



God Builds a Nation

The Story — Lesson 2

Scripture: Genesis 12:1—21:7

Key Verse: “Abram believed the Lord. The Lord accepted Abram because he believed. So his faith made him right with the Lord.” —Genesis 15:6, NIV

Bible Truth: Abraham trusted and obeyed God. God gives me faith to trust and obey him, too.

Age 2—rising 2nd grade: Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 2: “Abraham Follows God”

Rising 3rd—6th grades: Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 2: “God Builds a Nation”

STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you are going to spend a few minutes studying God’s word together.

Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for choosing us to be His children. Ask your younger kids if they are good at following directions. Give a few simple instructions to follow (stand up, sit down, touch your nose). Ask, “**Was it easy to follow my directions? When is it difficult to obey instructions? What about when you’re asked to clean up your toys or go to bed?**” Say, “**God asked Abraham to go to a new land. In our Bible story today, we are going to hear about how Abraham chose to obey God, even though it was hard.**”

Ask your older kids what they would ask for if they could have as much of it as they want. What are some things that it is good to have a lot of? What are some things that would be difficult to have a lot of? Say, “**In our Bible story today, God promises Abraham he’s going to have a lot of something that he doesn’t have any of! Let’s find out about that.**”

STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today’s story from your copy of *The Story*, or read Genesis 12:1-9 and 15:1-21 together.

STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today’s story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer. **Question 4:** How can you glorify God? (By loving Him and doing what He commands.)

Question 5: Why are you to glorify God? (Because He made me and takes care of me.)

STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) John 15:15-17 in your Bible. Explain to your child that it was God who took the initiative in calling Abraham and making a covenant with him. In the same way, God takes the initiative in rescuing us and calling us into a relationship with Himself. Pray and thank God for calling us His friends, and for fulfilling His promise to Abraham by sending Jesus to rescue us and make us part of His forever family.

MONDAY

Read Genesis 12:1-5

Ask What did God tell Abraham to do?

Read Hebrews 11:8

Pray and ask God to give you faith to obey His commands, no matter how hard that may be.

TUESDAY

Read Genesis 13:14-16

Ask What did God mean about the size of Abraham's family when He told Abraham "I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth" in verse 16?

Read Galatians 3:29

Pray and thank God for sending Christ so that you could be part of the family He started long ago.

WEDNESDAY

Read Genesis 15:1-6

Ask What did God tell Abraham about the family He would give him in verse 5?

Read Hebrews 11:12

Pray and thank God for always keeping His promises!

THURSDAY

Read Genesis 17:1-5

Ask How did God describe Himself in verse 1?

Read Galatians 3:7-9

Pray and ask God for the gift of faith to believe in His promises and to trust in His Son Jesus, so that you may be part of His forever family.

FRIDAY

Read Genesis 21:5

Ask How old was Abraham when God kept His promise? Have you ever had to wait a very long time for something you wanted?

Read Romans 4:20-21 (*the "him" in this verse is Abraham*)

Pray and ask God to forgive you for the ways you've failed to honor Him, and thank Him for sending Jesus to take the punishment for those sins so that you can be part of His forever family. Praise God that He always keeps His promises, and ask for faith, like Abraham, to trust and obey Him.