

Aug 2, 2026

God's Promise to Make Abram the Father of Many Genesis 12 and 15

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.

★ Introduction & Story:

We have spent the last few weeks talking about the beginning of the Bible and the world. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God made a beautiful garden called Eden. He put the first people there (Adam and Eve) and it was perfect. But it didn't stay perfect for long. No, Adam and Eve sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. And the consequence of sin is death and separation from God. But God said He would send a Savior. While people were waiting for a Savior, what did they do? More sin!! We talked about the Tower of Babel and how people wanted to show how powerful they are. God stepped in and gave them different languages to remind them of Him.

After the Tower of Babel, many of the people forgot about God. They prayed, but not to the real God. They often prayed to creation: the sun, the moon, the stars, and even rivers and mountains. They made statues of wood or stone. They called the things that they made gods or idols.

In a city called Ur, a man named Abram lived. He did not worship these things but believed in the one true God. One day, Abram heard God calling him. God told him to leave the land where he was and his father's house and go to a place that God would show him. God told him that he would bless him and make him the father of a great nation. God promised that through Abram, all the people on earth would be blessed.

Abram did not know at the time, but God would send his son, Jesus, to save the world through Abram's family.

God told Abram that his descendants (his son, grandsons, great-grandsons, etc.) would be as many as the stars in the sky.

Abram, his wife Sarai, and his nephew Lot traveled for many days. When they got to a place called Canaan, God told Abram that this was the land that his offspring would someday have. Abram built an altar there and worshipped God.

At the time the land of Canaan had many people living there, so Abram and Lot pitched their tents in a place called Bethel.

God kept promising Abram and his wife that they would have many offspring, but they didn't have any children, and they were already very old. But Abram kept believing God.

Next week we will talk about how God blessed Abram and Sarai with a son.

★ **Connection to God's Overall Story/Plan:**

God had a plan to send His son, Jesus, to save all the people of the earth. His plan was to send Jesus through Abram's family.

The story of Abraham is one of the foundational narratives of the Bible. It is much more than the story of one faithful man—it establishes themes that run from Genesis to Revelation. Here's a breakdown.

Overall Message of the Bible

1. God's Plan to Bless the World

Genesis 12:1-3 (CSB) "I will make you into a great nation... and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

This promise is fulfilled throughout the Bible:

- Israel becomes God's covenant people.
- Jesus is born from Abraham's family line.
- Through Jesus, salvation is offered to all nations.

The New Testament repeatedly points back to Abraham as the beginning of God's rescue plan (see Romans 4 and Galatians 3).

3. God Keeps His Promises

Abraham waited:

- about 25 years for Isaac
- many decades before owning any land
- never saw all God's promises fulfilled in his lifetime.
- never saw Jesus come to bless the entire world through His sacrifice and the gift of salvation

Yet God remained faithful.

This teaches a major biblical theme: God's timing is different from ours, but His promises never fail.

Theology

Covenant Theology

God makes a covenant with Abraham in Genesis 15 and confirms it in Genesis 17.

The covenant includes:

- land
- descendants
- blessing
- God's presence
- relationship with His people

This covenant shapes the rest of the Old Testament.

Historical Accuracy

Most scholars place Abraham somewhere around **2000–1800 BC** (often the Middle Bronze Age), though the exact dates are uncertain.

Several details in Genesis fit that historical setting. The places mentioned are real locations that have been found archeologically. Abraham was nomadic and that was very common in that time frame. The things and customs that Abraham did are also very common for that area and time frame.

Archaeology **cannot directly prove** Abraham existed. There are no known inscriptions naming the biblical Abraham. As with many ancient individuals outside major empires, the absence of direct evidence is not unusual.

Connection

When Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan to bring Jesus in through Abraham's family – and He delivers on that promise thousands of years later.

*You can review the song Father Abraham and talk about how God gave him the whole Israelite family (many sons) and that we can be children of God because of Jesus and that ties us to Abraham (and I am one of them and so are you).

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:**

- Comprehension Questions:
 - The people worshiped idols and false gods. Why do you think they “bothered” to worship anything?
 - People know that there is someone or something greater than them. We are made to worship. But these people were mistaken about what they worshipped. We know that we worship the one true God only.
 - What would it be like if God told your family to move but did not tell you where you were going?
 - Do you think it would have been hard for Abram and Sarai to believe that they were going to be a big family when they didn’t have any children and they were old?
- Ask, “What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?”
 - God delivers on His promises. He used Abraham, who came a long time after Adam and Eve, to bring Jesus into the world a long time later. He just doesn’t do it on our schedule.
- Ask, “What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?”
 - We have to wait on God. God is in control, not us. He has the big plan. Our job is to trust God and be patient.

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

- God wants us to know that Jesus is the answer promised to so many - including Abraham - in the beginning. And He is our answer to. We need to trust God like Abraham did, even when it didn’t make sense.

★ **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.

- ★ **Verse:** “Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.”
- Genesis 15:6

Memory Verse Practice:

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: Not necessary until we split classrooms.
- Fireweed Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. 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 PM 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. Activity and Coloring pages can be found [here](#):

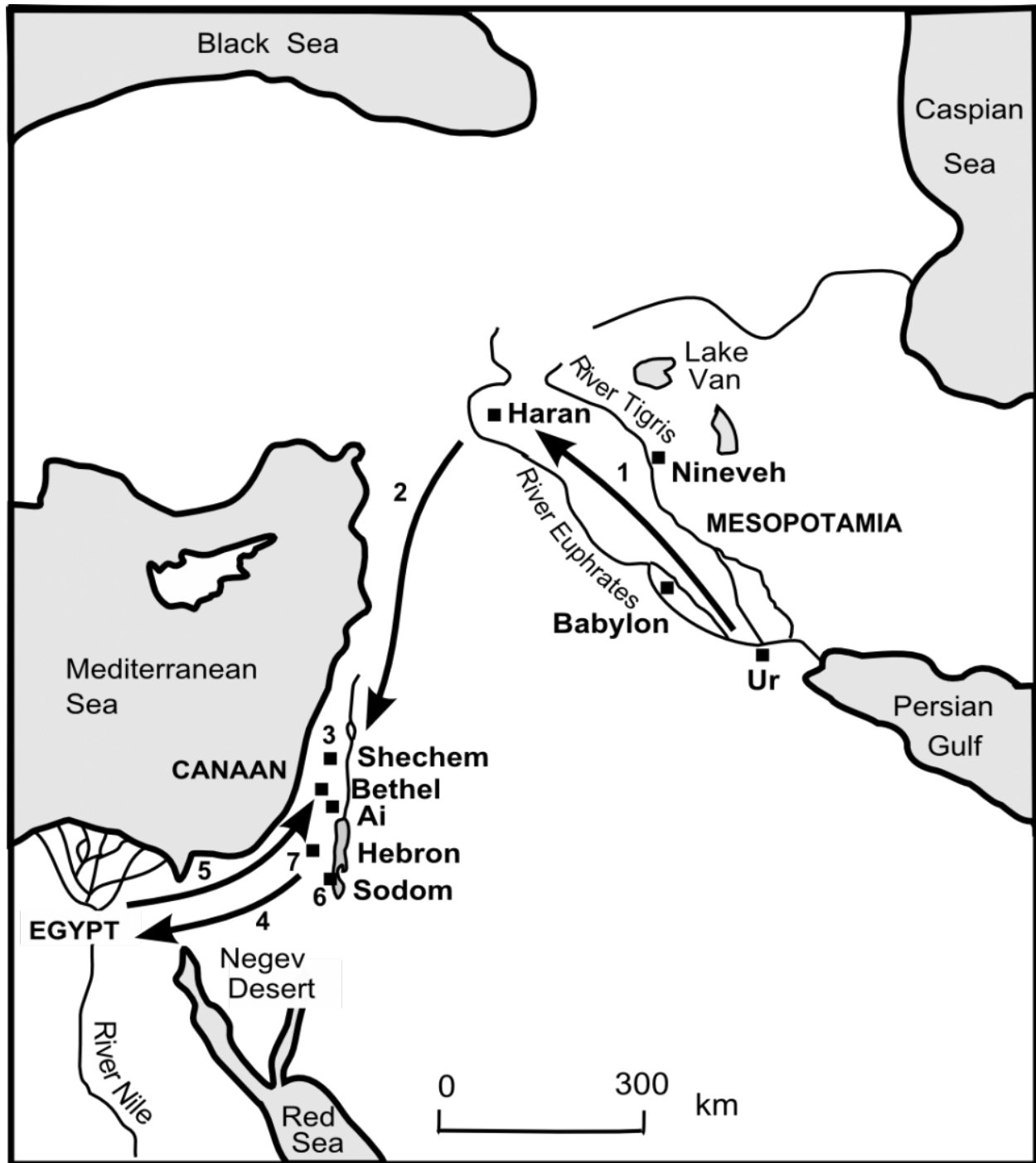
★ Sensory:

Category	Activity 1	Activity 2
Experiential	Pack for the Journey: Provide small bags and a variety of items (clothes, toy animals, food, blanket, Bible). Children choose what they would pack if God asked them to move to a new land, then discuss why Abram trusted God.	Tent Life Experience: Set up a small tent or make one with blankets. Let children sit inside while talking about Abram's travels and what life might have been like living in tents.
Visual	Star Promise Display: Hang paper or glow-in-the-dark stars from the ceiling. As you tell Genesis 15, dim the lights and point to the stars while reading God's promise.	Journey Map: Show the map of Abram's journey (included in the activity pages) and have the students trace Abram's journey as the story unfolds.
Smell	Spice Exploration: Pass around jars containing cinnamon, cumin, cloves, frankincense, or myrrh. Discuss the kinds of spices Abram may have encountered during his travels.	Campfire Aroma: Use a pine, cedar, or campfire-scented item (or smell fresh wood) to imagine evenings around Abram's campfire under the stars.
Touch	Sand Discovery Bin: Fill a sensory bin with sand and hide small stars or animal figures for children to find while discussing God's promises.	Stone Altar Building: Provide smooth rocks for children to stack into small altars like Abram built to worship God.
Movement	Follow God's Path: Create a path and direct children to follow the path without knowing the final destination, just as Abram trusted God's leading.	Star Hunt Relay: Hide paper stars around the room. Children work in teams to collect as many stars as possible while remembering God's promise of countless descendants.

Sound	Desert Night Soundscape: Play recordings of crickets, gentle wind, sheep, and nighttime sounds while telling Genesis 15 to create the atmosphere Abram experienced.	Call and Response: Leader says, "God said, 'Go!'" Children respond, "Abram trusted God!" Repeat with other story phrases such as "Look at the stars!" and "God keeps His promises!"
Crafts	Look Up at the Stars: Have kids color a blank paper to look like the night sky. Next, cut out the image of Abram (color or b&w version) and glue it to the night sky. [Activity Pages]	Amram's Journey: Color and cut "Abram's Journey to the Promised Land" Activity Page. Use a popsicle stick to slide Abram and Sarai along the page.

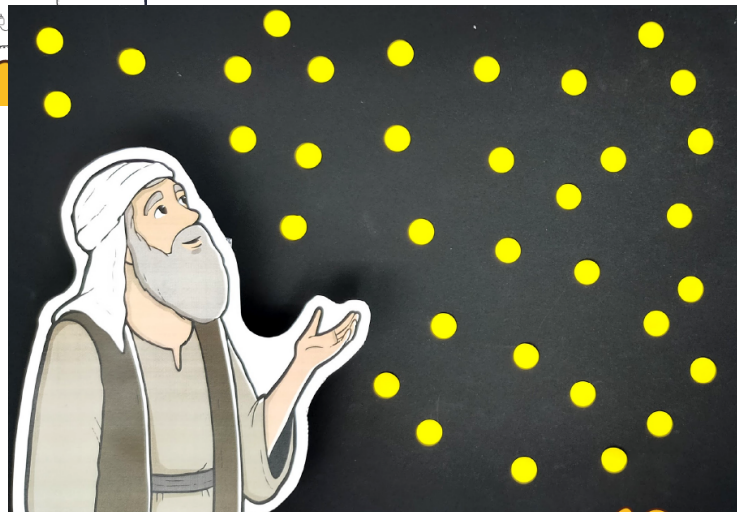
Send Home Page: Please send home with parents. They are sized 4 to a page.

Map of Abram's journey



Amram Count the Stars Activity:

Have kids color a blank page to look like the night sky. Then cut out Abram (and his “pop-up”) and attach him to the night sky page.





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	Fold
	Fold

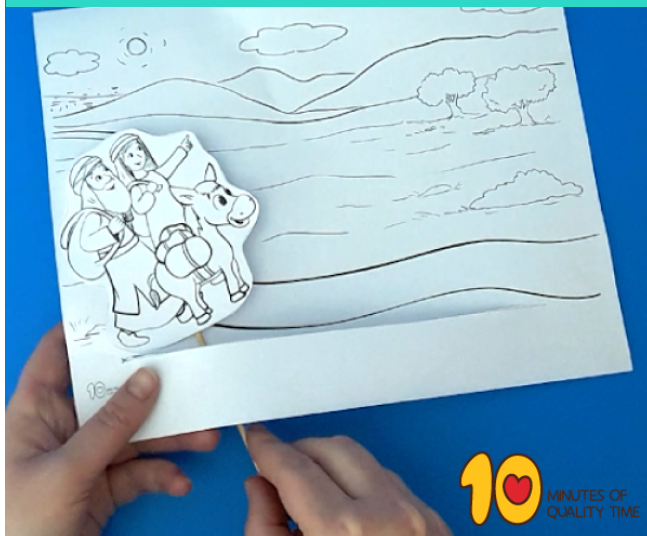


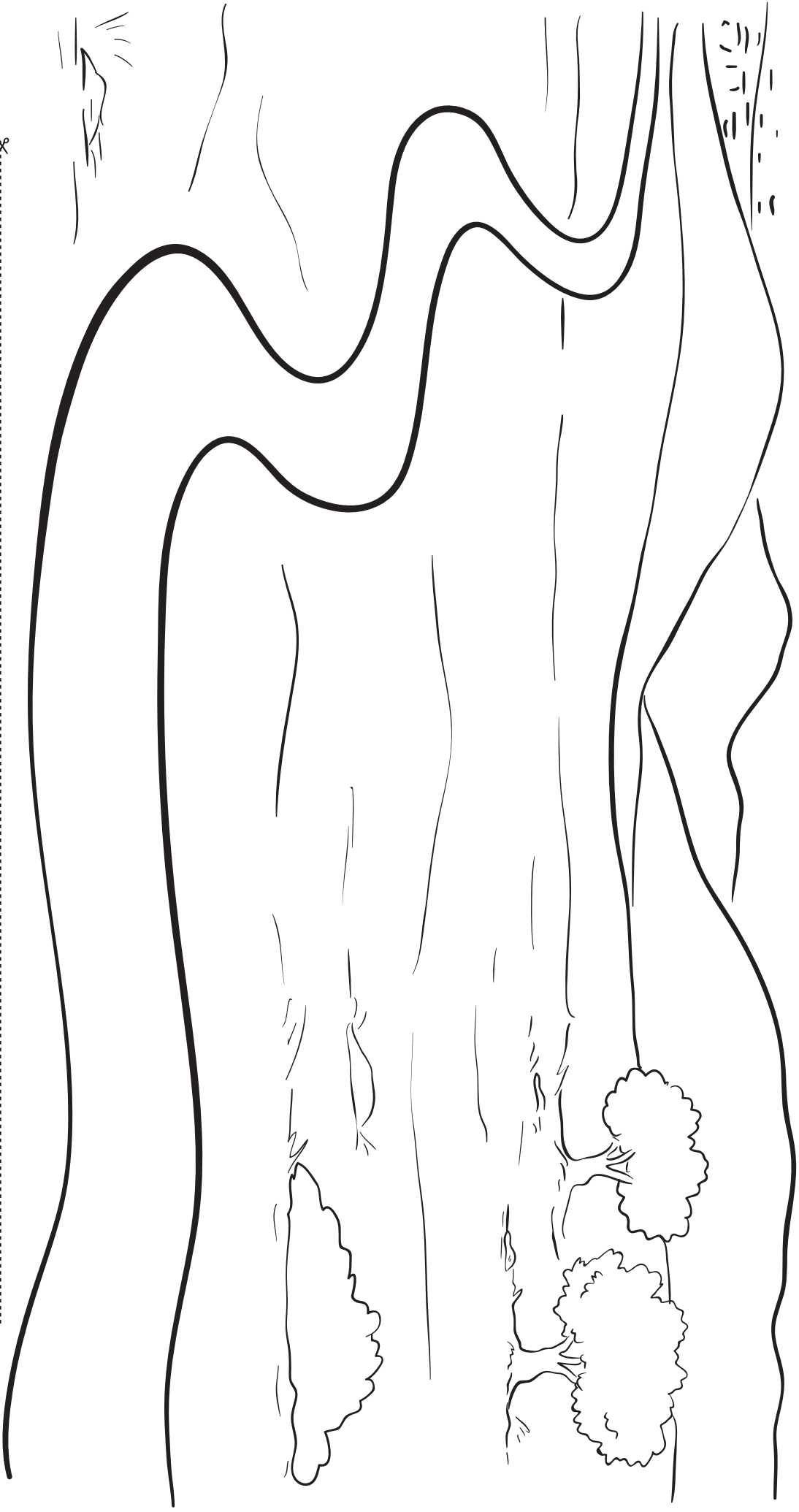
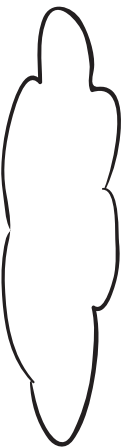
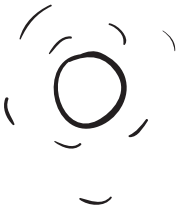


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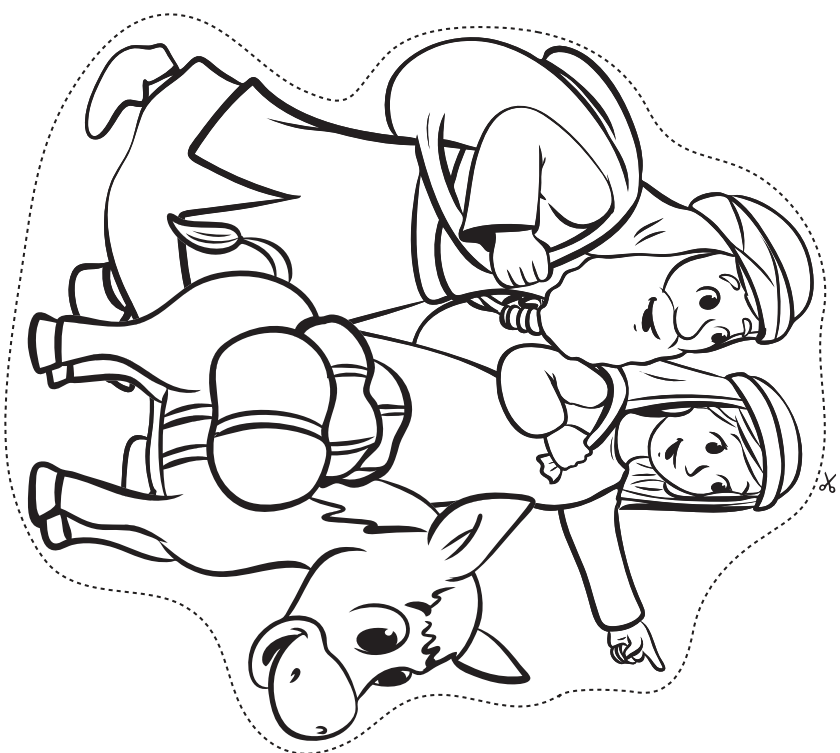
Abram's Journey to the Promised Land Activity:

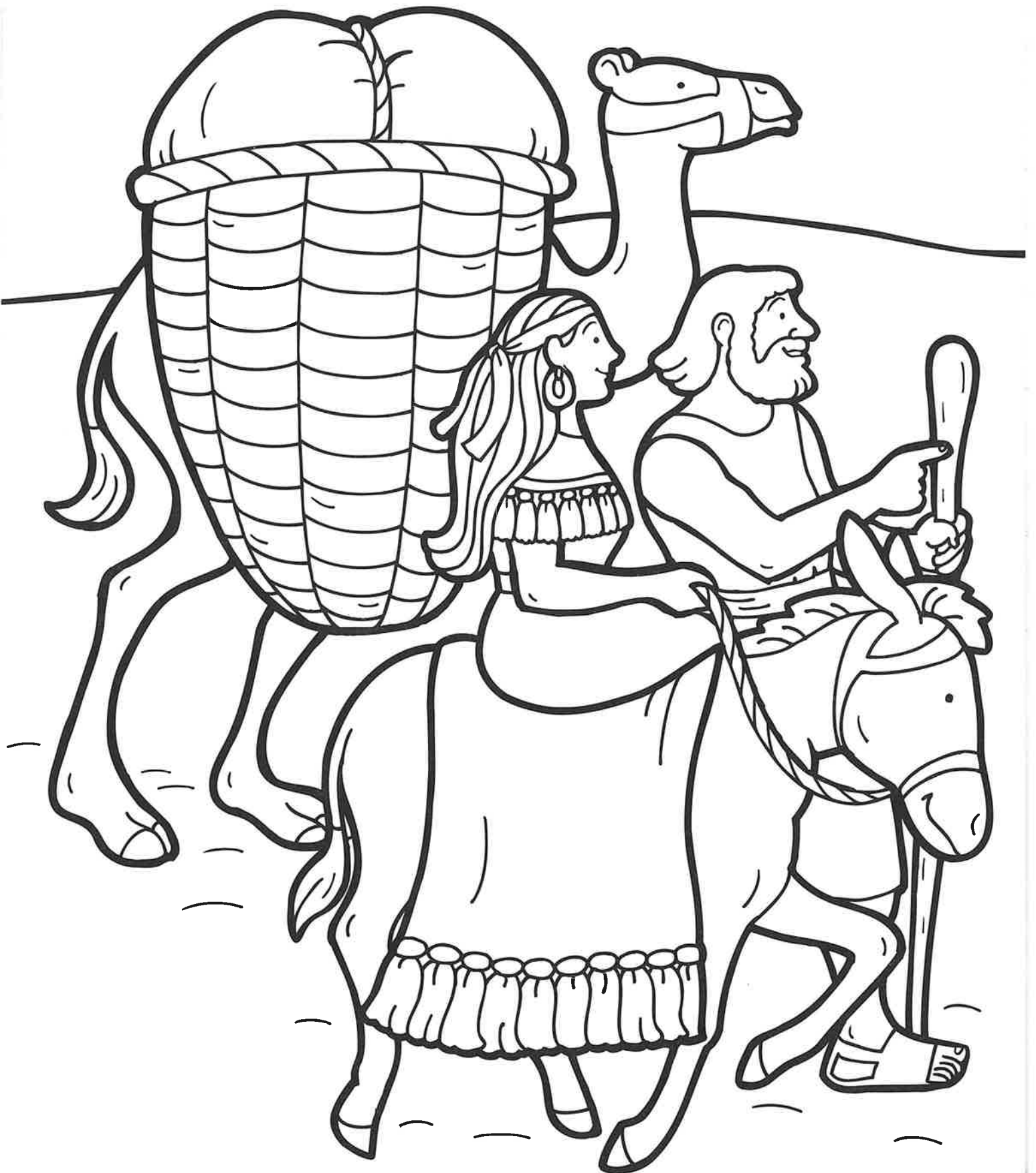
Color and cut to create slide-along. Use a popsicle stick to "move" Abram and Sarai along the page.





8.....





Genesis 12:1-9

Abram Travels to a New Home

Abram Travels to a New Home

Genesis 12:1–9

God loved Abram. God told Abram to leave his home and go to a new land. God promised to make Abram the leader of a great nation.

Abram obeyed God. He and his wife and his nephew, Lot, left their home. They took all their animals and their helpers with them. They walked for many, many days.

After days and days of walking, Abram and his family arrived in the new land. God told him that He was going to give the land to Abram's children. Abram worshipped God. Abram trusted God. Abram believed that God would keep His promises.

Abraham and Lot Choose Land



Abraham and Lot Choose Land

Genesis 12:1-4; 13

Abraham and Lot lived in the new land God had given them. They lived with their families in tents. Abraham and Lot had many helpers too. And Abraham and Lot had many camels, cows, donkeys, sheep, and goats. It was getting crowded! There were people and animals everywhere!

Every day Abraham's helpers and Lot's helpers took the animals to eat green grass and drink cool water. Then one day there was not enough grass to eat or water to drink for all their animals. The helpers began to argue.

"We must stop this arguing," Abraham said. "We need to move away from each other so all our animals can find enough water

and grass." So Lot and Abraham climbed to the top of a hill. They could see all the land around them.

Abraham was kind. He let Lot choose first which land he wanted. Lot pointed to the part of the land where there was plenty of water and grass. "I'll move to that land," Lot said. Lot took his family, his helpers, and his animals to live in that land.

Abraham took his family, his helpers, and his animals to another place to live. There was not as much water and green grass there. But God promised to take care of Abraham because he showed kindness by giving Lot the first choice.

Memory Verse:

August 2, 2026

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to him as righteousness.

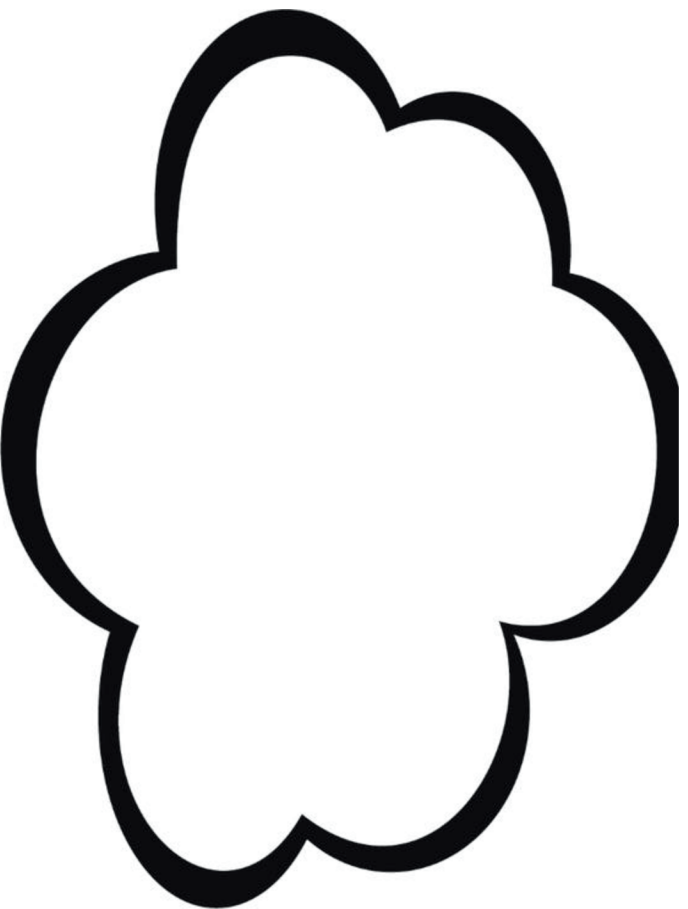
--Genesis 15:6

Fill in the Blanks

Abram _____ the
_____, and he _____ it
to _____ as righteousness.

-- _____ 15:6

What can we believe about the Lord?

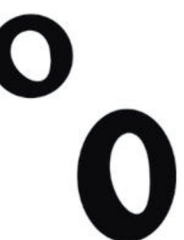
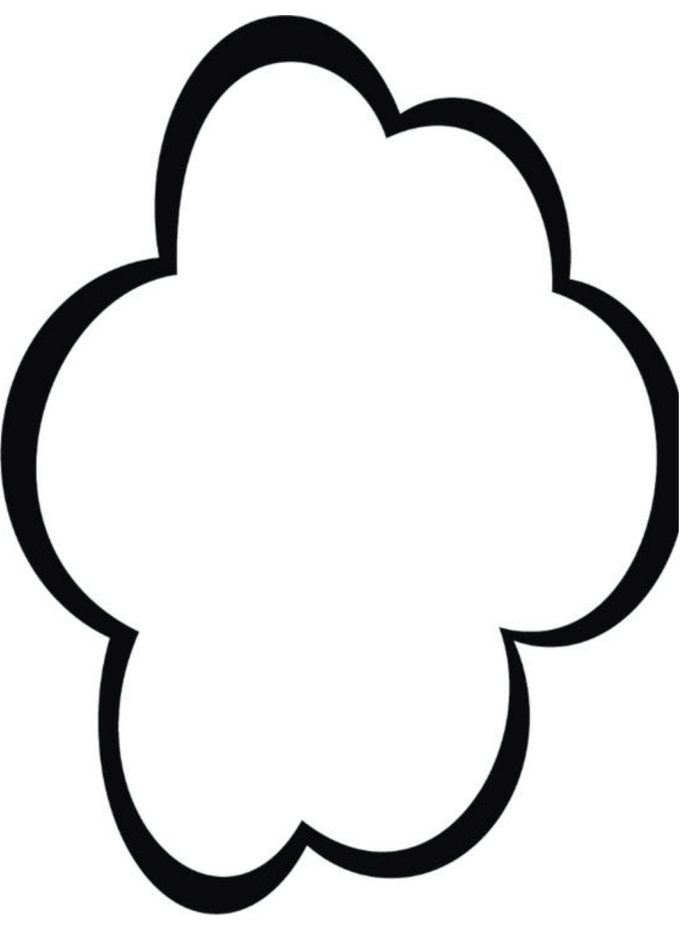


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August 2nd's lesson was on

God's Promise to Make Abram the Father
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Genesis 12 and 15

Memory Verse: Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness. --Genesis 15:6

*Kids that recite the memory verse
to the teacher next week earn a prize "

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Register for

Creekside Kids Emails

Elisabeth (the Director of Kids Discipleship) sends out a weekly email with spotlights on events, disciple making tips, and behind the scenes info for Creekside Kids. These emails are really an inside look and can quickly make you a Creekside Kids Pro Parent! If you don't receive them, you can sign up by scanning the QR code and filling out the form.



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