

LESSON 3: ABRAM GIVES LOT THE BEST LAND

Leader Guide for Ages 3-6

Classroom: Monkeys

 Genesis 13

09/15/2019

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

Preschoolers share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Preschoolers 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.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Preschoolers 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.



Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have preschoolers link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by saying “happy birthday” with an extra “happy” as many times as the child is old. If the child is turning 10, they’d say, “Happy, happy, happy, happy, happy, happy, happy, happy, happy, happy birthday!”
- 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 leader-led small groups, have preschoolers share about *their* favorite areas in their homes.
- After small groups have discussed, have adult or teen helpers 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 where 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.

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

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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 preschool-friendly things God gives *you* to help preschoolers 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.** If needed, explain what a nephew is. **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.**



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.