

Isaac - God's Promise

Genesis 22-24

Introduction:

Context: Give the kids some connection between the last few lessons and today's lesson.

- ★ The last two weeks, we have talked about two different men that God made promises to - and God kept His promise. Noah was saved from a world full of wicked people that God wiped out with a flood. God promised to never again destroy the world with a flood. And He hasn't. Then, many years later, God promised Abraham a son and a really, really big family. There are still people alive today who are related to Abraham - that's how big his family is. And God promised to send Jesus, the Savior, into that family - and He did.

Story: Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

- ★ When Abraham was 100 years old, Sarah gave birth to a baby boy. They called the baby Isaac (which means laughter.) Imagine how happy they were to have a son after all the years that they had been married and childless. Abraham loved Isaac very much. Isaac was the child that God had promised. But one day, God spoke to Abraham and told him to offer Isaac up as a sacrifice. Abraham must have been very sad, but he knew what God had told him to do. Isaac was to be the one that a great nation would come through and Abraham did not understand why God was asking him to do this, but he trusted that God knew best.

Abraham and Isaac traveled for a few days to get to the place that God had told him to go to. There he was to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to God.

At the very last moment, an angel of the Lord called out to Abraham and told him not to harm the boy.

God had been testing Abraham. He knew that if Abraham was willing to give up his only son, that he was completely trusting God. God promised to bless Abraham. He said that he would give Abraham as many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as the number of stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore.

★ **Christ Connection:** This was God's plan all along. Through Abraham's family, God would send Jesus, the savior of the whole world.

When Isaac became a grown man, he married a woman named Rebekah. They had twin sons named Esau and Jacob. Jacob would later have many children. Twelve of them would be sons. These sons would become the 12 tribes of Israel. Through one of these tribes, Judah, Jesus would come.

God kept His promises to Abraham. He indeed became the father of many and most importantly, the savior of the world would be born into this family.

Follow Up: As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.

★ **Examine:**

- Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
- Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"

★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"

★ **Prayer**

Memory Verse: Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

There is a new verse or set of verses each week. On the weekly take home sheet, the verses are printed. If they come back the following week with it memorized, they can pick a prize (either from the classroom stash at the end of the lesson OR give them a ticket to pick a prize from the check in desk).

★ **Verse:** Genesis 22:17 CSB - I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the city gates of their enemies.

★ **Bonus:** Genesis 22:18 CSB - And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring because you have obeyed my command.

Memory Verse Practice:

Song: Every age group: Play the Books of the Bible song. Encourage kids to sing along. When in the Old Testament, play that song; when in the New Testament, play that song.

Verse Look Up: Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- **Rainbow Tip:** Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Have them open just to the book of the Bible.
- **Fireweed Tip:** Do the Rainbow tip above and then have them find the chapter and verse.

Practice the Verse:

- **Rainbow:** Not necessary :)
- **Fireweed:** Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- **Trees & Mountains:** Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines for

the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

Books of the Bible:

- If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.
 - Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

Sticky Activities: No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities. Please see the following pages for activity ideas. You do not even need to use these, but I wanted to provide some ideas :)

Send Home Page: These are ¼ sheets of paper. Please send home with kids each week. They include the lesson title and passage, memory verses, an activity, and links :)

Sticky Activities

- Isaac- God's Promise coloring sheet
- True way kids cotton ball goat / God provides
- Am I Willing to Sacrifice object lesson
- Coded words for Abraham worksheet

Memory Verse:

I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the city gates of their enemies.

Genesis 22:17

Verse by Phrase

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Then cut each section apart on the lines. Mix up the phrases and put each set in its own envelope. Help the students and make sure they get it right.

Students can work by themselves or in partners.

Students: Take the phrases and use the Bible/memory verse poster to help you put the verse back in order.

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- Bonus:Genesis 22:18 CSB - And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring because you have obeyed my command.

***Kids that bring this paper back next week and recite the memory verse to the teacher earn a prize ☺**

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Craft: Isaac, the Son of Promise



Preschool Sunday School Lesson 14

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**Link to Old Testament
Books Song**

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Craft - God will provide



What you need

Template page,
Coloring pencils,
Glue,
Cotton balls.

What to do



Color the template page



Cover the ram in glue



Stick cotton balls over the
ram. Allow to dry.

God will provide

Genesis 22:8





Am I Willing to Sacrifice?

Some stories in the Bible lend themselves to crafts and colouring sheets. This is not one of them.

There is no way to lightly depict a father being asked to kill and sacrifice his precious son. The story of [Abraham Preparing to Sacrifice His Son](#) is a test of faith like no other.

Of course, even as Abraham was about to carry through with what God had told him to do, an angel intervened and stopped him. Yes, Abraham had reasoned that God would not ask this unless he planned to bring his son, Isaac, back from the dead after the sacrifice ([Hebrews 11:17-19](#)). But even so, there was a father and a son and a knife.

As difficult it is to comprehend the events of [Genesis 22:1-18](#) they are only a foreshadowing of another time, later in history, when another father allows his son to be sacrificed on a cross.

I wanted the children in my Bible class to contemplate sacrifice. I wanted them to think about what it would mean to love and trust God so much that we would be willing to give up something we hold precious. Abraham passed the test and showed he was willing to go to any extreme God asked of him. Would we pass that test?

The following activity meant a lot to my group of kids so I thought you might like to try it too. Like Abraham, they will be taken to the very edge in contemplating sacrifice but then they will not actually be sacrificing.

I would suggest you speak calmly and not too fast so that you create an environment of contemplation among the children.

Supplies you will need:

- Enough paper so that each child will have a few small sheets of paper
- Pens or pencils
- Some flat stones
- Something upon which to place the stones (I used a round metal pizza pan)
- An empty box of matches

Instructions:

After telling [the story of Abraham and Isaac](#) further discuss how God was more important to Abraham than anything or anyone. Abraham proved that he was willing to sacrifice even the most important thing in his life, his son. Is God that precious to us? What would we be willing to sacrifice if we were tested?

1. Have the children write or draw what is important or precious to them on small pieces of paper. One item on each piece of paper. As they write you can already begin asking them whether the thing written on their paper is as important as God. Keep in mind that this is not about good or bad. They will be writing down some very good things and people. This is about whether or not God is more important than even the MOST precious things.
2. After they have written for a little while then bring out the stones and stack them together to form an altar. My class was sitting at a table so I placed the stones on the metal pizza pan in the centre of the table. The children

immediately recognised it was an altar.

3. Now ask the children to think carefully about what they have written on their papers and whether or not they would be willing to give them up (sacrifice them) if God asked them to.
If they are willing to give it up then have them scrunch up the piece of paper and place it on the altar. Don't rush this. Allow them to really consider. More than one child in my class was not ready to "sacrifice" what they had written but, after some thought, bravely decided to do so. When they place something on the altar be sure and tell them you understand how difficult it is and are proud they have made that decision. After all, sacrifice is difficult for children just like it is difficult for us adults!
4. Once the papers are all on the "altar" then bring out the matchbox. When you seem to be ready to burn all of these sacrifices then open the matchbox to show that it is empty.

At this point continue the conversation to relate the activity back to Abraham. Here is what I said, "Of course we are not going to burn all of these things. God wants us to enjoy all of these blessings in our lives. After all, many of these people and things are very good for us and he does not want us to give them up.

But God DOES want us to understand that HE is more important than even the best things in our lives. Isaac was the best thing in Abraham's life but Abraham's willingness to sacrifice him showed that God was even more important than his beloved son.

In today's bible lesson we learn that God tested Abraham to see if he was willing to give up Isaac if it was for God. Abraham passed the test.

And guess what? Today we have had a kind of test. YOU were willing to give up your precious things if it was for God. You showed that God is more important than all of these things. You passed the test. I am so proud of you."

At the conclusion of the activity I prayed out loud for each child individually.



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Coded Words for Abraham Had a Son

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

19 1 18 1 8

2 18 5 1 4

9 19 1 1 3

16 18 15 13 9 19 5

20 18 1 22 5 12 5 18 19

God can

4 15 1 14 25 20 8 9 14 7

He says

8 5 23 9 12 12 4 15 .

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S A R A H
19 1 18 1 8

B R E A D
2 18 5 1 4

I S A A C
9 19 1 1 3

P R O M I S E
16 18 15 13 9 19 5

T R A V E L E R S
20 18 1 22 5 12 5 18 19

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G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

God can D O A N Y T H I N G
4 15 1 14 25 20 8 9 14 7

He says H E W I L L D O .
8 5 23 9 12 12 4 15

GOD

keeps His
PROMISES

