



29th November 2020

## A Promise to Abraham

**Reference: Genesis 12:1-3, 15:1-6**

**Main Point:** God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. God keeps that promise in Jesus.

### Activities to do together:

**Talk** about a family holiday that you have been on, (maybe look at some photos together to help your child remember). Discuss where you went and how long you stayed. Remind them that we had to leave our home and say goodbye to some friends and members of our extended family for a little while which was a little bit sad.. We needed to take some things on our holiday (clothes, toys, bikes, surfboards etc.) so we had to pack our suitcases and bags too. We needed to travel a long way for our holiday and it took a while to get there. Talk about how you travelled there (car, plane, etc.). Our talk has reminded me of a true story in the bible about a man named Abraham who was a friend of God. God made some promises to Abraham. God promised a land for Abraham and his family to live in. God told Abraham to go to a new country. Abraham trusted and obeyed God who kept his promise.

**Paper doll chains:** You could make these with your child. Gather some collage material for them to 'clothe' the front of their paper doll people. While you are making the paper doll people you could talk about a true story in the Bible about a man named Abraham and two promises that God made to him. God promised Abraham that he would have a great big family **and** that his family would bring God's blessing to the whole world. I wonder, how Abraham's family did that?

**Stargazing:** When there is a clear sky one evening, take your children outside to gaze upon the night sky. (If you have a telescope all the better.) As you look up into the sky, talk to them about Abraham and the promises God made to him. Say, "I am thinking about a man named Abraham who was a friend of God. God promised Abraham that he would have a great big family. God pointed out the stars in the sky to help Abraham understand how big his family was going to be."

**Star decorations for the Christmas tree:** Print the star decoration template on page 3, onto thin card if you have any. You could also draw your own stars onto cardboard. Set out collage material to decorate. As you work together to make the stars, talk about Abraham and the promises God made to him. Say, "I am thinking about a man named Abraham who was a friend of God. God promised Abraham that he would have a great big family. God pointed out the stars in the sky to help Abraham understand how big his family was going to be."

**Do you know what else these stars remind me of?** *(These stars remind me of Christmas.)*

**What do we celebrate at Christmas time?** *(We celebrate, God's mighty Son Jesus, being born)*

**What did God put in the sky to show where Jesus was born?** *(A star that the wise men followed to find Jesus.) Stars also remind me of a special promise that God made a long time ago before Jesus was born, to Abraham. God promised Abraham that he would have a family that would have as many people in it as there are stars in the sky and that the whole world would be blessed through his family. Jesus is the one that brings that blessing.)*

**Bible:** Retell the accounts of God's promises to Abraham found in Genesis:12:1-3, 15:1-6  
Or, reread the story of God's promises to Abraham from the Blg Picture Storybook Bible.

**Discussion:**

**1. What can you tell me about Abraham?** (*Abraham lived many, many years before Jesus was born. He was God's friend. God loved Abraham and Abraham trusted and loved God. He did as God told him. God made some very big promises to Abraham.*)

**2. Do you know what a promise is?** (*A promise is when you say that you will do something for someone.*)

**What were the big promises God made to Abraham?**

God promised a land for Abraham and his family to live in and as we keep reading the bible we see that God brought Abraham to a new land. God's promise came true.

God promised a great big family for Abraham and as we keep reading the bible we see that promise came true. Abraham's family got bigger and bigger and became a great nation called Israel and they were known as God's people.

God promised that someone in Abraham's family would bring God's blessing to the whole world. As we keep reading the bible we see that someone in Abraham's family fixed the sin problem so that people everywhere could be friends with God. Isn't it wonderful that we have a good God who keeps his promises.

**3. Who is the person in Abraham's family that fixed the sin problem?** (*Jesus. Many, many, many years after Abraham, God sent Jesus. Jesus brought God's blessing to the whole world. Jesus was a part of Abraham's family and He did what no one else could do. Jesus fixed our biggest problem. Jesus fixed the sin problem.*)

**4. How did Jesus fix the sin problem?** (*Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin so that we can be part of God's family and one day go to live forever with Him in His place. The Bible says if we trust in Jesus we are God's children. People everywhere can be God's children.*)

**Pray together:** Dear God, Thank you that you keep all your promises. Thank you that you kept your promise to bless the world when you sent Jesus to save us. Thank you that Jesus fixed our sin problem and we can be a part of your family if we trust in him.

**Memory verse:** John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

**Ideas for sermon time:**

**1. Watch** this week's video for under 5's.

**2. Craft.** If you made the paper doll chain people or the star decorations earlier, but have not decorated them yet, the children could do that during sermon time.

**3. Draw.** The children could draw a picture of the night sky with lots and lots of stars using textas, crayons or chalk.

**4. Play dough:** The children could make some stars and people out of playdough. If you have them, star cutters or people cutters would be good to use.

**5. Print and Colour:** [Here](#) is a picture of Abraham and a starry sky to colour.

