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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about Abraham and his son, Isaac. Abraham was famous for his faith in God because he knew that God would fulfill his promises. One promise God gave to Abraham was that he would be blessed with many children. Even though Abraham and his wife were really old, God gave them a son. They were so excited and Abraham loved Isaac with all of his heart. One day, God put Abraham to a test. He wanted to see if Abraham would trust him, even if it meant giving up something Abraham really loved. So, God told Abraham to give up his son by offering him as a sacrifice. Abraham was crushed. He didn't understand why God would ask this of him. He had to make a choice- obey God and trust that his ways are best or ignore God and hold onto his son. Abraham decided to trust God and he did what God asked and prepared to give up Isaac. At the last second, God told Abraham he didn't have to do it. God was testing Abraham's faith to see if he was willing to give up everything to follow God, even if he didn't understand. We can learn from Abraham's faith.

Big Idea

Faith is believing in God even when we don't understand what he's up to

Key Question

Why did God need to test Abraham?

Memory Verse

Hebrews 11:17 "It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Do your parents ask you to do things or eat things that you don't like? Explain.** (Tip: You may not want to go to the doctor, eat veggies or read but these things help you to be strong and smart. God may ask you to do things you don't want to do but that doesn't mean they aren't good for you.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **He needed to know if Abraham loved him no matter what.** (God had big plans for Abraham's life and he needed to know that Abraham would listen and obey, no matter what. God wanted to know that Abraham loved and trusted him and that God would always be first. Abraham proved his faith in God when he was willing to even give up his son.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why did God test Abraham? How did Abraham prove his faith? **4-5th** Why was obedience to God important in Abraham's life? Why should it be important in yours?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read [James 1:2-3](#). Why can we be joyful, even when we're going through hard times? How does the hard stuff make our faith stronger?** (Answer: Joy is more than being happy. Joy is the feeling that, no matter what happens, God is with us and will help us. So, even when bad stuff happens, we can still be joyful knowing that God is in control. And, when we see how God helps us, our faith in him grows!)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: ABE AND ISAAC BOOKMARK

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Bookmark template (page 5). Have them cut out each item.
- Have them color and decorate their bookmark. Then, have them glue on the Big Idea and the verse to the bookmark.
- As they work, remind the kids that God tested Abraham's faith when he asked him to give up his son. God wanted to know if Abraham would give up anything to follow him. Abraham passed the test and showed his trust in God because he obeyed even though he didn't understand. In the end, Isaac was spared and Abraham goes down in history as a man of great faith. We can trust God, too, even when things happen that we don't like or understand.

Supplies needed: Bookmark template (pg. 5, 1 set per kid), Scissors, Crayons, Glue

OPTION 2: LESSON REVIEW JEOPARDY

Instructions:

- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a bell or ringer.
- Ask a question from below. First to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, that team gets a point. If wrong, the other team gets a chance to answer for a bonus point. Team with the most points in the end, wins.

Questions:

1. Who made promises to Abraham? (God)
2. T or F: Abraham was really young when he had Isaac. (F)
3. What is the Big Idea today? (see board)
4. What did God ask Abraham to do? (give up Isaac)
5. From what book is our memory verse found? (Hebrews)
6. Why did God test Abraham? (to see if he loved God more than anything)
7. What book is full of God's truth? (Bible)
8. Who died for our sins? (Jesus)
9. T or F: God should be first in our lives. (T)
10. Is our story from the OT or NT? (OT)

Supplies needed: Bells/Ringers

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BIBLE STORYLINE

Isaac and the Sacrifice

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When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, it was the biggest test of his life. Could he do it?

Key Points:

- God gave Abraham a son named _____ even though he was super old. Genesis 21:2-3
- God tested Abraham's _____ in a crazy way. Genesis 22:1-2
- Abraham _____ the test and proved that he trusted God more than anything. Genesis 22:12
- _____ is believing in God even though we don't always _____ what he's up to. Hebrews 11:17

Memory Verse:

Hebrews 11:17 It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Do your parents ask you to do things or eat things that you don't like? Explain.*
3. *What was the name of Abraham's son?*
4. *What did God ask Abraham to do that was hard? Why did God ask that of Abraham?*
5. *Read James 1:2-3. Why can we be joyful, even when we're going through hard times? How does the hard stuff make our faith stronger?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture.

FAITH IS BELIEVING IN
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Key Question

Why did God need to test Abraham?

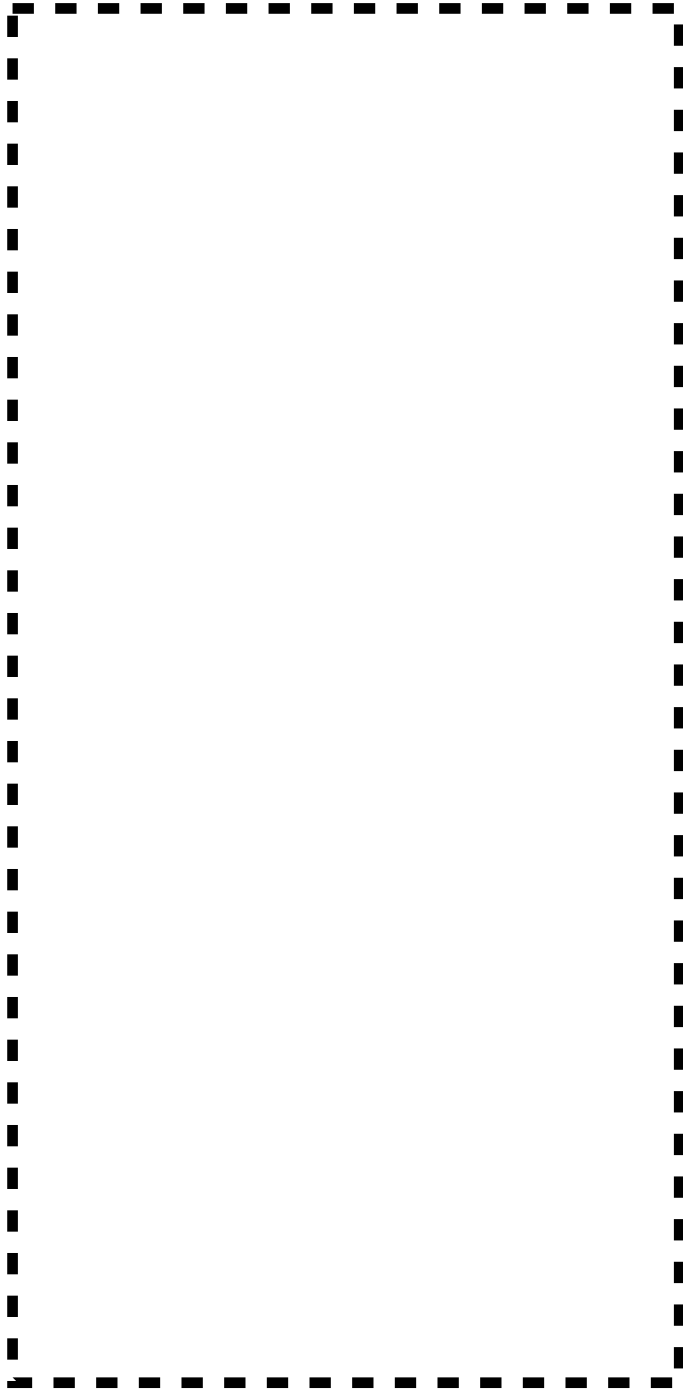
Memory Verse

Hebrews 11:17 "It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him."





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