

LESSON 3: ABRAM GIVES LOT THE BEST LAND

Leader Guide for Grades 1 & 2

Classroom: Greenhouse Kids

 Genesis 13

09/01/2019

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Genesis 13
- In This Passage: Abram is Lot's uncle, and the two live and travel together. But because God has given them so many animals, they need to split up. Abram lets Lot choose which land he wants, and Lot chooses the side that looks better. God is giving, and Abram reflected God's giving heart by letting Lot have the better land.
- Bible Point: God is giving...
- Application: ...so we're giving.
- Summary Verse: "Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding" (Isaiah 40:28).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God is giving.* Kids will readily identify with this story, but on a smaller scale. They've likely had instances of breaking a cookie in half or cutting a piece of cake to share and wanting the bigger piece. Help kids see how Abram gave out of gratitude for all God had given him and trusted that God would continue to provide. Inspire kids to do the same...even if it means choosing the smaller half of a yummy dessert.
- Think About: What has God given you? When have you been blessed by giving to others?

Dig In to Prayer

- Pray that God would give your kids generous hearts that reflect him to the world around them.

Quick Tip

- When you talk about giving with kids, some of them will automatically think of giving away things they don't want (such as a little brother!). Help kids see God's generosity in giving away things he valued and that the recipients valued. Help them see how Abram gave away the better land, even though he likely wanted it. Encourage kids to reflect God's generous heart by giving sacrificially.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



OBJECT LESSON

Kids add paper clips to cups full of water.

Supplies

- Bible
- plastic cups (1 for every 2 kids)
- pitcher of water
- supply of jumbo paper clips



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Kids act out the Bible story, experience three different locations, and talk about ways they can give.

Supplies

- Bible
- pillows
- toys
- chairs (at least 4)
- large bedsheet or blanket
- small snack
- 3-ounce paper cups
- pitcher of water
- masking tape

Easy Prep

- Using masking tape, section off 3 areas in your room. One area should be empty. Another should contain the pillows, toys, small snack, small cups, and a pitcher of water. In a third area of your room, place the chairs, large bedsheet or blanket, and roll of masking tape. Make each area large enough so all the children will fit.



CRAFT

Kids make wallets.

Supplies

- 9x12 self-adhesive laminating sheets (1 per child)
- 9x12 sheets of colored construction paper (1 per child)
- crayons
- glue sticks
- colorful duct tape
- Velcro (2-inch strip per child)

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids play a game of Go Fish.

Supplies

- playing cards (1 deck for every 5 kids)

Easy Prep

- Remove the jokers from each deck, and shuffle each deck well.



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Kids run to share gifts with friends.

Supplies

- paper in various colors (at least 3 pieces per child)
- masking tape
- music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Use masking tape to make 3x3-foot squares around the perimeter of the room. You'll need 1 square for every 5 kids.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids pray about giving, and then they share with someone.

Supplies

- small treats, such as wrapped pieces of candy (2 per child)

**Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



OPENING

Welcome

[5 min]

Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having kids shout this birthday cheer: "Two, four, six, eight; it's birthday time, let's celebrate! Gooooo, [names of birthday kids]!"
- Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we'll read in the Bible about how God is giving. God gives us everything we have, and he's happy to give to us! The Bible tells how God gave a man named Abram a special place to live. We'll see what Abram did with that special place to live. Let's start today by thinking about special places in *our* homes.**

Share

- Share about *your* favorite room in your home that you like to have to yourself now and then.
- In small groups, have kids share about *their* favorite areas in their homes.
- After small groups have discussed, have a few kids share with the whole group what they talked about in their small groups.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **Those all sound like special places. It's nice to have a place we feel happy and comfortable. God gave Abram a place like that because God is giving. The Bible tells us about all kinds of ways that God gives to us, too. God talks to us through the Bible. Let's listen to God as we hear from the Bible today.**

Pray, thanking God for being giving.



OBJECT LESSON

Keep Giving!

[10 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- plastic cups (1 for every 2 kids)
- pitcher of water
- supply of jumbo paper clips



Tip

- Our 16-ounce cup held 122 paper clips!

Fill the Cups

Say: **Let's fill our cups with water. We'll give each cup *lots* of water so it almost spills over the sides!**

- Form groups of five kids, and give each group an empty cup and two handfuls of paper clips. Assign an adult or teen helper to each small group.
- Pour water into each group's cup, filling it all the way to the brim without letting it overflow.

Add Paper Clips

Say: **Your cups look really full! It doesn't look like there's room to give the cup anything else to hold. But let's give the cups something else. Let's give paper clips!**

- Have kids in each group take turns adding paper clips while their adult or teen helper counts to see how many the cup will hold before water spills.
- Continue until they run out of paper clips or until water drips over the side of the cup.

Talk About It

Say: **Just like we gave our cups of water more and more paper clips, God gives us more and more good things. Sometimes we call good things from God *blessings*. God gives us so many blessings, and he keeps giving over and over. When we're friends with God, we want to give to others, too!**

Tell about times you give over and over to a friend or family member. Perhaps you cook dinner for family members every evening or you often like to stop and buy coffee for a coworker.

Ask: • **When have you given something to someone over and over?** Kids might talk about sharing candy with a sibling or letting friends play with their favorite toy every time they come for a play date.

Say: **God is giving. He keeps giving us more and more good things so we overflow with love and can keep giving gifts to others. There is a verse in the Bible that talks about what happens when we give and give to others. Read Luke 6:38. When we give to others, God blesses us with gifts in return.**

Sometimes they are gifts we can see, and other times God's blessings are happy feelings we have in our hearts. Let's give our friends the gift of a high-five! Encourage kids to give high-fives before cleaning up the paper clips and water.

**Abram Gives Lot the Best Land (Genesis 13)**

Supplies

- Bible
- pillows
- toys
- chairs (at least 4)
- large bedsheet or blanket
- small snack
- 3-ounce paper cups
- pitcher of water
- masking tape

Easy Prep

- Using masking tape, section off 3 areas in your room. One area should be empty. Another should contain the pillows, toys, small snack, small cups, and a pitcher of water. In a third area of your room, place the chairs, large bedsheet or blanket, and roll of masking tape. Make each area large enough so all the children will fit.

Travel and Pitch Tents

Say: **Today we're learning that God is giving. He gives us so much!**

Share several things God gives *you* to help kids get an idea of all the types of things God gives. For example, you might share that God gives you your family, friends, and church family, and explain why those people are blessings to you. You might also share that God gives you a job so you can take care of your family and buy food and have a place to live. You might also share that God gives you joy and happiness, a thinking mind, and a body that can walk and move.

Ask: • **What are some things God gives you?** Take note of examples children share so you can refer to them at the end of the lesson.

Show the Bible. Say: **The Bible tells us about how God gave so much to a man named Abram.**

Abram was thankful for all God gave him, and Abram wanted to be giving, too! Let's find out more about that.

Read Genesis 13:1, and then lead the children in traveling around the room. Say: **Abram moved with his family to a new land.**

Stop near the chairs, and say: **Let's settle here and build a tent.** Begin to make a tent using the chairs and the bedsheet. Use the masking tape to keep the bedsheet in place over the chairs. Purposefully make it too small for all the children to fit. As you're working, encourage the children to help you build the tent.

Have the children attempt to squeeze into the tent. Say: **It sure is tight in here. That's like how it was with Abram's family. Abram stopped in a place that wasn't big enough for everyone. Abram was there with his wife and his many animals and lots of family members. Abram's nephew, named Lot, was also with him. Lot had many animals, too!**

Tell about a time there wasn't enough of something for all the people in a group. You might share about a family dinner or party where there wasn't quite enough food for all the people who came. Or you might share about a time your children both wanted to play with one toy at the same time and had to take turns.

Say: **Maybe that's happened to you—maybe there wasn't enough of a snack for your whole family, or maybe there weren't enough swings on the playground for everyone.**

Ask: • **How do you feel when there doesn't seem to be enough for everyone?**

Visit Each Place

Say: **Abram's and Lot's families had trouble getting along when there wasn't enough space or land for everyone. They were starting to get in fights. So Abram said, "Let's not fight. We can live in two separate places so we can all fit. You choose which place you want to live in, and I'll move to the other**

place.” Abram wasn’t worried about having enough because he remembered that God is giving and God would take care of both him *and* Lot.

Point to the three places you prepared ahead of time. Say: **Let’s pretend these three areas are like the places Lot had to choose from. One wasn’t as nice as the other.** Lead children to the empty section of your room. **Abram didn’t mind giving Lot the better place because he knew God would take care of him. He was sure that God is giving and God would give him everything he needed, even in the place that wasn’t so nice.**

Lot chose the best place to live. Lead children to the area of your room with the pillows, toys, and snacks. Say: **Lot moved his family to a beautiful land that had plenty of water. Look at where we are right now.** Allow children to enjoy the “better place” for about five minutes. They can play with the toys, relax on the pillows, and have a snack.

Ask: • **Which place would you choose?** Point to the three areas of the room, and encourage children to explain their choices.

Say: **Even though Lot had a beautiful, rich place to live, Abram wasn’t sad or worried. God promised to give Abram even *more* land and a great big family. God is giving, and Abram knew it! God kept his promise and gave Abram’s family everything they needed.**

Talk About Ways We Can Give

Say: **Abram was thankful to God and gave to others, too. Abram gave Lot the better land. Because God is giving to us, we can be giving to others.** Remind children of the examples they shared of ways God is giving to them.

Say: **Abram used what God gave him to give to others. Let’s think of ways we can give to others.** Help children think of ways they can give to others, such as the following:

- We can be giving by taking turns with our brothers or sisters when we want to watch a different movie or TV show.
- We can be giving by introducing new kids to our friends and welcoming them into our friendship circle.
- We can be giving by sharing a snack with someone who doesn’t have one.
- We can be giving by inviting a friend over to play.
- We can be giving by letting someone play with a toy first.
- Our families can be giving by donating money to good causes and our church.

Say: **God is giving, and he’s given you and me so much! Sometimes we can forget that when there’s not enough of something—kind of like how Abram’s and Lot’s families fought when there wasn’t enough space for both of them. But Abram remembered that God takes care of him and gives him everything he needs. Abram was giving—he let Lot have the best land. We can be giving, too, knowing that God is giving and he’ll take care of us.**



CRAFT

Wallets

[20 min]

Supplies

- 9x12 self-adhesive laminating sheets (1 per child)
- 9x12 sheets of colored construction paper (1 per child)
- crayons
- glue sticks
- colorful duct tape
- Velcro (2-inch strip per child)

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Talk About It

Say: In our Bible story, Abram gave his nephew Lot the best land to live on. Abram knew God is giving and would take care of him. And God did! God gave Abram and his family everything they needed. God is giving to us, too. One way we thank God for everything he's given us is to give part of what we have back to him.

Explain how kids are able to participate in tithing or giving an offering at your church.

Assemble Wallets

Show kids the sample craft.

Say: **Today you'll make a wallet you can use to keep your money in. It can remind you of how much God has given you and how we can give some of what we have back to him!**

- Give each child a sheet of construction paper, and have kids color one side of the paper. Encourage kids to fill the entire page with drawings.
- As each child finishes coloring, peel off the backing from a laminating sheet and lay the adhesive side of the sheet over the child's drawing.
- Have kids turn the paper over to the undecorated, unlaminated side and cover this side in glue.
- Have kids fold the paper in half widthwise and press the sides together.
- Kids will now have a 6x9-inch rectangle. Have kids fold the bottom of the rectangle up so it's 1 inch from the top.



- Give each child two 4-inch lengths of duct tape, and have kids tape the sides of their wallets together.
- Have kids fold the 1-inch top section of paper over the opening of the “pouch” and add the Velcro strips to fasten the opening shut.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Cheerful Giver

[10 min]

Supplies

- playing cards (1 deck for every 5 kids)

Easy Prep

- Remove the jokers from each deck, and shuffle each deck well.

Play a Game of Go Fish

Say: **Our story from the Bible today was amazing because Abram did a generous thing for his nephew Lot. Let's play a fun game where you can see how hard or easy it is to be a cheerful giver like Abram.**

- Form groups of five, and give each group one deck of playing cards.
- Have each group sit in a circle or around a table, and give five cards to each child.
- Place the remaining cards facedown in a pile in the center of the group.
- Kids can look at their cards to see if they have four cards of the same number—a four of a kind. If anyone does, he or she can lay those cards down in a pile nearby to count as a point; then the child can draw four new cards.
- If no one has a four of a kind, the game can begin.
- Kids will look over their cards to see if they have any matching numbers. If they do, they'll ask others for cards of that number to try to get four of a kind. If they don't have any matching numbers yet, they can pick whatever number they like from the cards they're holding.
- Invite the person with the birthday closest to today to be the first to go "fishing." The "Fisher" will ask any other player for a card with the desired number.
- If the person has the card the Fisher asked for, he or she must give it to the Fisher, even if it's a number he or she is also trying to collect.
- When a Fisher asks for a card that the other child doesn't have, he or she will respond with "Go fish." Then the Fisher will draw one card from the center pile. If it's the number the Fisher asked for, he or she gets to go again. If not, the next person in the circle, moving clockwise, will get a turn and can ask anyone for a card.
- Encourage kids to pay attention to what cards other players are asking for because it gives clues about the cards they have, and they might identify someone who has a card they're looking for.
- If a person runs out of cards and there are cards left in the center, he or she can draw five new cards.
- The game ends when kids have matched up all the sets of cards or when time is up. The person with the most piles of four of a kind wins.

Talk About It

Ask: • **What was it like to be asked for a card you really wanted to keep?**

• **Tell about a time you gave away something valuable or let someone else have first choice.** Share an example from your life such as giving money to someone in need or allowing a travel companion first choice of where to sit on an airplane.

Say: **God is giving, and he gives so much to us with a cheerful heart. When we give cheerfully, without complaining or letting ourselves be jealous, it makes giving a lot of fun. There's joy in knowing you've done something good for someone else, and we can be part of the way God gives to others.**



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Giving Gifts

[10 min]

Supplies

- paper in various colors (at least 3 pieces per child)
- masking tape
- music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Use masking tape to make 3x3-foot squares around the perimeter of the room. You'll need 1 square for every 5 kids.

Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the album [here](#).

Crumple Paper Into Wads

Say: **Let's play a game where we'll give gifts to other teams. But first we need to make the gifts.**

- Form teams of five, and have each team move to a square in the room.
- Give each team one color of paper.
- Have kids crumple the paper into wads and place them in their team's square.

Take Gifts to Other Squares

Say: **You've made very colorful gifts. Now let's run and give them to others! We'll try to fill up all the teams' squares with colorful paper wads.**

- When the music starts, each child will pick up one paper wad and run to drop it in any other team's square. Kids will then run back to pick up another paper wad from their square to deliver.
- Play for several minutes. Remind kids that they can carry only one paper wad at a time and that they need to run and take paper wads to all the other groups' squares and not just move them to squares that are close by.
- Stop the music after several minutes, and have kids return to their original squares.

Talk About It

Say: **Look! Each team started out with only one color in their square, but now the squares have many colors. That shows us how well we were sharing with each other. You were all givers! God is giving, too. He gives us gifts because he loves us. We can give gifts to other people, too.**

Tell about a gift that *you* could give to someone else. Perhaps it's a high-five, a handwritten note, or a special coffee drink.

Ask: • **What's a gift that you can give people to show you love them?** Kids might mention giving hugs, sharing toys, or offering candy.

Say: **When we give to others, we're sharing God's love.** Have kids give a friend a hug or high-five and say "God is giving!" If time allows, have kids sort the paper wads by color and then play again.



Supplies

- small treats, such as wrapped pieces of candy (2 per child)

Receive a Gift

Give each child two small treats, and ask kids not to eat them yet. Say: **I gave you two small gifts. Since we're learning today that God is giving, I wonder if you would give one of your gifts away. You can give it to someone in the room or you can save it to give to a parent, brother, sister, or neighbor when you go home. Maybe you could give your treat to someone who you know is sad to cheer that person up. Because God is giving, it helps us want to give and share, too!**

Tell about who *you* want to give one of your special treats to.

Ask: • **Tell about the person *you* want to give one of your special treats to.**

Pray About Giving

Say: **Sometimes it's easy to be giving, and other times we don't want to give up what we have. But God is giving, so he'll help us be giving, too. Let's ask God to help us give with cheerful hearts.**

Have the children hold their treats in their hands as you lead them in a prayer, asking God to help them give with cheerful hearts and thanking God for all the ways he gives to you.

If there are children who want to give to someone in your class, allow them to do that now. Then say: **God loves when we're giving. Let's try to find ways to share and give to others this week. I hope I'll see you all back next week, too, and we can celebrate how God is so giving again!**

When parents pick up their children, let them know that their children have a treat to give to someone who they've already chosen.