

Worth the Wait

Materials

- ☐ “Simple” treats—crackers
- ☐ “Better” treats—brownies, cake, full-sized candy bar, etc. for each student

Instructions

Before class begins, show the simple treat (crackers) to the students. Offer them to the students then show them the better treat. Give them the choice to eat the crackers now or wait until later in class to get the better treat. They can't have both!

If students agree to wait, continue with the lesson without eating any treats. Pass out the better treats when appropriate later in the lesson and continue with the discussion below.

Suggested Discussion

We talked a little about earthly rewards and heavenly rewards today, didn't we? Abram had the promise of earthly rewards, but he did not see them in his lifetime. He also had the promise of heavenly rewards, the heavenly city that God had prepared for him. He continued to be faithful to God because he trusted that the heavenly rewards would be worth the wait.

That's like our treats. The crackers may have looked good to you when you first saw them. But you were all willing to wait for the “better” treat. And it was worth the wait, right?

That is like the rewards of the world and the rewards of God. What the Lord has promised for all of eternity is so much better than anything the world has to offer, and it is worth waiting for. The Lord has promised forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven for all of His children—to all who receive and trust in Jesus Christ.

Follow the Leader

Materials

- ☐ A long jump rope or other rope
- ☐ Optional: snacks

Instructions

Have students line up behind you and hold on to the rope. Explain that they will use the rope to follow you in an orderly manner wherever you lead them.

Lead the children around the room, out into the hall, into another room, or maybe even outside. Lead them to the place you planned to bring them, preferably out of the room—to a place they would normally not go in the church.

Optional: Have snacks waiting for the students at the end.

Suggested Discussion

You just followed me around the room, down the hall, back into the room, back out into the hall . . . *Wherever you have led them.*

- ? Did you know where I was taking you? *No!*
- ? You didn't know where we were going, but you followed. Who did we hear about from the Bible today—a man who followed God's lead? *Abram (or Abraham).*

Yes. Abram became a great man of faith. He followed God's lead. God told him to get up and leave his home. And Abram trusted God and obeyed him even though he didn't know where God was taking him.

God calls us to trust him, listen to him, learn his Word, and obey him. Just the way you followed me—we should ALL follow God. God knows what's best for us. We can trust him even when he asks us to do something we don't understand. But in order to follow God, we need to know him.

- ? What book tells us how to know God? *The Bible.*

That's right. When we read and listen to the Bible, our faith in God will grow.

Lead Me Game

Option for 4th-5th only;

PreK-2nd may do in children's church

Materials

- ☐ One scarf
- ☐ Optional: masking tape

Instructions

Choose two students. Show them an object. Explain that you will put the object somewhere in the room. One of the students will be blindfolded with the scarf, and the other student needs to lead him to the object.

Quietly place the object somewhere in the room so the blindfolded student must trust the other student to lead him silently to the object. Then have the student take off the blindfold to see where he ended up.

Switch students and play again, moving the object to a new place each time.

Option: for a challenge, tape several Xs on the floor as "minefields" or place chairs as obstacles the students must avoid as they navigate around the room.

Suggested Discussion

It can be hard to trust in someone when you can't see and you don't know where you're going.

- ? How many of you bumped into something when you were being led around the room? *Show of hands.*

Even though the guides were trying to keep you from tripping or bumping into things, sometimes people may fail us.

- ? But who can we always trust completely even when we're feeling unsure? *God.*

That's right. God will never fail us. We may not understand everything, but we know that we can always trust Him to do what's best for us.

Real World Skit

Two students discuss trusting God for a move.

Student 1: I'm so sorry you're moving. I'm going to miss you!

Student 2: Believe me, I'll miss everyone here. Are you coming to the house this weekend for our little going away party?

Student 1: Sure! I'll be there. I wouldn't miss it. So, what do you think about moving?

Student 2: I don't know. North Dakota is really COLD!

Student 1: Your dad took a job as pastor of a church, right?

Student 2: Yes, he did. It's a pretty small church in a very small town.

Student 1: I just don't get why he's doing this to all of you. He has a good job now, right? Our church is big! And he's a great youth leader.

Student 2: I know. I never thought we would leave here. It won't be easy, that's for sure.

Student 1: So, why do you think he's doing it? Doesn't he like it here?

Student 2: Oh no, it isn't that. I really think it was hard for him to decide. And it was pretty hard for him to tell all of us, too. He does like it here—a lot! I mean, my little sister was born here!

Student 1: It doesn't make sense. Does it?

Student 2: Well, he's explained it to us—lots of times! And it's beginning to make sense. Dad knows that God wants him to take this job.

Student 1: God wants him to? How does he know that?

Student 2: He spent a lot of time praying about it. He and my mom have talked about it a lot, and they prayed together about what they should do. But the more Dad prayed and talked, the more he could tell that he was supposed to go.

Student 1: Wow! There aren't very many people who would do what he's doing—taking his whole family to a little town way out in North Dakota!

Student 2: Yeah, that's true. But, it doesn't seem crazy to me anymore.

Student 1: What do you mean?

Student 2: Well, my dad has so much faith that this is right. I mean, he really believes that God is going to take care of us and things will be okay.

Student 1: Huh. I guess when you think about it, how else would you make a decision like this?

Student 2: That's right. He and my mom have prayed so much. And, actually, I think they're getting excited about it.

Student 1: How about you? Are you getting excited?

Student 2: Well, I wouldn't say I'm excited. Not yet, anyway. But I'm learning to trust God a little more through all this. And I think my faith is growing.

Student 1: That's a good thing, right? That's what God wants us to do.

Student 2: Yeah! And just knowing that Dad has faith in God and wants to do this helps me to follow God, too. Know what I mean?

Student 1: I think so. I guess you could look at it like your family is going on a great adventure! God is leading, and you are following. And you will all learn to trust God more as you move on.

Student 2: Right. Like last Sunday in youth group, some of us had to put on blindfolds and trust the other kids to lead us around.

Student 1: Oh, yeah! That was pretty scary, but kinda fun, too.

Student 2: And I guess that's what it's like to follow God to a new place in North Dakota—kinda scary, but kinda fun at the same time.

Student 1: Sure! You know God will lead you the right way.

Student 2: That's right. Thanks for understanding. I'll sure miss you! But I'll see you this weekend, right?

Student 1: Yep! See you then.

Scripture Sheet

Genesis 12:1–5; Hebrews 11:8–10, 11:6

Genesis 12

¹ Now the **LORD** said to **Abram**: “**Go from your country** and your kindred and your father’s house, to the land that **I will show you**.”

² And I will make of you a **great nation**, and I will **bless you** and **make your name great**, so that you will **be a blessing**.

³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you, I will curse, and in you all the **families of the earth shall be blessed**.”

⁴ So **Abram went**, as the **LORD** had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was **seventy-five** years old when he departed from Haran.

⁵ And **Abram took Sarai his wife** and **Lot his brother’s son**, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out go **to the land of Canaan**.

Hebrews 11

⁸ By **faith** Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

⁹ By faith he went to live in the **land of promise**, as in a **foreign land**, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is **God**.

⁶ And without **faith** it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe that he exists** and that **he rewards those who seek him**.

Name _____

Word Scramble

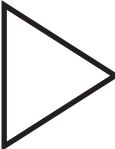
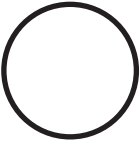
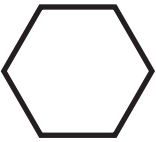
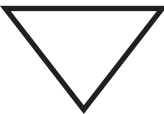
- 1. RBAMA _ _ _ _ _
- 2. IPSEOSMR _ _ _ _ _
- 3. GISLEBNS _ _ _ _ _
- 4. ONTAIN _ _ _ _ _
- 5. DLNA _ _ _ _
- 6. ANCANA _ _ _ _ _
- 7. EVAHNE _ _ _ _ _
- 8. THIFA _ _ _ _ _
- 9. REALNET _ _ _ _ _
- 10. EARDRW _ _ _ _ _

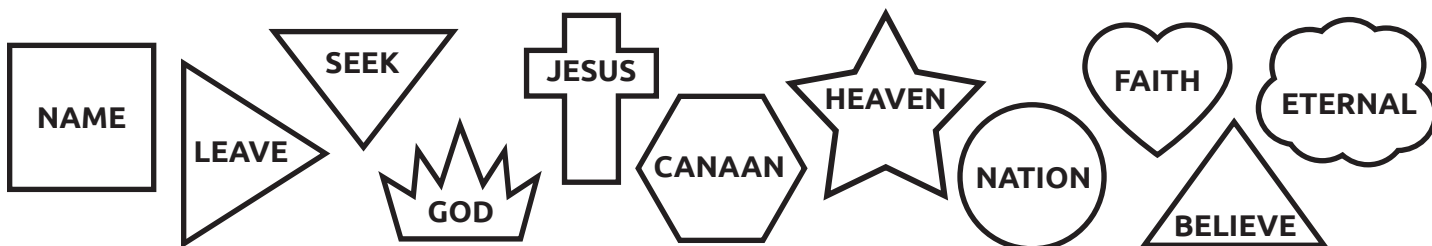
Word Scramble Answer Key

1. ABRAM
2. PROMISES
3. BLESSING
4. NATION
5. LAND
6. CANAAN
7. HEAVEN
8. FAITH
9. ETERNAL
10. REWARD

Name _____

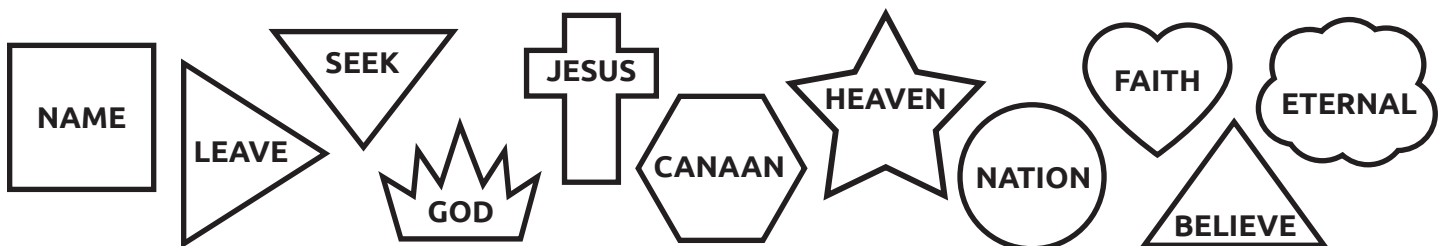
Class Notes

1. God called Abram to  his home and his family. _____
2. Abram had  in God. _____
3. God promised three things:
 - a. Abram would be the father of a great . _____
 - b. Abram's  would be great. _____
 - c.  would be born into Abram's family line. _____
4. Abram moved to  where God's promises would come true. _____
5. Abram had faith that his reward would be in . _____
6.  is the builder of heaven. _____
7. We must have  to please God. _____
8. Faith helps us to  in God. _____
9. God promises to reward those who have faith and  him. _____
10. God gives  rewards in heaven! _____



Class Notes Answer Key

1. God called Abram to leave his home and his family.
2. Abram had faith in God.
3. God promised three things:
 - a. Abram would be the father of a great nation.
 - b. Abram's name would be great.
 - c. Jesus would be born into Abram's family line.
4. Abram moved to Canaan where God's promises would come true.
5. Abram had faith that his reward would be in heaven.
6. God is the builder of heaven.
7. We must have faith to please God.
8. Faith helps us to believe in God.
9. God promises to reward those who have faith and seek him.
10. God gives eternal rewards in heaven!



Name _____

Class Notes

1. God called Abram to  _____ his home and his family.
2. God promised three things:
 - a. Abram would be the father of a great  _____.
 - b.  _____ would have a great name.
 - c.  _____ would be born into Abram's family line.
3.  _____ moved to Canaan where God's promises would come true.
4. Abram had faith that his reward would be in  _____.
5. God gives  _____ rewards in heaven.
6. We must have  _____ to please God.
7. Faith helps us to believe in God and His  _____.
8. God promises to  _____ those who have faith and seek Him.

LEGEND		
	ABRAM	 HEAVEN
	ETERNAL	 JESUS
	FAITH	 LEAVE
		 NATION
		 PROMISES
		 REWARD

Class Notes Answer Key

1. God called Abram to  leave his home and his family.
2. God promised three things:
 - a. Abram would be the father of a great  nation.
 - b.  Abram would have a great name.
 - c.  Jesus would be born into Abram's family line.
3.  Abram moved to Canaan where God's promises would come true.
4. Abram had faith that his reward would be in  heaven.
5. God gives  eternal rewards in heaven.
6. We must have  faith to please God.
7. Faith helps us to believe in God and His  promises.
8. God promises to  reward those who have faith and seek Him.

Review Questions

K-1st Review Questions

1. What is the name of the man we read about today? *Abram (or Abraham).*
2. What did God tell Abram to do? *Leave his home and move.*
3. God did not tell Abram where he was supposed to go. What did Abram do? *Trusted God.*
4. When Abram trusted God and followed him, what did we say Abram had in God? *Faith.*
5. Who went with Abram? *His wife, Sarai, and his nephew, Lot.*
6. What was one of the promises that God made to Abram? *(Allow several students to answer.) Great nation, bless him and make his name great, he would be a blessing to others, someone from Abram's family would be a blessing to all families.*
7. God promised that someone from Abram's family would be a blessing to all families. Who was that? *Jesus.*
8. What was the name of the land where God led Abram? *Canaan.*
9. What does it mean to have faith in someone? *To trust him. Trust he will do what he says.*
10. What should we do even when we don't understand, like when Abram had to move? *Trust God. Pray. Have faith in God. Obey God.*
11. What book can help us know God so we can grow stronger in our faith? *The Bible.*
12. The Bible says Abram had faith that God would take him somewhere to be with God. Where is that? *Heaven.*
13. Those who have faith in Jesus and believe in him can be with God someday. Where will that be? *In heaven.*
14. We are learning a memory verse about Abram. Can you sing it or say it? *Allow several students to try singing or reciting the verse.*

Pre-K Review Questions

1. What is the name of the man we read about today? *Abram (or Abraham).*
2. What did God tell Abram to do? *Leave his home and move.*
3. When Abram trusted God and followed him, what did we say Abram had in God? *Faith.*
4. Who went with Abram? *His wife, Sarai, and his nephew, Lot.*
5. What was one of the promises that God made to Abram? *(Allow several students to answer.) 1) His family would be a great nation, 2) God would bless him and make his name great, 3) Abram would be a blessing to others, 4) Someone from Abram's family would be a blessing to all families.*
6. God promised that someone from Abram's family would be a blessing to all families. Who was that? *Jesus.*
7. What was the name of the land where God led Abram? *Canaan.*
8. What does it mean to have faith in someone? *To trust him. Trust he will do what he says.*
9. What book can help us know God so we can grow stronger in our faith? *The Bible.*
10. The Bible says Abram had faith that God would take him somewhere to be with God. Where is that? *Heaven.*
11. Those who have faith in Jesus and believe in him can be with God someday. Where will that be? *In heaven.*
12. We are learning a memory verse about Abram. Who would like to try to sing or say it? *Allow several students to try singing or reciting the verse.*

Review Questions

1. What did God call Abram to do? *Leave his country and go to another land.*
2. What did God promise he would make of Abram? *A great nation.*
3. What else did God promise? *Ask several students. God would bless him, make his name great, and make him be a blessing.*
4. Who would be born into Abram's family who would bless all families? *Jesus Christ.*
5. What did Abram have that helped him trust in God and believe God's promises even though he did not see them? *Faith in God.*
6. How old was Abram when God told him to move? *75 years old.*
7. Abram believed in another city—a city whose designer and builder is God. What is that city? *Heaven.*
8. What happens to the things in the world that we think are so important? *They don't last. Get old. Break. Wear out.*
9. What about the rewards God offers? How long will those rewards last? *Forever.*
10. What must we have in order to please God? *Faith.*
11. Who should our faith be in? *Jesus.*
12. How can we seek after God? Where can we find out about him? *The Bible.*
13. What does our memory verse talk about that Abram had? *Faith.*
14. According to the memory verse, what must we believe about God? *That he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.*
15. Who can say the memory verse without looking? *Allow several students to say the verse.*

Review Questions

1. What city did Abram and his family leave to travel to Haran? *Ur.*
2. How old was Abram when God called him to leave Haran? *75.*
3. Who traveled with Abram when he left Haran? *His wife Sarai and his nephew Lot.*
4. Name one of God's promises to Abram. *Father of great nation, name would be great, all nations of the earth would be blessed through him (Jesus).*
5. Name another one of God's promises to Abram. *Father of great nation, name would be great, all nations of the earth would be blessed through him (Jesus).*
6. Name the final promise to Abram. *Father of great nation, name would be great, all nations of the earth would be blessed through him (Jesus).*
7. What big problem made it hard for Abram to believe the promises God gave him? *Abram had no children!*
8. What quality did Abram have that led him to believe God and His promises even though he had no child? *Faith.*
9. What is our definition of faith? *Believing in something even though you can't see it.*
10. What does God promise to those who have faith in him? *Reward.*
11. Where will we receive this reward? *In heaven. In eternity.*
12. Give an example of an earthly, or temporary, reward that could distract us from seeking eternal rewards. *Money, fame, houses, toys, games, cars, latest technology, etc.*
13. What is another example of an earthly reward that will not last? *Money, fame, houses, toys, games, cars, latest technology, etc.*
14. God changed Abram's name to what? *Abraham.*
15. What does Hebrews 11:6 say we must have to please God? *Faith.*
16. What does our memory verse, Hebrews 11:1, say faith is? *The assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*
17. Who would like to try filling in some missing words from our memory verse? *Allow several students to provide a missing word you leave out when you read the verse.*