

Lesson 4: A Big Promise From God

Key Takeaway

We worship a God who always keeps his promises.

Scriptural Basis

Genesis 12:1-9, Genesis 15:4-6

Bible Verse

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things" (Revelation 4:11a NLT).

Learning Objectives:

- Children will retell God's promise to bless the world through Abraham's family.
- Children will describe how Abraham showed faith and how they can trust God too.
- Children will name one promise from God they can trust today.

Materials Needed for Small Group:

- ☐ A Bible
- ☐ Name tags
- ☐ A snack per child

Activity: Promise Walk

- ☐ Blindfold, one per group

Activity: Count the Stars Object Lesson

- ☐ Jar of sand, one per small group
- ☐ Printout 1, one per student
- ☐ (Optional) Star stickers or star stencils

Activity: Promise or Not A Promise

- ☐ Printout 2, one per small group

Materials Needed for Large Group:

- ☐ A Bible

Object Lesson: Trusting God's Plan

A small prize (e.g., piece of candy or sticker)

A hidden, better prize (e.g., a larger candy bar, small toy, or gift card)

A box or bag to keep the better prize hidden

Materials Needed for Games

Game: Star Search

- ☐ Star stickers or paper stars hidden around the room.

Game: Faith Walk Obstacle Course

- ☐ Blindfolds
- ☐ Small obstacles (cones, chairs, cushions).

Game: Count the Stars Relay

- ☐ Small star cutouts or stickers
- ☐ Two buckets per team
- ☐ Spoons or small cups.

Small Group Session 1

15 Minutes

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following activities to do together while children eat their snack.

Share and Listen

Option 1

Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).

Option 2

Ask the children to take turns sharing how they are feeling today using the [“How Are You Feeling?” chart](#).

Pray Together

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

Opening Question

- ***“Has there ever been a time when you had to follow directions without knowing exactly what would happen?”***
- ***“How did you feel when you didn’t know what it would be like?”***
- ***“Did you find it easy or hard to trust the person giving the directions? Why?”***

“Today, we’re going to learn about someone named Abraham who went on a big journey because God asked him to, and he trusted God to take care of him along the way. To help us learn more about how that was for Abraham, we will do an activity.”

Activity: Promise Walk

Objective: To introduce the idea of trusting God’s promises even when we can’t see the outcome.

Materials: Blindfolds

Instructions: Clear a path across the room. Choose a volunteer and tie the blindfold to cover their eyes.

Give verbal instructions (or choose a partner) to guide the blindfolded student across the room safely.

Once they finish, discuss:

- ***“How did you feel when you couldn’t see where you were going?”***
- ***“What helped you trust your guide?”***

“Just like you had to trust your guide, Abraham trusted God even when he didn’t know where he was going. Let’s find out what God promised him and how Abraham trusted God’s plan.”

Large Group

10-15 Minutes

Welcome the students to Crossroads and tell them you are glad they came this week.

3 R's of Respect

Set expectations for students using the 3 R's of Respect:

Optional Starters

To help engage the kids from the start, there are a few optional ways to kick things off. Feel free to choose one, two, or even all of these ideas—it is completely up to you!

“Who is Jesus” call and response

Prayer Prompt: “God, I am thankful for...”

(Consider asking students to pray for something God created that they are thankful for like pets, trees, mountains, lakes or oceans, sky, etc.).

“My God” Opening Song:

Opening Prayer

Tell kids that closing their eyes and folding their hands together can help keep them focused and not distract those around them.

Opening Question

- **“Have you ever made a promise to someone?”**
- **“Was it hard to keep? Why or why not?”** (Allow a few kids to respond).

“Today, we’re learning about a man named Abraham. He lived in a city called Ur and had a comfortable life with his family. But one day, God made Abraham a big promise—and asked him to do something hard. Let’s learn about that promise together.”

Activity: Follow the Leader – A Journey of Faith

“You’re going to follow me as we imagine what it might have been like for Abraham to leave everything and follow God. When I move, you move. When I stop, you stop. Let’s go!”

(Begin walking slowly around the room, stopping occasionally to make the journey feel longer and more meaningful. As you go, narrate like this:)

“Abraham didn’t know where he was going... but he obeyed. He left his home, his friends, and everything he knew.

***The journey was long... dusty... and full of unknowns.
But he trusted that God had a plan."***

(After a few turns or laps, return to the front and have everyone sit.)

Read Genesis 12:1–4 aloud:

"The Lord had said to Abram, 'Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation... All the families on earth will be blessed through you.'"

Ask:

- ***"How do you think Abraham felt about leaving his home?"***
- ***"Would it be easy for you to leave everything behind without knowing where you're going?"***

(Optional: Show the map and describe the long journey from Ur to Canaan—about 1,000 miles!)

"Later, God made the promise even bigger. He said Abraham would have a huge family—more than he could count!"

The Story

Read Genesis 15:4–6 aloud.

"Then the Lord said to him, 'No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir.' Then the Lord took Abram outside and said to him, 'Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!'"
And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith."

"Even though Abraham didn't have any kids yet, he believed in God. That's called faith—trusting God, even when you don't see the full picture."

Object Lesson: Trusting God's Plan

Material Needed:

A small prize (e.g., piece of candy or sticker),

A hidden, better prize (e.g., a larger candy bar, small toy, or gift card)

Invite a student to come up and give them the small prize.

Say: ***"I wanted to bless you with something special today."***

Ask:

- ***“Do you trust me?”***
- ***“Would you be willing to give me back that prize for something else—even though you don’t know what it is?”***
- ***“Encourage the student to trust you. If they decide to trade, take back the small prize and reveal the hidden, better prize.”***

“It’s not easy to give up something we can see for something unknown. But sometimes, trusting means letting go of what’s familiar, even when we don’t know what’s ahead.

God asked Abraham to leave his home and family to go to a place he had never seen before. Abraham didn’t know exactly where God was leading him, but he trusted and obeyed.

Abraham trusted that God had a plan—even though he didn’t understand it.

Trusting God often means letting go of what we can see and stepping out in faith. When we obey him, we discover that his plan is always better than what we could have imagined.”

Close in Prayer

“Dear God, thank you for keeping your promises, just like you did for Abraham. Help us trust you even when we don’t see the whole picture.”

Small Group Session 2

20-25 Minutes

Share the Key Takeaway: We worship a God who always keeps his promises.

Helpful Hint: Use these [Story Cards](#) to have kids retell the story in a fun way, in their own words.

Activity: Count the Stars Object Lesson

Material Needed:

- ☐ Jar of sand

Show the students the jar of sand.

Ask:

- ***“Can you count how many grains of sand are in this jar?”***

Encourage students to take a minute and let the students try to count the grains of sand in the jar.

Say: ***“We can’t count the grains of sand in the jar and we also can’t count the stars in the sky. God gave a great promise to Abraham that he would give him a big family, as many as stars were in the sky.”***

Give the students star stickers to place on Printout 1, while sharing how God promised Abraham’s family would be as numerous as the stars.

Younger Kids:

- Draw a picture of Abraham looking at the stars.
- Encourage them to take this home and share the story with their family.

Older Kids:

- Write down one promise from the Bible they want to remember this week.
- Encourage them to share what they learned about God’s promises with a friend.

“God promised Abraham a big family, but the biggest blessing was Jesus, who came from Abraham’s family to bless the whole world.”

God’s promise to Abraham wasn’t just about having a big family—it was part of God’s big plan to bless the world.”

Activity: Promise or Not A Promise

Lay Printout 2 on the floor or a table. Divide the group into two teams and have students take turns facing off against each other. During each round, read one of the statements below aloud and instruct the students to place their hands on the card if

they think the statement is a promise from God or not a promise. Award points to the students who guess correctly.

Promises are in bold and have verses referenced.

After each round, briefly explain why the statement is or isn't a biblical promise to help the group better understand God's truth.

1. God will never leave you. – Deuteronomy 31:6
2. God will make your life easy and problem-free.
3. You will always get what you want when you pray.
4. If you do good things, God will love you more.
5. God loves you unconditionally. – Romans 8:38-39
6. Bad things will never happen to you.
7. You will never feel sad if you trust God.
8. God will forgive your sins when you confess them. – 1 John 1:9
9. Believing in God means you will always be healthy.
10. You must earn God's forgiveness.
11. God gives us peace when we trust Him. – Philippians 4:6-7
12. God will give you strength when you're weak. – Isaiah 40:29
13. God will guide you when you ask for wisdom. – James 1:5
14. God will be your help in times of trouble. – Psalm 46:1
15. Nothing can separate you from God's love. – Romans 8:39
16. Following God means everyone will like you.
17. Jesus is coming back one day. – John 14:3

Ending Together

5-10 Minutes

“Today we learned that God made a big promise to Abraham and kept it. God promised to bless him, give him a big family, and bless the whole world through him. And he did!”

Just like Abraham trusted God’s promises even when he didn’t have all the answers, we can trust God too. He always keeps his promises!

This week, think about how you can trust God in your own life. Maybe it’s trusting him when you feel scared, lonely, or unsure. You can pray and remember God is always with you and will never leave you.”

- ***“What is one promise from God you can remember and share with someone this week?”***

Response and Reflection

Close with prayer: Thank God for keeping his promises. Ask God to help the kids trust his promises in their lives.

Say: ***“If there’s something you need to trust God with this week, take a moment to silently ask him for help now.”***

Print out the memory verse.

Practice the memory verse for this unit (Revelation 4:11a).

Pray with the students and dismiss them.

Games

20-25 Minutes

Game: Star Search

Objective: Help kids visualize God's promise to Abraham by searching for countless stars.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Star stickers or paper stars hidden around the room.

How to Play:

- Before the game, hide stars throughout the room.
- Set a timer and let students search for as many stars as they can.
- Count the stars at the end and see how many each person or team collected.

Connection to the Lesson: Just like Abraham looked at the stars in the sky, this game helps kids understand how big God's promise really was—that his descendants would be as countless as the stars.

Game: Faith Walk Obstacle Course

Objective: Help kids understand what it means to trust God, even when they can't see what's ahead.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Blindfolds
- ☐ Small obstacles (cones, chairs, cushions).

How to Play:

- Create a simple obstacle course.
- One student wears a blindfold while their partner gives verbal instructions to guide them through the course safely.
- Switch roles and repeat.

Connection to the Lesson: Just like Abraham trusted God to guide him to a new land, this game helps kids experience the challenge—and the importance—of trusting someone to lead them step by step.

Game: Promise Keeper Tag

Objective: Reinforce the idea that God always keeps His promises.

Materials Needed: None.

How to Play:

- Choose one child to be the “Promise Keeper.”
- The Promise Keeper tags other players, who then freeze.
- To be unfrozen, another player must run by and say a promise of God (e.g., “God is with us,” “God forgives us”).
- Rotate roles after a few rounds.

Connection to the Lesson: This game reminds kids that God’s promises are active and freeing—just as His promises helped Abraham move forward in faith, they help us too.

Game: Count the Stars Relay

Objective: Help kids understand the vastness of God’s promise to Abraham through a fast-paced team relay.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Small star cutouts or stickers
- ☐ Two buckets per team
- ☐ Spoons or small cups.

How to Play:

- Divide kids into teams.
- Place a bucket full of stars at one end of the room and an empty one at the other.
- Players take turns using a spoon or cup to carry stars from the full bucket to the empty one.
- After a set time, count the transferred stars.

Connection to the Lesson: Just like Abraham was told to count the stars, this game helps kids see how overwhelming and amazing God’s promises can be—more than we can count!

Printout 4.1

GOD IS FAITHFUL TO KEEP HIS PROMISES.

God promised Abraham's family would be as numerous as the stars.

Printout 4.2

**NOT A
PROMISE**



**NOT A
PROMISE**



**GOD'S
PROMISE**



**GOD'S
PROMISE**

