to use to decorate (yarn for hair, googly eyes, fabric scraps, buttons, or sequins)

What You Do: Have the children join you at the table. Pass out the Bible verse sheets. Read over the Bible Verse with the kids and have them repeat it after to you. Then allow them to decorate their sheets. Have student leaders assist in writing the children's name on their sheets.

What You Say:

"Even back in when Abraham was 100 years old, God knew the plans He had for Abraham and He kept His promises to Abraham. Our God is so big, so mighty, and so powerful that nothing stops Him from keeping His promises! Let's recite our Bible verse and then decorate our sheets. You can take them home and ask your parents to hang this in your room to always remember God has a plan for you."



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