Preschool–Grade 6

Abram and Lot

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

Main point: Be a peacemaker. Don't fight, and let others go first.
Bible passage: Genesis 13. Read Genesis 13:1–18 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee" *Genesis 13:8 (KJV)*. The old word **strife** means fighting, and **I pray thee** means please.
You need: a Bible, lots of toy animals (cows and sheep if you have them), two small boxes or baskets, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Genesis 13. Put one box on each side of your story spot.

1. Opening game: Too Many Animals (5 minutes)

Give each child a few toy animals. Kids put them all into one box, one by one, saying "Moo!" or "Baa!" Keep going until the box is too full and animals fall out. Say: "Oh no! Too many animals! There is no room. Today we will hear a true story about too many animals."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Genesis 13. 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.

Abram and Lot were family. Lot was Abram's nephew (Genesis 12:5). *(Hug yourself.)*
Abram had lots of cows (13:2). *(Say "Moo!")*
Lot had lots of sheep and cows too (13:5). *(Say "Baa!")*
Too many animals! No room for all of them (13:6). *(Squeeze your arms in tight.)*
The helpers who took care of the animals began to fight (13:7). *(Make a grumpy face.)*
Abram said, "Let there be no strife." That means, please, let's not fight (13:8). *(Shake your head no.)*
Say it with me: "Let's not fight!"
Abram said, "We be brethren." That means we are family (13:8). *(Shake hands with a friend.)*
Abram let Lot choose first (13:9). *(Point left, then point right.)*
Lot chose the land with lots of water (13:10–11). *(Wiggle your fingers like water.)*
Lot went one way. Abram stayed (13:11–12). *(Move one box of animals far away.)*
God told Abram to look up and look all around (13:14). *(Turn all the way around.)*
God said He would give Abram all this land (13:15). *(Spread your arms wide.)*
Say it with me: "God takes care of me!"

3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Why was there no room? *(Too many animals, Genesis 13:6)*
2. What did Abram say? *("Let there be no strife." Let's not fight! 13:8)*
3. Who did Abram let choose first? *(Lot, 13:9)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Abram said, 'Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee.' Strife means fighting. I pray thee means please." Teach the motion: shake your head no on "no strife," fold your hands on "I pray thee," and point to yourself and then to a friend on "between me and thee." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Genesis 13:8" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "Abram made peace. Jesus makes peace between us and God (Romans 5:1). 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: Two Tents (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw two tents far apart, one on each side, and cows and sheep by each tent. While they color, ask: "What did Abram say? Who chose first? What did God give Abram?" Kids who finish early can sort the toy animals into the two boxes, taking turns.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Dear God, help me not to fight.
Help me let others go first. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: let every child put an animal in the box and take one out. When two children want the same toy, practice Abram's words together: "Let's not fight. You choose first." Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

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