



OLD TESTAMENT: ABRAHAM'S FAITH

Lesson 7

BIG IDEA

Abraham takes several journeys from country to country. Sometimes he lets his fear direct him. Sometimes he lets his doubt direct him. He also follows God's directions with a willing attitude and receives to important promises.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 8 and/or Genesis 12:2

KEY VERSES

Genesis 12-18

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON: SKIT

- Cast: TL wearing baseball cap. Bear wearing bear ears.
- EM provides baseball cap and bear ears.

CRAFT- FAMILY PHOTO FRAME

- Large popsicle sticks, 4-8 per child
- Glue (Tacky Glue or Elmer's Glue) or glue dots
- Markers or poster paint
- Stickers, sequins, buttons, etc for decoration
- Magnets or ribbon (optional)

GAME - SWITCHEROO

- making tape or rope to make large shapes

WORKSHEETS

- copies of coloring sheets, one per child.



EM PROVIDES

- scissors
- hole punch
- staplers

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(extend hands to sides)

You have set your glory in the heavens.



(extend hands high)

Through the praise of children and infants you have



("stop" hand)

established a stronghold against your enemies,

To silence the foe and the avenger.



(index finger over lips)

(wiggle fingers both hands)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,



The moon and the stars which you have set in place,



(point to moon and stars)

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,



(shrug shoulders)

Human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels



(flat hand at waist)

And crowned them with glory and honor.



(make crown with hands)

You have made them rulers over the works of your

hands;



(open hands)

You put everything under their feet:



(stomp feet)

All flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,



(hands like claws)

The birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim

the paths of the seas.



(hands together wiggle like fish)

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(arms up as if cheering)



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT

Lesson 7

CAST

TL - wearing baseball cap

Bear - wearing bear ears

SCRIPT

TL So, Bear, how did yesterday's story about the great flood sit with you?

Bear Gee, it was a pretty difficult story at first, but I like how the story ended with a promise and a rainbow.

TL That's good to hear, Bear, because today's story starts special plan of God's, one that started over 6000 years ago and is still going on today.

Bear Woah. Seriously? Let's hear it.

TL Today's story has to do with a man named Abram, a man who was flexible and followed God's plan even when he didn't understand it.

Bear (Do a few arm stretches)

TL (Watch Bear do stretches) Uh, Bear, what are you doing?

Bear Oh, just stretching. Go on with the story, I'm listening.

TL OK. Many years after God destroyed the world by flood, a man named Abram left his home and married a lovely woman named Sarai. After a while God spoke to him. "Leave this place and go to a land I will show you. I promise to give you many children and grand children and great-grandchildren. So many that they will become a great nation and all the people on earth will be blessed." So, Abram, being the flexible man that he was, did just what God commanded. He went to a new place called Canaan which was far away.

Bear (Do some neck rolls)

TL (Watch Bear do neck rolls) Bear, you're acting strange. Why are you doing that?

Bear Oh, don't mind me. I'm just stretching my neck.

TL (Clear throat and continue) When he arrived, he set up his tents, because that's how people lived back then, in tents and he also built an alter to God. Then a bad famine hit.

Bear What a famine?

TL A famine is when a country does not have enough food for the people and animals. Usually it's caused because there is little rain for several years and the plants don't grow, the cattle can't eat plants, and the people can't eat meat, grain, vegetables or fruit. Unfortunately, many people die of starvation during a famine.



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (PAGE 2)

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- Bear That's odd. Noah's had to deal with too much water, and Abram has to deal with too little water.
- TL That's...uh...an interesting observation, Bear. Well, anyway, Abram was flexible and so he moved again, this time down south to a place called Egypt.
- Bear (Stretch from side to side)
- TL (Watch Bear for a moment and then continue) Abram was worried though, he was afraid that the king of Egypt would take his wife Sarai from him because she was so beautiful. So lied to the king, "Just tell them you are my sister." And as Abram had feared, the king saw beautiful Sarai and wanted her to be his wife. But it was not right for the king to take another man's wife as his own, so God caused a terrible disease to strike the king and the other Egyptians living in the palace. Pretty soon the king figured out what happened and he told Abram and Sarai to go away from Egypt. So, again, Abram was flexible and he returned to Canaan.
- Bear (Start stretching legs, arms, neck, etc throughout the next few lines)
- TL Bear, why on earth do you keep stretching?
- Bear Why so I can be flexible, of course. You said yourself that Abram was a good flexible man who obeyed God, so I want to be flexible too! My teacher taught me that stretching the muscles is the best way to get flexible.
- TL (Bust up laughing)
- Bear (Stop stretching) What? What's so funny?
- TL You are, Bear. You're very literal and it's wonderful. But there are two meanings of the word flexible. You can have a flexible body or you can have flexible, willing attitude. Abram had a flexible attitude.
- Bear Oh. Tee-hee. Am I blushing?
- TL I can't possibly tell under all your fur. I'm sorry though, I didn't mean to embarrass you.
- Bear That's all right. So, what happened next to Abram and Sarai?
- TL Well, a lot of time passed and Abram was 85 years old. Abram and Sarai were sad though because they still didn't have any children even though the Lord had promised to give them many, many descendents. They were so discouraged that Sarai gave her maid Hagar to Abram as his second wife so that Abram could have a baby with her. And they did have a baby, a boy named Ishmael. They thought they were doing a good thing by helping God fulfill his promise.
- Bear Uh oh, I have a bad feeling about this.
- TL God spoke again and gave them new names, Abraham and Sarah. And he said that Sarah would have a baby in 9 months. Sarah was actually inside the tent and she was listening to the conversation.



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (PAGE 3)

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She laughed to herself because she was way too old to have a baby. God knew Sarah had laughed because she thought the promise was ridiculous. He said, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (TL, remain silent as though the story is done.)

Bear (Wait a few moments for more story) Uh, is that all?

TL Oh, no. After the meal the men continued on their journey. (Be silent as if the story is done)

Bear (Waiting) Is that all?

TL Yep.

Bear That can't be all! There's got to be more. Does Sarah have a baby or not? Who was right? You've got to tell me!

TL That, my friend, is a story for tomorrow.

Bear Aaaahhh! That's torture TL. I'm not that flexible, how can you expect me to wait?

TL Sorry Bear that's all I have time for today.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What did Abram spend a lot of his life doing? (moving, journeying)
- What are some of the good choices Abram made?
- What was a bad choice Abram made?
- What were God's two promises to Abram (descendants and land)
- What made Abram lie to the king of Egypt?
- Did Abram need to lie? Would God have kept Abram safe?
- How did Abram and Sarai feel when they got old and still did not have children?
- How did they try to help God fulfill his promise?
- Did God need help?
- What were Abram and Sarai's new names?
- What was Sarah's reaction when she heard she would have a baby?
- What makes you discouraged?
- Do you believe God's promises?
- How do you react when you are afraid?



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CRAFT

Lesson 7

• CRAFT •

FAMILY PHOTO FRAMES

Kids will make picture frames out of popsicle sticks.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- scissors
- hole punch
- staplers

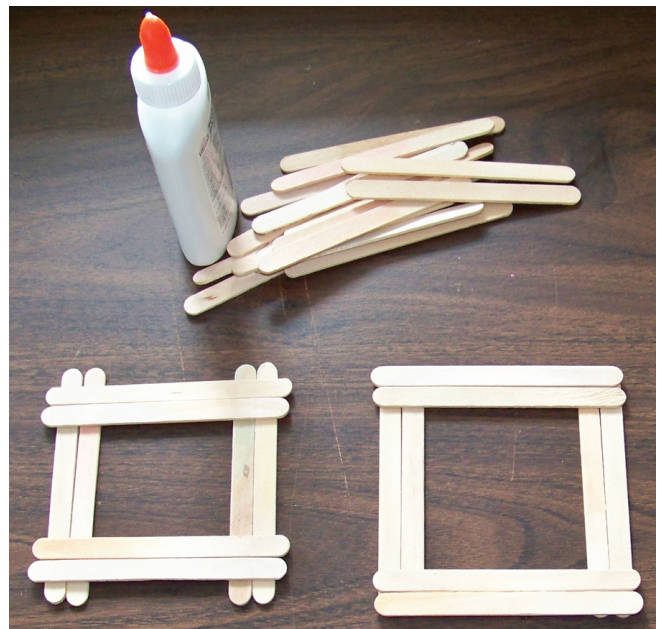
DIRECTIONS

- NOTE: This craft will require some drying time in the middle. Consider playing games while the first two sections dry.
- Give kids 4-8 popsicle sticks.
- Make a square by placing two popsicle sticks parallel to one another, glue one at the top and one at the bottom, joining at the corners
- Paint or color frame
- Decorate
- (Optional) Glue magnets to the back to hang on refrigerator or tie ribbon to the top corners to hang from wall

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Large popsicle sticks, 4-8 per child
- Glue (Tacky Glue or Elmer's Glue) or glue dots
- Markers or poster paint
- Stickers, sequins, buttons, etc for decoration
- Magnets or ribbon (optional)

EXAMPLE





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GAME

Lesson 7

• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: SWITCHEROO

Kids listen for clues and run from one shape to another without being tagged.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- masking tape or rope to make large shapes on the ground

DIRECTIONS

- Use tape or rope to form at least three giant shapes on the ground, large enough to fit half the kids
- Choose one person to be “it”
- Divide the remaining kids according to how many shapes you have on the ground
- Call out a description such as “kids wearing blue run to the triangle” or “kids with sandals run to the circle.”
- Students who fit the description run to another shape while “it” tries to tag them
- Student who gets tagged becomes “it”
- Periodically call out “Switcharoo!” and all students must run to a different shape.



