

Aug 9, 2026

Isaac - God's Promise
Genesis 17 and 22

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!! But along the way, there were a few faithful people. Noah is one. Today we will continue our story about another... Abram, but we typically call him by another name.

God had promised Abram and Sarai that they would have a big family. But they were both old and could not understand how they could possibly have any children.

When Abram was 99 years old God told him that he would no longer be known as Abram. His name would now be Abraham. The name Abraham meant "father of many." God also changed Sarai to Sarah. He continued to promise Abraham that he would bless him and make him the father of many nations – even kings.

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.

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.

★ **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 Abraham's family.

Theology:

- Faith - faith is more than believing God exists; it is trusting God even when it doesn't make sense (such as when Abraham was asked to sacrifice Isaac)
- Sacrifice - The ram took the place of Isaac when Abraham trusted the Lord. Much like Jesus took our place and stands in our place when we trust the Lord.

Location Information: Mount Moriah

Genesis identifies the event as occurring in the land of Moriah.

Later, 2 Chronicles 3:1 identifies Mount Moriah as the location where Solomon built the temple.

This creates a profound biblical connection:

- Abraham offers Isaac.
- The Temple is built there.
- Sacrifices are offered there for centuries.

- Jesus dies nearby outside Jerusalem.

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:
 - Do you think it is sometimes hard to obey what God has said to do?
 - Why do you think that God tested Abraham?
 - Does God have a plan for all things?
- Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
 - God always has a plan and it may not make sense to us, but His plan will honor His promise.
- Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
 - We have the choice to trust God or to go astray and do our own thing. Abraham was blessed for being faithful.

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

- Jesus is asking us to trust Him.

★ **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:** "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding." - Proverbs 3:5

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.

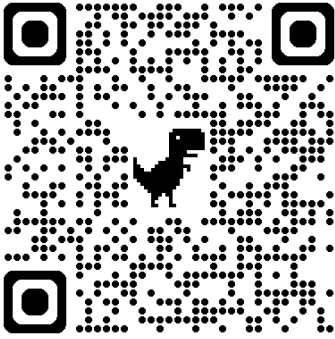
Books of the Bible:

- ★ 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.

★ Sensory:

Category	Activity 1	Activity 2
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Experiential	Promise Walk: Place stars around the room with promises from God written on them. Children collect the stars and talk about how God always keeps His promises.	Trust Obstacle Course: One child closes his/her eyes while a partner gently guides them through a simple obstacle course, demonstrating trust just as Abraham trusted God.
Visual	Hidden Stars: Color the page "Hidden Stars" and count the number of stars that represent God's promises.	Baby Isaac is Born: Color, cut, and fold "Baby Isaac" activity page.
Smell	Campfire Scents: Smell pine needles, cedar, or a campfire-scented item while discussing Abraham's travels and building altars.	
Touch	Sensory Bin: Fill a bin with sand, rocks, toy sheep, wooden blocks, and stars. Children retell the story using the objects.	Soft Wool vs. Rough Burlap: Feel sheep's wool (or cotton) and rough fabric while discussing Isaac, the ram, and Abraham's journey.
Movement	Journey to Mount Moriah: Create a trail around the room where children "travel" carrying small bundles of sticks like Isaac.	Star Jumps: Call out God's promises, and children jump up to "reach the stars."
Sound	Father Abraham Song: 	Echo God's Promise: Teacher says, "God keeps His promises!" Children echo it back in different voices (loud, soft, whisper, joyful).

Crafts	Promise Star Mobile: Decorate paper stars and hang them from a hanger or paper plate. Write "God Keeps His Promises" on each.	Trust Ladder: Using paper and popsicle sticks, children create a ladder with God's promises.. See Activity Pages for more info.
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Send Home Page: Please send home with parents. They are sized 4 to a page.

August 9, 2026 Lesson Activities

Hidden Stars Coloring Activity: Color the page. Encourage the kids to design Isaac's blanket. Have them count the stars to represent promises kept by God.

Trust Ladder Activity: Create a ladder with the construction paper as the rungs and the popsicle sticks are the ladder legs. At the top, write: "The Lord Will Provide." -Genesis 22:14

Materials:

- Construction paper
- Markers
- Popsicle sticks or paper strips

Each rung has a word:

- Pray
- Trust
- Obey
- Believe
- God Provides

Baby Isaac Activity: Color, cut, & fold



Hidden Stars



How many stars can you find in the picture?





Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-8; 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Isaac Is Born

Isaac Is Born

Genesis 15:1–6; 17:1–8; 18:1–15; 21:1–7

God gave a special promise to Abram. He promised to give Abram and his wife a son. As a reminder of His promise, God changed Abram's name to Abraham. Abraham means "father of many." Abraham and his wife, Sarah, waited many years, but they still did not have a child. Abraham still did not stop believing God's promise.

Abraham and Sarah grew very old, older than most grandparents. One day some angels visited Abraham. "Next year Sarah will have a son," the visitors said.

Sarah was sitting in her tent, listening to Abraham and the visitors. When she heard the angels' words, she started to laugh. She and Abraham were almost 100 years old! She knew that no one her age ever had a baby. She was just too old! The visitors knew that she laughed. They said, "Is anything too hard for God?"

God kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah. The next year, Sarah had a baby boy just as God had said. Abraham and Sarah named him Isaac.

Memory Verse:

August 9, 2026

Trust in the Lord with all
your heart, and do not
rely on your own
understanding.

--Proverbs 3:5

Fill in the Blanks

Trust in the _____ with all
your _____, and do _____
rely on _____ own

-----.

Proverbs 3:5

What are some things we can trust God with?



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Trust in the _____ with all
your _____, and do _____
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As you shop those Back-to-School sales, would you consider picking up a few extras for Creekside Kids? Your donations help us keep

ITEMS WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Crayons • Copy paper • Play-Dough
- Hand sanitizer • Markers • Glue sticks • Cheerios
- Bubble solution • 3 oz cups • Coffee filters
- Electric pencil sharpeners • Adult & kid-sized scissors
- Faith-based children's books

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