Preschool–Grade 6

God's Promise to Abraham

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: Abram believed God. I can believe God, too.
Bible passage: Genesis 12–15. Read Genesis 12:1–9 and 15:1–6 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "And he believed in the LORD" *Genesis 15:6 (KJV)*. **Believed** means he trusted God to do what He said.
You need: a Bible, crayons, star stickers (or a yellow crayon) and one take-home sheet for each child. If you have them: a blanket or bedsheet over two chairs to make a tent.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Genesis 12. Set up the blanket tent in a corner of the room.
The names: in this story the Bible calls Abraham **Abram** and Sarah **Sarai**. God gave them new names later (Genesis 17:5, 17:15).

1. Opening game: Pack and Go (5 minutes)

Say: "Let's pack up! We're going on a trip!" Pretend together: fold your clothes, roll up your blanket, pick up your bag. Then say, "Follow me!" and walk slowly around the room, stepping high, then tiptoeing, then marching. End at the blanket tent and sit down inside or next to it. Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a man who packed up and moved, because God told him to go."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Genesis 12. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Long ago there was a man named Abram. His wife was Sarai (Genesis 11:31). *(Wave hello.)*
God told Abram to go to a land He would show him (12:1). *(Point far away.)*
Abram packed up everything. *(Pretend to pack a bag.)*
Abram obeyed God and went (12:4). *(Walk in place.)*
Say it with me: "Abram obeyed God!"
Abram lived in a tent (12:8). *(Put your hands together over your head like a tent.)*
Abram and Sarai had no children (15:2). *(Shake your head no.)*
God took Abram outside. He told Abram to count the stars (15:5). *(Look up and point.)*
"One, two, three..." There were too many to count! *(Count on your fingers.)*
God said Abram's family would be as many as the stars (15:5). *(Open your arms wide.)*
Abram believed God (15:6). *(Hand on your heart.)*
Say it with me: "Abram believed God!"
God always keeps His promises. *(Clap three times.)*
Say it with me: "I believe God!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Where did God tell Abram to go? *(To a land God would show him, Genesis 12:1)*
2. What did God tell Abram to count? *(The stars, 15:5)*
3. Did Abram believe God? *(Yes! 15:6)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "The Bible says about Abram, 'And he believed in the LORD.'" Teach the motion: point up for "the LORD," then put your hand on your heart for "believed." Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Genesis 15:6" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: Count the Stars (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a tent. Then they put star stickers above it, or draw stars with a yellow crayon. Count each child's stars together: "One, two, three..." Then say: "God showed Abram more stars than he could count!" Kids who finish early can sit in the blanket tent and look up and count the "stars" on the ceiling.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for keeping Your promises.
Help me believe You like Abram. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving. If they get wiggly, do the "pack and go" walk again. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child asks whether Abram and Sarai got a baby: yes! God kept His promise, and their son Isaac was born (Genesis 21:2). That is next week's story.

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