

THE STORY @ HOME

KIDS 3RD-6TH NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-2
Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

LAST WEEK

In a second creation story, God creates the first human from dust and God's own breath. To create a suitable partner, God forms the second human out of the first, creating the first family (Genesis 1:1-2:4a).

THIS WEEK

God promises that the elderly Sarah and Abraham will have a son to which Sarah laughs in disbelief. God's promise comes true, and with joyous laughter they name their child Isaac (Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7).

THE POINT

God gives us joy when God fulfills promises.

STORY SUMMARY

Abraham and Sarah received the Lord in the form of three visitors. Abraham ran to greet the visitors and exclaimed that water and bread should be brought to them, showing his hospitality. Then he, Sarah, and their servants prepared an abundant feast. When Sarah overheard the visitors' promise that she would give birth to a son in her old age, she burst out in laughter. It was such a crazy idea! Yet God has the last laugh when Isaac was born. Sarah's laughter of disbelief morphed into laughter of joy. God keeps every single promise made to God's people.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Finding Scripture (Bible Citations)

Students are learning more and more Bible stories all the time. Today you will help them learn about how to find a particular story in the Bible by using Bible citations. Kids understand the process of looking for things (lost socks, a favorite book or even a sibling) and are able to compare what they know about finding lost items with finding a special story in the Bible.

PRACTICE: PRAYER

Abraham and Sarah were able to speak to God in wonderful ways. We have that opportunity as well by engaging in prayer. Prayer can involve speaking, action, listening, movement and creativity. Prayer cards help students create a prayer together. Consider finding a regular time to use these cards together at home as well.

NEXT WEEK

Isaac grows up and has two sons, Jacob and Esau. Jacob deceives Esau and runs away in fear. Years later, as he is returning, he encounters and wrestles with an unknown stranger. He prevails and gains God's blessing, being renamed Israel (Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30).

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TRY IT @ HOME

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Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- In what way does this text teach about the theme, God Creates Family?
- What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7 God gives a promised child. Abraham and Sarah warmly welcomed their visitors. Make plans to invite friends, relatives, or neighbors over and decide how you will make them feel welcome.
Monday—Read Genesis 25:19-28 Two sons for Isaac and Rebekah. Isaac and Rebekah met one another at the well. Ask your parents or grandparents how they met one another.
Tuesday—Read Genesis 25:29-34 Jacob buys a birthright. Eat bread and stew (or pretend to!) as you read this story together.
Wednesday—Read Genesis 27:1-17 A scheming son and mother. Jacob and Esau were very different from each other. Make a chart and list the ways you are like your siblings, cousins, or friends and the ways you are different. Thank God for your family and friends.
Thursday—Read Genesis 27:18-29 The scheme succeeds. With your eyes closed and with their permission, gently touch one another's arms, hands, face, and hair. Try to identify the other members of your family.
Friday—Read Genesis 27:30-41 Esau's lost blessing. Have you ever felt cheated out of something? Share the story.
Saturday—Read Genesis 32:1-8 Jacob prepares to see Esau. Talk about how Jacob might have felt as he prepared to see Esau. Have you ever felt this way when you were about to see someone with whom you may have been angry?

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