

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6



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ISBN 978-1-64495-973-2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

How to Use	4
Daily Schedule	13
Plan for the Year	29

Semester 1: Faithful to His Promises

Unit 1: Faithful to Abraham	30
Week 1, Lesson 1: Abraham Is Called	31
Week 2, Lesson 2: The Promise of a Son	38
Week 3, Lesson 3: Isaac Is Born	45
Week 4, Lesson 4: Abraham's Faith Is Tested	52
Unit 2: Faithful to Jacob	59
Week 5, Lesson 1: God Gives Isaac a Wife	60
Week 6, Lesson 2: Jacob and Esau Are Born	67
Week 7, Lesson 3: Jacob's Trickery	74
Week 8, Lesson 4: Jacob's Dream	81
Week 9, Lesson 5: Jacob Is Tricked	88
Week 10, Lesson 6: Jacob Wrestles All Night	95
Unit 3: The Promised Land	102
Week 11, Lesson 1: Joshua Is Called	103
Week 12, Lesson 2: Entering the Promised Land	110
Week 13, Lesson 3: The Fall of Jericho	117
Unit 4: The Call to Faith	124
Week 14, Lesson 1: A Centurion's Faith	125
Week 15, Lesson 2: Walking on Water	132
Week 16, Lesson 3: Help My Unbelief	139

Semester 2: Living a Life of Faith

Unit 5: Job: Faith in Trial	146
Week 17, Lesson 1: Hope in the Pain	147
Week 18, Lesson 2: Joy in the Suffering	154

Unit 6: Joseph: Faith that Perseveres	161
Week 19, Lesson 1: Joseph, the Dreamer.....	162
Week 20, Lesson 2: Sold Away	169
Week 21, Lesson 3: Faithful in Temptation	176
Week 22, Lesson 4: Wisdom from Above.....	183
Week 23, Lesson 5: In the Right Place.....	190
Week 24, Lesson 6: God's Good Purposes	197
 Unit 7: Daniel: Faith in God Alone	204
Week 25, Lesson 1: Daniel and the King's Food.....	205
Week 26, Lesson 2: God Appears in the Fire.....	212
Week 27, Lesson 3: God Writes a Message.....	219
Week 28, Lesson 4: Daniel's Faithful Prayer	226
Week 29, Lesson 5: Rescued from the Lions.....	233
 Unit 8: The Word of God, Our Foundation	240
Week 30, Lesson 1: God's Word Stands Forever	241
Week 31, Lesson 2: God's Word Brings Joy	248
Week 32, Lesson 3: God's Word Is Truth.....	255
 Seasonal Unit	262
Lesson 1, Christmas: God Remembers His Promise	263
Lesson 2, Resurrection: Our Savior's Sacrifice.....	268
Lesson 3, Resurrection: Victory over Death	273
Lesson 4, Second Coming: Jesus Is Coming Soon	278
 Answers	283
Glossary	319

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



What Is the *Illuminate Bible Series*?

Do you want your children to gain a firm knowledge of Scripture? The Bible exposition veterans at LifeStone Ministries want to help. *Illuminate Bible Series* has a unique approach that will enrich their studies with intelligent, reliable, and stimulating Bible knowledge. Your children will genuinely enjoy these engaging Bible lessons and fun activities. All that is needed is for you to pick up the *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book* and start teaching—we have worked hard so that you can avoid costly preparation time.

“They received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily” (Acts 17:11).

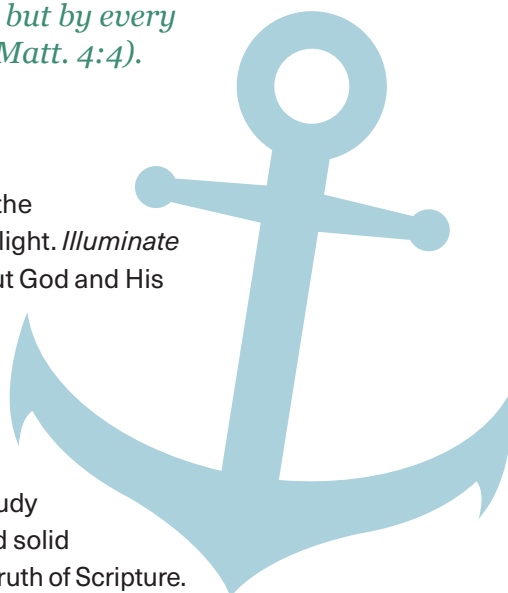
The Most Important Class of the Day!

Science and math and spelling are necessary and valuable topics of study, but nothing can surpass the value of consistent time devoted to learning God’s Word. Numerous studies paint a painful picture of the state of biblical literacy and Christian conduct among “churched” teens and college students. “Good kids” who attend church regularly all their lives for some reason are reaching college with minimal knowledge of Bible basics, having no serious interest in Bible study or prayer, and lacking the spiritual discipline to live in accordance with biblical truth. If Scripture truly is the only source for authoritative truth, then our children need to study it and know it well. No other study or pursuit of knowledge can have the eternal impact that Bible study does. It should never be ignored or treated as a matter of secondary importance.

“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God’” (Matt. 4:4).

Going Deep

Some scriptural truths seem simple on the surface, and yet the deeper you explore, the more spiritual riches are brought to light. *Illuminate Bible Series* is intended to help children to think deeply about God and His Word. The number of Bible learning aids available for kids today is enormous. Yet, on average, children and teens today manifestly know less about the Bible than children and teens a generation ago. The best way to combat this uncomfortable reality is to draw kids into meaningful engagement with Scripture. Our robust, kid-friendly Bible study materials help children wrestle with vital Bible teachings and solid doctrine. We want to anchor Christian families in the bedrock truth of Scripture.



How Does the *Illuminate Bible Series* Work?

Learning Together

Do you envision your children gathered around you as you study the Bible together every day? We do too. That is why we have created a teaching guide that will hold your children's interest with colorful graphics and eye-catching designs. The *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book* is meant to be experienced together.

Each weekly lesson includes five half-hour steps, one for each day of the school week. A Bible passage is provided each day to be read aloud together at the start of each step. The weekly memory verse can also be reviewed together throughout the week as you see fit.

A Typical Day

Here is a simple outline of how a day's step is designed to work.

- **Bible**—Read the Scripture text for the day.
- **Daily Step**—Remind the children of the Step 1 Bible story, then read the *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book* step to them.
- **Prayer Point**—Pray together using the *Prayer Point*, which connects with some aspect of the daily step.

Prayer Point

Thank God for never forgetting His people or His promises.
- **Christ Focus**—Read the *Christ Focus* and encourage thinking about how the Scripture passage and step point to our loving Savior.

Christ Focus

Just as God brought the Hebrews victory over and freedom from Egypt, He will one day bring victory and freedom to all Christians (Rev. 21:1-4).
- **Student Workbooks**—Let the children answer the questions and do the activities in their workbooks.

For preschool and kindergarten, we suggest you use a hands-on approach. At the beginning of every week (or each day!), along with the *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book* step, read the Bible story to them from their workbooks. Then ask them the review questions and help them do the activity.

How to Use the *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book*

This ***Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book*** is the teaching manual that can be used to teach children in either preschool or kindergarten—all with one book. It is a two-semester study that includes 8 units spread over 32 weekly lessons.

Each lesson of the *Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book* focuses on a prominent **Bible story** to be read with the first step. The next four steps provide **supplemental passages** and different perspectives that encourage a deeper understanding of the main Bible story in light of other Scripture truths.



DISCOVER (Step 1): a thought-provoking treatment of elements within *the featured Bible story*



INVESTIGATE (Step 2): noteworthy information about the featured story's *context and background*



CONNECT (Step 3): significant connections between the featured Bible story and other *related Scriptures and biblical concepts*



FOCUS (Step 4): a kid-friendly discussion of *doctrinal truth* related to the featured Bible story



ILLUMINATE (Step 5): a *review* of the lesson's steps and meaningful ways to *put truth into practice*

Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book Extras!

Each lesson is packed not only with Bible-rich content but also additional rewarding insights and helpful learning aids.

- **Focal Point** pages supply extra material related to the weekly passage and include anything from archaeology and world cultures to geography and missions emphases. These topics can be discussed throughout the week as you see fit.
- **Callout boxes** offer unique and valuable ideas to consider that aid in understanding the lesson.
- Important **vocabulary words** in these lessons are highlighted in **green** and reviewed at the end of every week; definitions are in the glossary at the back of this book.
- A weekly **memory verse** is provided to help reinforce the lesson in the students' minds.

Weekly objective sets a biblical goal for children and teachers for every lesson

Each lesson centers around a story from the Bible

Weekly memory verses ensure children hide God's Word in their hearts

STEP
3

Read: Romans 4:16-18

ABRAHAM IS CALLED

 **Objective:** Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.

 **Memory Verse:** "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Galatians 3:29).

CONNECT

Scripture Connections: Rom. 4:16-18; 9:3-5; Gal. 3:26-29

Look-alikes. Has anyone ever said you are the "spitting image" of your parents? That means you look a lot like your parents. Some children look almost like small copies of their parents.

People with faith in God are much like Abraham. In fact, the Bible says they are his children (Rom. 4:16-18; Gal. 3:5-7). Christians do not really look like Abraham. But because of their trust in God, they are amazingly like him in a different way. The apostle Paul tells us why.

Having a *face* that might look like Abraham's does not make us Abraham's children. Paul taught that it's having a *faith* that trusts God like Abraham that makes us children of Abraham. When our faith is the "spitting image" of his faith, we are his children. And together with Abraham, we are the children of God. We will receive the spiritual blessings that God promised to Abraham (Rom. 4:13; Gal. 3:14, 29).

People in many nations trust Jesus as Savior and in this way are true children of Abraham! (See Galatians 3:7-8.)

God's special people. Do you remember God's promises to Abraham? One of those promises was that Abraham's family would grow into a great nation. This happened just as God had promised. The nation became known as Israel, and the people became known as Jews. God blessed the Jews greatly and helped them in many wonderful ways (Rom. 9:3-5). Israel was chosen by God to learn about His grace and salvation in a special way. God's desire was also to use them to tell others about Him. The Israelites were God's special people (Deut. 7:6).

Faithless people. Sadly, the Israelites were not thankful for God's kindness to them. They knew God's promise to Abraham, so they felt sure that God would *always* bless them. They thought they deserved the blessings that God promised Abraham. As a result, they stopped caring whether they pleased God or not. They even angered God by worshipping idols and false gods.

They did not know that just being part of Abraham's family was not enough. The true children of Abraham are those who trust God the same way Abraham did. Hundreds of years later, Jesus said this very thing. He told some evil Jews that if they were really children of Abraham, it would show, because they would behave like Abraham (John 8:39).

Through faith in Christ, believers all over the world are our brothers and sisters. The United States, South Africa, China, Belgium, Peru, Israel, Iraq—we have family members scattered far and wide!

One blessed family. So why is all this important? It shows how everyone who trusts God like Abraham did will receive God's promised blessing of salvation. God's blessings are not limited to only those of the Jewish people. His plan and promises are for all whose faith is like Abraham's faith. He believed that God would act in an amazing way to fulfill His promise. God promises salvation and forgiveness to all who trust Jesus as Savior. He died to pay the penalty for our sins. Through faith in Jesus, Jews and Gentiles become part of the same spiritual family. Through faith, both receive God's promised blessings as Abraham's children (Gal. 3:9, 26-29).

Prayer Point
Rejoice! God made a way for us all to be Abraham's children!

Christ Focus
The blessings of Abraham come to us through Jesus Christ.

16

FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES - FAITHFUL TO ABRAHAM

Callout boxes highlight interesting facts and connections

Vocabulary words are highlighted

A Prayer Point and Christ Focus keep God and the gospel at the center

Student Workbook

A workbook especially designed for preschool and kindergarten aged students makes it possible for you to measure your students' learning progress. This creative and colorful resource contains **daily review questions**. You will find the answers to the workbook questions at the end of this book.

The workbook also includes hands-on **activities** with the review questions. These activities will keep your students' hands busy while engaging their minds with content that reinforces the lesson.

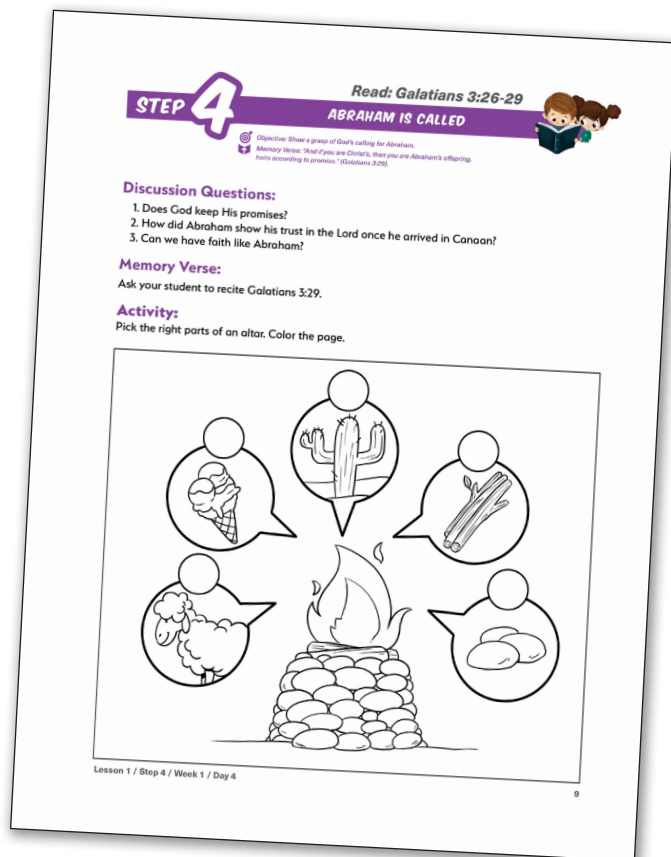


Flexibility!

Because this curriculum has been designed with the busy classroom in mind, flexibility is built in. If there is a need to reduce this to a four- or even three-day course, whichever step you choose can be combined with another or skipped altogether.

The **ILLUMINATE** step (Step 5) in the **Preschool-Kindergarten Guide Book** provides review questions for each daily step as well as a get-up-and-go application activity to wrap up the week of study. You may find it best for your students to finish each day by quizzing with these review questions, giving you more flexibility for the last day of your school week.

As you can see, your students can develop a deeper understanding of Scripture on a schedule you choose, and the curriculum can be adapted to fit your plans.



The Logic of the Scope & Sequence

There are a couple of common pitfalls regarding God's Word that we wanted to avoid in creating our overall plan for *Illuminate Bible Series*:

Pitfall #1: seeing the Bible as merely a collection of heroic stories, miracles, and principles

Pitfall #2: treating the Bible primarily as a history book by using a strictly chronological approach

We believe the best way to study the Bible is through a careful presentation of its central message—the story of God's grace and glory, which is ultimately expressed in Jesus Christ.

Realities to Remember

- God is at the center of the Bible. It was He who superintended and empowered the exciting lives of the characters in the Bible.
- Each book of the Bible is tied to the great central theme of God's grace and glory, even though we seek to understand each book in its historical context.
- Seeing Jesus is essential. Instead of wading through nearly five years of chronological studies to finally get to Jesus, He is featured prominently in all six years of study.

What Is the Plan?

Each year of the curriculum highlights an important attribute of God, using the stories of Scripture to place Him at the center of all things while continually highlighting the work and Person of Jesus.

1. **God Our Savior**—an exploration of God's work of salvation
2. **Our Faithful God**—a focus on God as one who keeps His promises
3. **Our God of Mercy and Grace**—a study of the wonderful mercy and grace God shows His people
4. **Jesus, Our Prophet, Priest, and King**—a discussion of how the Old Testament points to Jesus
5. **Jesus, God's Son**—a survey of how Jesus is fully God
6. **God Will Triumph**—a review of how God prevails for all eternity

But I Want a Chronological Study!

Each week is designed to thoroughly explore Bible passages that exalt our great God. The first year of study, **God Our Savior**, shows how God has redeemed His people. God's work of salvation is traced from Genesis to Revelation as students see how He is carrying out His plan for creation. Notice that the individual units progress chronologically while connecting to the grand story of Scripture:

1. CREATION (Garden of Eden)
2. FALL (Adam and Eve, Sodom and Gomorrah, the Tower of Babel, Noah)
3. REDEMPTION (God's deliverance of the Israelites and Jesus' life, death, and resurrection)
4. RESTORATION (God's final victory and the believer's glorious future)

Though each year is not fully chronological, many of the units in the six books are structured chronologically. So, far from ignoring the chronology of Scripture, we believe it is helpful for students to see the central themes of Scripture as collections of stories are explored.

This approach will so equip elementary students that at the end of these studies, they will discover many prominent stories in the Bible and their great truths. But besides mastering academic content and historical facts, hopefully your child will also have a close relationship with our glorious God!

Volumes through the Years

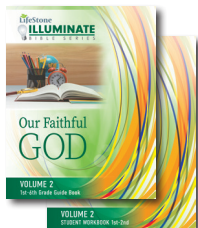
This reading plan is just a suggestion and shows how our six volumes would be used for twelve years of study after kindergarten. Illuminate was created with flexibility in mind, so every volume of the Guide Book can be used in any order for any student in preschool-6th grade.



1st Grade

Volume 1, 1st-6th Guide Book

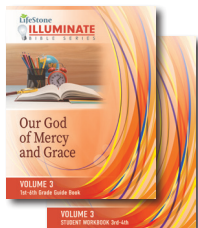
Volume 1, 1st-2nd Student Workbook



2nd Grade

Volume 2, 1st-6th Guide Book

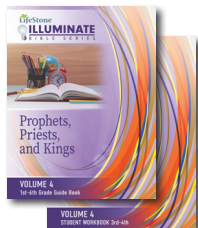
Volume 2, 1st-2nd Student Workbook



3rd Grade

Volume 3, 1st-6th Guide Book

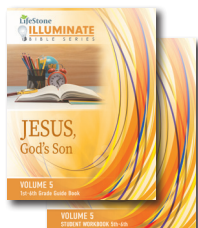
Volume 3, 3rd-4th Student Workbook



4th Grade

Volume 4, 1st-6th Guide Book

Volume 4, 3rd-4th Student Workbook



5th Grade

Volume 5, 1st-6th Guide Book

Volume 5, 5th-6th Student Workbook



6th Grade

Volume 6, 1st-6th Guide Book

Volume 6, 5th-6th Student Workbook

Volumes through the Years

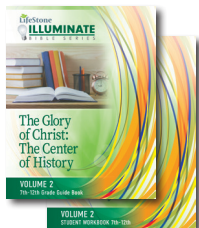
This reading plan is just a suggestion and shows how our six volumes would be used for twelve years of study. Illuminate was created with flexibility in mind, so every volume of the Guide Book can be used in any order for any student in 7th-12th grade.



7th Grade

Volume 1, 7th-12th Guide Book

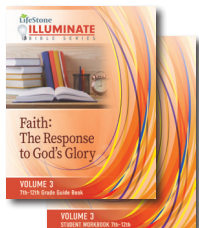
Volume 1, 7th-12th Student Workbook



8th Grade

Volume 2, 7th-12th Guide Book

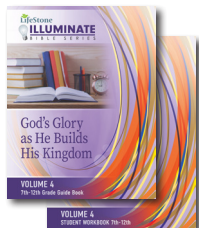
Volume 2, 7th-12th Student Workbook



9th Grade

Volume 3, 7th-12th Guide Book

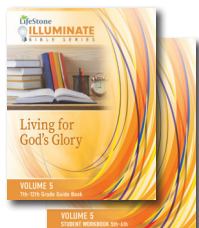
Volume 3, 7th-12th Student Workbook



10th Grade

Volume 4, 7th-12th Guide Book

Volume 4, 7th-12th Student Workbook



11th Grade

Volume 5, 7th-12th Guide Book

Volume 5, 7th-12th Student Workbook



12th Grade

Volume 6, 7th-12th Guide Book

Volume 6, 7th-12th Student Workbook

Seasonal Unit Overview

What Is the Seasonal Unit?

Illuminate's scope and sequence is designed to explore themes in Scripture that point to God's character. Because academic calendars vary from year to year, important religious holidays are not built into the regular sequence of lessons. Rather, we have included a supplemental unit in the back of this book and your students' workbooks to observe religious holidays and key events. This seasonal unit contains four weeks of content to be used at your discretion throughout the school year.

How to Use

Each lesson in the seasonal unit functions like an ordinary lesson of *Illuminate*. When you choose to do a lesson from this unit, read the daily Scripture from the appropriate step first, then read the step's article. Students should complete any questions or activities given in their workbooks. The seasonal unit does not have a test.

Seasonal lessons are designed to be completed a week or two at a time, not all at once. When you are ready to use a lesson from the seasonal unit, pause your regular study until the lesson is completed. Resume your regular study the following week.

Seasonal Unit Content

Christmas | 1 lesson

We suggest using this lesson the last week of school before Christmas. Pause your regular study for a week to explore and appreciate the story of Jesus' advent. The lessons and activities will help your students focus their minds and hearts on Jesus during this season.

Resurrection | 2 lessons

We suggest using these lessons during the two weeks preceding Easter. During the first week, study the crucifixion and Jesus' sacrifice for us. During the second week, follow that up with the joy of the resurrection and new life in Christ.

Second Coming of Christ | 1 lesson

This lesson can go anywhere in the year, but we suggest placing it sometime after Easter. Use this lesson to remind your students that Jesus will return to rule and reign forever.

First Semester Suggested Daily Schedule

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 1	Day 1	Unit 1, LS 1 – Abraham Is Called Read Gen. 11:31—12:9 and page 31 • Guide Book (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 5-6 • Workbook (WB)		
	Day 2	Read Gen. 15:1-6 and pages 32-33 • (GB) Questions and activity page 7 • (WB)		
	Day 3	Read Rom. 4:16-18 and pages 34-35 • (GB) Questions and activity page 8 • (WB)		
	Day 4	Read Gal. 3:26-29 and page 36 • (GB) Questions and activity page 9 • (WB)		
	Day 5	Read Jas. 1:22-25 and page 37 • (GB) Activity page 10 • (WB)		
Week 2	Day 6	Unit 1, LS 2 - The Promise of a Son Read Gen. 18:1-15 and pages 38-39 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 12-13 • (WB)		
	Day 7	Read Gen. 17:15-22 and pages 40-41 • (GB) Questions and activity page 14 • (WB)		
	Day 8	Read 2 Kgs. 4:8-17 and page 42 • (GB) Questions and activity page 15 • (WB)		
	Day 9	Read Rom. 4:19-21 and page 43 • (GB) Questions and activity page 16 • (WB)		
	Day 10	Read 1 Pet. 4:9 and page 44 • (GB) Activity page 17 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 3	Day 11	Unit 1, LS 3 - Isaac Is Born Read Gen. 21:1-8 and page 45 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 19-20 • (WB)		
	Day 12	Read Gen. 16:1-6 and pages 46-47 • (GB) Questions and activity page 21 • (WB)		
	Day 13	Read Heb. 11:8-12 and pages 48-49 • (GB) Questions and activity page 22 • (WB)		
	Day 14	Read 2 Cor. 1:15-22 and page 50 • (GB) Questions and activity page 23 • (WB)		
	Day 15	Read Prov. 3:5-6 and page 51 • (GB) Activity page 24 • (WB)		
Week 4	Day 16	Unit 1, LS 4 - Abraham's Faith Is Tested Read Gen. 22:1-14 and pages 52-53 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 26-27 • (WB)		
	Day 17	Read Gen. 22:15-18 and pages 54-55 • (GB) Questions and activity page 28 • (WB)		
	Day 18	Read Heb. 11:17-19 and page 56 • (GB) Questions and activity page 29 • (WB)		
	Day 19	Read Rom. 4:1-8 and page 57 • (GB) Questions and activity page 30 • (WB)		
	Day 20	Read Jas. 1:2-4 and page 58 • (GB) Activity page 31 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 5	Day 21	Unit 2, LS 1 - God Gives Isaac a Wife Read Gen. 24:1-4, 10-28 and pages 60-61 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 33-34 • (WB)		
	Day 22	Read Gen. 24:57-67 and pages 62-63 • (GB) Questions and activity page 35 • (WB)		
	Day 23	Read Mark 10:2-9 and page 64 • (GB) Questions and activity page 36 • (WB)		
	Day 24	Read Eph. 5:22-33 and page 65 • (GB) Questions and activity page 37 • (WB)		
	Day 25	Read Prov. 31:10-12 and page 66 • (GB) Activity page 38 • (WB)		
Week 6	Day 26	Unit 2, LS 2 - Jacob and Esau Are Born Read Gen. 25:19-26 and page 67 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 40-41 • (WB)		
	Day 27	Read Gen. 25:27-34 and pages 68-69 • (GB) Questions and activity page 42 • (WB)		
	Day 28	Read Gen. 48:12-19 and pages 70-71 • (GB) Questions and activity page 43 • (WB)		
	Day 29	Read Rom. 9:10-12 and page 72 • (GB) Questions and activity page 44 • (WB)		
	Day 30	Read 1 Chr. 29:10-13 and page 73 • (GB) Activity page 45 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 7	Day 31	Unit 2, LS 3 - Jacob's Trickery Read Gen. 27:1-24 and pages 74-75 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 47-48 • (WB)		
	Day 32	Read Gen. 27:25-40 and pages 76-77 • (GB) Questions and activity page 49 • (WB)		
	Day 33	Read Heb. 11:13-16, 20 and page 78 • (GB) Questions and activity page 50 • (WB)		
	Day 34	Read Ps. 127 and page 79 • (GB) Questions and activity page 51 • (WB)		
	Day 35	Read Prov. 22:6 and page 80 • (GB) Activity page 52 • (WB)		
Week 8	Day 36	Unit 2, LS 4 - Jacob's Dream Read Gen. 28:10-22 and page 81 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 54-55 • (WB)		
	Day 37	Read Gen. 29:1-14 and pages 82-83 • (GB) Questions and activity page 56 • (WB)		
	Day 38	Read Gen. 35:6-15 and pages 84-85 • (GB) Questions and activity page 57 • (WB)		
	Day 39	Read Rom. 12:1-2 and page 86 • (GB) Questions and activity page 58 • (WB)		
	Day 40	Read Heb. 13:15-16 and page 87 • (GB) Activity page 59 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 9	Day 41	Unit 2, LS 5 - Jacob Is Tricked Read Gen. 29:15-30 and pages 88-89 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 61-62 • (WB)		
	Day 42	Read Gen. 29:31-35 and pages 90-91 • (GB) Questions and activity page 63 • (WB)		
	Day 43	Read Gen. 12:10-20 and page 92 • (GB) Questions and activity page 64 • (WB)		
	Day 44	Read Eph. 4:20-25 and page 93 • (GB) Questions and activity page 65 • (WB)		
	Day 45	Read Ps. 15 and page 94 • (GB) Activity page 66 • (WB)		
Week 10	Day 46	Unit 2, LS 6 - Jacob Wrestles All Night Read Gen. 32:22-31 and page 95 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 68-69 • (WB)		
	Day 47	Read Gen. 33:1-7 and pages 96-97 • (GB) Questions and activity page 70 • (WB)		
	Day 48	Read Isa. 6:1-8 and pages 98-99 • (GB) Questions and activity page 71 • (WB)		
	Day 49	Read Ps. 107:10-22 and page 100 • (GB) Questions and activity page 72 • (WB)		
	Day 50	Read Ps. 34:4-7 and page 101 • (GB) Activity page 73 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 11	Day 51	Unit 3, LS 1 - Joshua Is Called Read Josh. 1:1-11 and page 103 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 75-76 • (WB)		
	Day 52	Read Num. 27:15-23 and pages 104-105 • (GB) Questions and activity page 77 • (WB)		
	Day 53	Read Deut. 7:17-26 and pages 106-107 • (GB) Questions and activity page 78 • (WB)		
	Day 54	Read Eph. 6:10-20 and page 108 • (GB) Questions and activity page 79 • (WB)		
	Day 55	Read 1 Cor. 16:13 and page 109 • (GB) Activity page 80 • (WB)		
Week 12	Day 56	Unit 3, LS 2 - Entering the Promised Land Read Josh. 3:7-17 and pages 110-111 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 82-83 • (WB)		
	Day 57	Read Josh. 4:1-13 and pages 112-113 • (GB) Questions and activity page 84 • (WB)		
	Day 58	Read Ex. 25:10-22 and page 114 • (GB) Questions and activity page 85 • (WB)		
	Day 59	Read John 1:14-18 and page 115 • (GB) Questions and activity page 86 • (WB)		
	Day 60	Read 1 Cor. 6:19-20 and page 116 • (GB) Activity page 87 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 13	Day 61	Unit 3, LS 3 - The Fall of Jericho Read Josh. 6:1-7, 15-21 and page 117 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 89-90 • (WB)		
	Day 62	Read Josh. 6:24-27 and pages 118-119 • (GB) Questions and activity page 91 • (WB)		
	Day 63	Read Num. 14:5-9 and pages 120-121 • (GB) Questions and activity page 92 • (WB)		
	Day 64	Read Lev. 20:22-26 and page 122 • (GB) Questions and activity page 93 • (WB)		
	Day 65	Read Ps. 118:13-16 and page 123 • (GB) Activity page 94 • (WB)		
Week 14	Day 66	Unit 4, LS 1 - A Centurion's Faith Read Matt. 8:5-13 and page 125 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 96-97 • (WB)		
	Day 67	Read Matt. 8:1-4 and pages 126-127 • (GB) Questions and activity page 98 • (WB)		
	Day 68	Read Ps. 62:1-8 and pages 128-129 • (GB) Questions and activity page 99 • (WB)		
	Day 69	Read Matt. 7:7-11 and page 130 • (GB) Questions and activity page 100 • (WB)		
	Day 70	Read Jas. 1:5-6 and page 131 • (GB) Activity page 101 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 15	Day 71	Unit 4, LS 2 – Walking on Water Read Matt. 14:22-33 and pages 132-133 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 103-104 • (WB)		
	Day 72	Read Matt. 14:34-36 and pages 134-135 • (GB) Questions and activity page 105 • (WB)		
	Day 73	Read Ps. 34:1-7 and page 136 • (GB) Questions and activity page 106 • (WB)		
	Day 74	Read 2 Thess. 2:16-17 and page 137 • (GB) Questions and activity page 107 • (WB)		
	Day 75	Read 2 Cor. 1:20-22 and page 138 • (GB) Activity page 108 • (WB)		
Week 16	Day 76	Unit 4, LS 3 – Help My Unbelief Read Mark 9:14-27 and page 139 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 110-111 • (WB)		
	Day 77	Read Matt. 17:19-21 and pages 140-141 • (GB) Questions and activity page 112 • (WB)		
	Day 78	Read Matt. 21:18-21 and pages 142-143 • (GB) Questions and activity page 113 • (WB)		
	Day 79	Read Heb. 11:1-6 and page 144 • (GB) Questions and activity page 114 • (WB)		
	Day 80	Read 2 Cor. 4:16-18 and page 145 • (GB) Activity page 115 • (WB)		

Second Semester Suggested Daily Schedule

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 17	Day 81	Unit 5, LS 1 – Hope in the Pain Read Job 1:13-22 and page 147 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 117-118 • (WB)		
	Day 82	Read Job 1:1-12 and pages 148-149 • (GB) Questions and activity page 119 • (WB)		
	Day 83	Read Job 19:1-11, 22-29 and pages 150-151 • (GB) Questions and activity page 120 • (WB)		
	Day 84	Read Rom. 5:1-5 and page 152 • (GB) Questions and activity page 121 • (WB)		
	Day 85	Read Ps. 52:8-9 and page 153 • (GB) Activity page 122 • (WB)		
Week 18	Day 86	Unit 5, LS 2 – Joy in the Suffering Read Job 42:1-11 and pages 154-155 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 124-125 • (WB)		
	Day 87	Read Job 42:12-16 and pages 156-157 • (GB) Questions and activity page 126 • (WB)		
	Day 88	Read Jas. 5:7-12 and page 158 • (GB) Questions and activity page 127 • (WB)		
	Day 89	Read Jas. 1:2-4 and page 159 • (GB) Questions and activity page 128 • (WB)		
	Day 90	Read Hab. 3:17-19 and page 160 • (GB) Activity page 129 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 19	Day 91	Unit 6, LS 1 – Joseph, the Dreamer Read Gen. 37:1-8 and pages 162-163 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 131-132 • (WB)		
	Day 92	Read Gen. 37:9-17 and pages 164-165 • (GB) Questions and activity page 133 • (WB)		
	Day 93	Read 1 Kgs. 3:5-15 and page 166 • (GB) Questions and activity page 134 • (WB)		
	Day 94	Read Heb. 1:1-4 and page 167 • (GB) Questions and activity page 135 • (WB)		
	Day 95	Read Prov. 2:1-9 and page 168 • (GB) Activity page 136 • (WB)		
Week 20	Day 96	Unit 6, LS 2 – Sold Away Read Gen. 37:18-28 and page 169 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 138-139 • (WB)		
	Day 97	Read Gen. 37:29-36 and pages 170-171 • (GB) Questions and activity page 140 • (WB)		
	Day 98	Read Matt. 27:27-31 and pages 172-173 • (GB) Questions and activity page 141 • (WB)		
	Day 99	Read 1 John 3:11-15 and page 174 • (GB) Questions and activity page 142 • (WB)		
	Day 100	Read John 16:33 and page 175 • (GB) Activity page 143 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 21	Day 101	Unit 6, LS 3 – Faithful in Temptation Read Gen. 39:7-20 and pages 176-177 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 145-146 • (WB)		
	Day 102	Read Gen. 39:21—40:4 and pages 178-179 • (GB) Questions and activity page 147 • (WB)		
	Day 103	Read 2 Tim. 2:22-24 and page 180 • (GB) Questions and activity page 148 • (WB)		
	Day 104	Read Prov. 3:1-8 and page 181 • (GB) Questions and activity page 149 • (WB)		
	Day 105	Read Ps. 24:3-6 and page 182 • (GB) Activity page 150 • (WB)		
Week 22	Day 106	Unit 6, LS 4 - Wisdom from Above Read Gen. 41:1-16 and page 183 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 152-153 • (WB)		
	Day 107	Read Gen. 41:25-37 and pages 184-185 • (GB) Questions and activity page 154 • (WB)		
	Day 108	Read Gen. 41:38-49 and pages 186-187 • (GB) Questions and activity page 155 • (WB)		
	Day 109	Read Ps. 19:1-6 and page 188 • (GB) Questions and activity page 156 • (WB)		
	Day 110	Read Rom. 1:20 and page 189 • (GB) Activity page 157 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 23	Day 111	Unit 6, LS 5 – In the Right Place Read Gen. 42:3-21 and pages 190-191 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 159-160 • (WB)		
	Day 112	Read Gen. 43:11-17 and pages 192-193 • (GB) Questions and activity page 161 • (WB)		
	Day 113	Read Gen. 43:26-34 and page 194 • (GB) Questions and activity page 162 • (WB)		
	Day 114	Read Prov. 16:1-9 and page 195 • (GB) Questions and activity page 163 • (WB)		
	Day 115	Read Prov. 19:20-21 and page 196 • (GB) Activity page 164 • (WB)		
Week 24	Day 116	Unit 6, LS 6 – God's Good Purposes Read Gen. 45:1-8 and page 197 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 166-167 • (WB)		
	Day 117	Read Gen. 45:9-18 and pages 198-199 • (GB) Questions and activity page 168 • (WB)		
	Day 118	Read Gen. 44:18-34 and pages 200-201 • (GB) Questions and activity page 169 • (WB)		
	Day 119	Read Gen. 50:15-21; Rom. 8:28 and page 202 • (GB) Questions and activity page 170 • (WB)		
	Day 120	Read Ps. 36:5-9 and page 203 • (GB) Activity page 171 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 25	Day 121	Unit 7, LS 1 – Daniel and the King's Food Read Dan. 1:8-20 and page 205 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 173-174 • (WB)		
	Day 122	Read Dan. 1:1-7 and pages 206-207 • (GB) Questions and activity page 175 • (WB)		
	Day 123	Read Neh. 1 and pages 208-209 • (GB) Questions and activity page 176 • (WB)		
	Day 124	Read Rom. 13:1-7 and page 210 • (GB) Questions and activity page 177 • (WB)		
	Day 125	Read Ps. 119:116-120 and page 211 • (GB) Activity page 178 • (WB)		
Week 26	Day 126	Unit 7, LS 2 – God Appears in the Fire Read Dan. 3:13-25 and pages 212-213 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 180-181 • (WB)		
	Day 127	Read Dan. 3:26-30 and pages 214-215 • (GB) Questions and activity page 182 • (WB)		
	Day 128	Read Josh. 24:14-24 and page 216 • (GB) Questions and activity page 183 • (WB)		
	Day 129	Read John 12:20-26 and page 217 • (GB) Questions and activity page 184 • (WB)		
	Day 130	Read Isa. 26:1-4 and page 218 • (GB) Activity page 185 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 27	Day 131	Unit 7, LS 3 – God Writes a Message Read Dan. 5:1-12 and page 219 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 187-188 • (WB)		
	Day 132	Read Dan. 5:17-30 and pages 220-221 • (GB) Questions and activity page 189 • (WB)		
	Day 133	Read 1 Cor. 1:18-25 and pages 222-223 • (GB) Questions and activity page 190 • (WB)		
	Day 134	Read Isa. 55:6-11 and page 224 • (GB) Questions and activity page 191 • (WB)		
	Day 135	Read Ps. 147:4-5 and page 225 • (GB) Activity page 192 • (WB)		
Week 28	Day 136	Unit 7, LS 4 – Daniel's Faithful Prayer Read Daniel 6:1-10 and pages 226-227 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 194-195 • (WB)		
	Day 137	Read Dan. 6:11-17 and pages 228-229 • (GB) Questions and activity page 196 • (WB)		
	Day 138	Read Luke 20:19-26 and page 230 • (GB) Questions and activity page 197 • (WB)		
	Day 139	Read Ps. 55:16-19 and page 231 • (GB) Questions and activity page 198 • (WB)		
	Day 140	Read 1 Thess. 5:16-18 and page 232 • (GB) Activity page 199 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 29	Day 141	Unit 7, LS 5 – Rescued from the Lions Read Dan. 6:18-23 and page 233 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 201-202 • (WB)		
	Day 142	Read Dan. 6:24-28 and pages 234-235 • (GB) Questions and activity page 203 • (WB)		
	Day 143	Read 1 Chr. 5:18-22 and pages 236-237 • (GB) Questions and activity page 204 • (WB)		
	Day 144	Read Matt. 10:28-32 and page 238 • (GB) Questions and activity page 205 • (WB)		
	Day 145	Read 1 Pet. 1:6-9 and page 239 • (GB) Activity page 206 • (WB)		
Week 30	Day 146	Unit 8, LS 1 – God's Word Stands Forever Read 2 Kgs. 22:3-13 and page 241 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 208-209 • (WB)		
	Day 147	Read 2 Chr. 34:1-8 and pages 242-243 • (GB) Questions and activity page 210 • (WB)		
	Day 148	Read Deut. 17:14-20 and pages 244-245 • (GB) Questions and activity page 211 • (WB)		
	Day 149	Read Isa. 40:6-8 and page 246 • (GB) Questions and activity page 212 • (WB)		
	Day 150	Read Ps. 117:1-2 and page 247 • (GB) Activity page 213 • (WB)		

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 31	Day 151	Unit 8, LS 2 – God's Word Brings Joy Read Neh. 8:1-10 and pages 248-249 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 215-216 • (WB)		
	Day 152	Read Neh. 8:11-12 and pages 250-251 • (GB) Questions and activity page 217 • (WB)		
	Day 153	Read Ps. 119:105-112 and page 252 • (GB) Questions and activity page 218 • (WB)		
	Day 154	Read 2 Tim. 3:16-17 and page 253 • (GB) Questions and activity page 219 • (WB)		
	Day 155	Read Ps. 119:73-77 and page 254 • (GB) Activity page 220 • (WB)		
Week 32	Day 156	Unit 8, LS 3 – God's Word Is Truth Read Matt. 7:24-27 and page 255 • (GB) Story, questions, and activity pages 222-223 • (WB)		
	Day 157	Read Prov. 24:3-4 and pages 256-257 • (GB) Questions and activity page 224 • (WB)		
	Day 158	Read Ps. 1 and pages 258-259 • (GB) Questions and activity page 225 • (WB)		
	Day 159	Read Ps. 19:7-14 and page 260 • (GB) Questions and activity page 226 • (WB)		
	Day 160	Read Ps. 119:160 and page 261 • (GB) Activity page 227 • (WB)		

PLAN FOR THE YEAR

Our Faithful God

The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 1:20 that “all the promises of God” find their “Yes” and “Amen” in Jesus. From the moment of man's first sin in the Garden of Eden, God gave the promise of a Savior, and it was a promise He would keep. Our God is faithful.

The Old Testament is full of promises from God to His people, each one assuring believers that God will be faithful to them. In Genesis we read how God initiated a relationship with Abraham, choosing him to be the first of His special people. God formed a covenant with Abraham, promising him that a great nation would come from him and that all the peoples of the earth would be blessed through his family. God graciously promised to be faithful to Abraham and his children. Even after the people He created had sinned repeatedly, God still chose to give them great hope through the surety of His promise.

The promise to Abraham was repeated to his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob. These patriarchs were the early fathers of the faith, and God's people Israel would ultimately come from this family line.

Many years later, God empowered His chosen people to defeat the people of Jericho, calling Joshua to lead the Israelites in victory. The Israelites received the land flowing with milk and honey, which God had promised them. The Promised Land is a picture of the future blessings of the new heavens and new earth that God is preparing for His children.

This promise is available to all who place their faith in Jesus Christ. Through the gospel, God invites all to trust Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, offering the hope of forgiveness of sin and an everlasting home. Many reject this call to faith. Some respond and live in a way that shows their continued need for a Savior and reliance on Him. The Bible shows us that it is God who helps believers live faithful lives. God enables His people to obey Him and advance His kingdom as they trust in His care and ultimate reward.

The Scriptures give us good examples of believers who strived to live lives of faith. These examples show us different ways we can honor God in our lives, especially in moments of difficulty and uncertainty. Job remained faithful amid great trial. Joseph, similarly, trusted God's goodness even as he was called to persevere in hope through many years of hardship. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego each demonstrated the importance of putting faith in God above all else.

To live a life that trusts in our faithful God, we must study these stories as well as the entirety of the Bible. God has not left us alone in our lives but has graciously given us His unchanging Word to guide us. The Bible contains God's many promises to us, which we can hold on to whatever comes our way. These promises are true, and God blesses those who trust in them with great joy.



Semester 1: Faithful to His Promises

In these four units, we study God's faithfulness in keeping His promises to His children throughout many generations.

UNIT 1

FAITHFUL TO ABRAHAM

God keeps His promises. He never fails. This is clearly seen in the lives of Abraham and Isaac. God selected them to be fathers of His chosen people and promised to bless them with abundant land and countless offspring. Though these men were not perfect, they were good examples of faithfulness.



ABRAHAM IS CALLED



Objective: Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.



Memory Verse: "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

What is the most surprising thing that has ever happened to you?

Surprised by God. Imagine you get dressed for a normal day. Then you walk into the kitchen. Sitting at the table to join you for breakfast is the president of the United States! A visit from the president would be surprising. But Abraham (also called Abram) was even more surprised when God talked with him.

The Bible does not tell us how Abraham heard from God the first time. But Abraham's hometown does give us some clues about Abraham himself. Abraham was living in the city of Ur (Gen. 15:7; Acts 7:2). People in Ur worshipped *fa/se* gods and idols. Abraham was like all the other idol worshippers in his city. But God, in His

great kindness, specially chose Abraham. God decided to bless him greatly. Here are five awesome things God promised to Abraham:



1. God would make Abraham's future family into a great nation.
2. God would bless Abraham and make him famous.
3. God would bless anyone who blessed Abraham and would curse anyone who cursed him.
4. God would give Abraham's promised family the land of Canaan to live in.
5. God would bless all the peoples on earth through Abraham.

Deeper meaning. Abraham was probably stunned. He did not understand the full meaning of these promises. When God said He would bless all the peoples on earth through Abraham, He was speaking of all those who would one day believe the gospel of Jesus Christ (Gal. 3:8). Jesus' earthly mother and father came from Abraham's family. So if you trust Jesus to save you from your sins, you are being blessed through Abraham.

God's command. God gave Abraham only one command. It had two different parts. First, Abraham had to leave his country, his people, and even his father's family. Moving to a new place would be hard enough. But leaving everyone he knew—even his family—would be very painful.

The second part of God's command had a strange twist. Abraham had to go to another land, but God did not tell him where it was. God simply said, "I will show you the land." How do you go to a place when you do not know where it is? Abraham surely was confused by that too! But he got up and went. One day when he was camping in the land of Canaan, God appeared to him and said, "I will give your **descendants** this land."

Abraham was an idol worshipper at first, but he did not stay that way. Now Abraham had something that pleased God: **faith**. Faith is trust in someone else. Abraham trusted God. He did not enjoy leaving his home and family to go to a land he did not know. But Abraham trusted God. He believed that God would bless him just as He had promised. By faith, Abraham obeyed God (Heb. 11:8-9).

Prayer Point

Ask God to give you faith to follow His commands.

Christ Focus

Through Jesus Christ, God's promised blessing to the whole world extends from Abraham to us.

ABRAHAM IS CALLED



Objective: Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.



Memory Verse: "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

God did not just pinkie swear with Abraham. God made a serious promise called a **covenant**. God's covenant with Abraham was a free gift. But what exactly *was* the "gift?" Let's learn about it!

TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STARS!

Scientists have guessed that there may be as many as 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 (one billion trillion) stars in the universe! That's a lot! God told Abraham that the number of his descendants would be like the number of stars in the sky. God was saying that Abraham would have too many descendants to count! God kept His promise. Abraham went from not having a child at all to having a big family that grew and became the nation of Israel. Sometimes we call Abraham's promised descendants Jews or Hebrews.

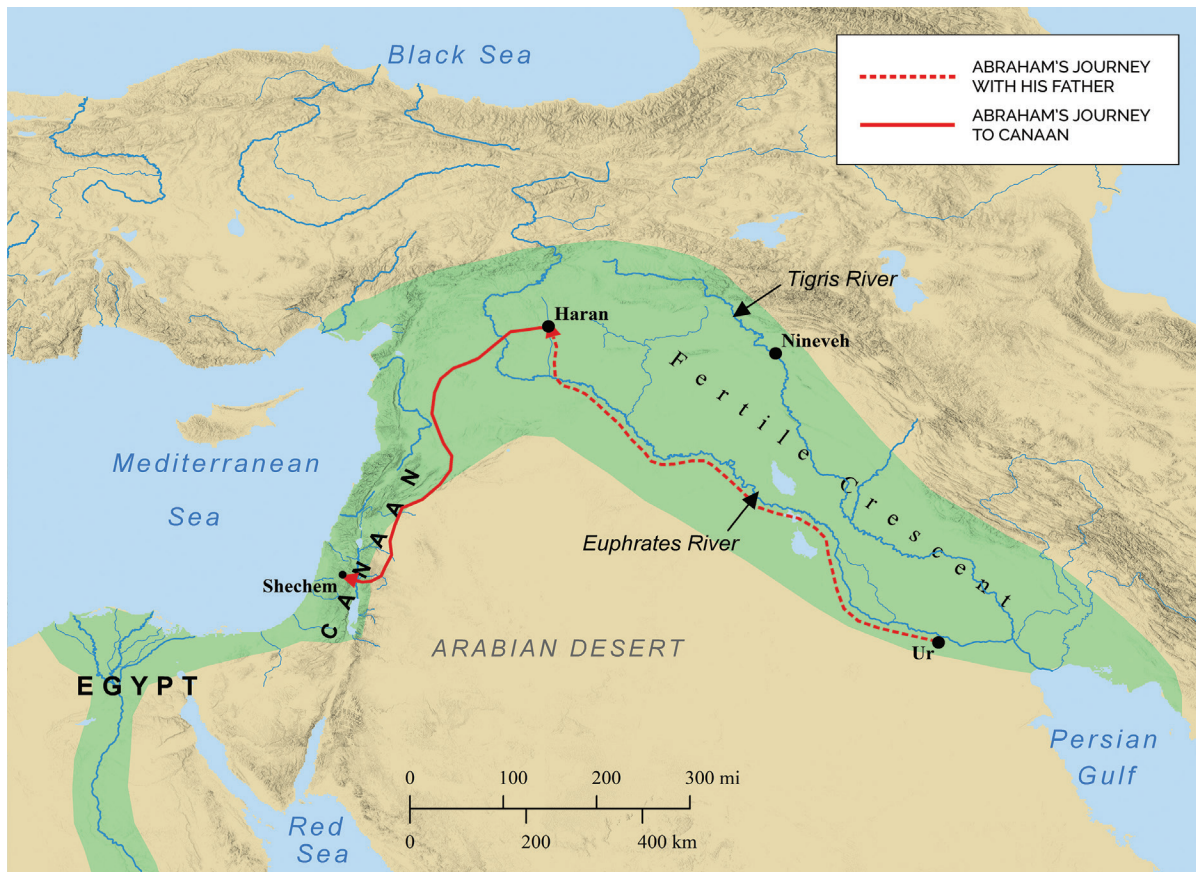
Home, Sweet Home

But wait—there's more! God promised to give Abraham a great land. The land would belong to his family forever. But to find this new home, Abraham had to leave his old one.

Can you find Ur on the map? That was Abraham's hometown. Ur was located in the area where Iraq is today. Ur was a beautiful and rich city with great palaces, large markets, temples, statues, and gardens.

The people of Ur worshipped false gods. To honor their gods, they built in the center of their city a ziggurat (a pyramid with different levels that has steps on the sides). The people hoped a god might come to visit them, so they built a house on top of the ziggurat. Of course, not one of their false gods ever came to visit.





Abraham **MOVES** Out

Find the land of Canaan on the map. That is where Abraham and his family were headed. But they went to Haran first. Going straight across from Ur to Canaan would have been the shorter way. Why do you think Abraham and his family did not take the shorter way?

If you guessed that it would have been too dangerous to cross the Arabian Desert, you are correct. Water and food would have been hard to find. They might have faced sandstorms and bandits too.

Instead, they traveled through an area called the Fertile Crescent (the area in green). They could find plenty of water and food on their trip. Some modern countries in the Fertile Crescent today are Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and parts of Turkey.

Did You Know? If Abraham had traveled twenty miles per day for a total of five hundred miles, the trip from Haran to Canaan would have taken about a month.

Prayer Point

Praise God for His great promises to Abraham and the world!

Christ Focus

God promised that Abraham's family would be a blessing to the world. He kept that promise when Jesus came to earth, died on the cross, and rose again to give all believers eternal life!

Living in Tents

Abraham and his family lived in tents as they traveled. Their tents were not like the tents we have today. The tents we use are made of canvas, cotton, or nylon. The tents back then were made of goat hair. This woven material keeps the inside of the tent cool in desert heat.



The Moon God: Sin



People in Abraham's hometown of Ur and the city of Haran worshipped many false gods. One of the most important of these gods was the moon god, Sin. This god's name is not connected with the English word "sin." But "Sin" seems like a fitting name for an idol! Sin's followers used a few symbols to stand for their god. Two of these were the crescent moon shape and an old man with a long beard. Sin was often called the lord of wisdom. Thankfully, the true God—who is truly all-wise—called Abraham out of idol worship.

Camels

When Abraham left the city of Ur, he likely used camels. Abraham's camels were probably the kind with only one hump. God gave camels special features to help them live in the desert. They can live for months without food. They can live over a week without water. (But did you know that no water is stored inside their humps?) Camels have two sets of eyelashes that help shield their eyes. They also have an extra set of eyelids that are clear. During sandstorms, they can close those eyelids to keep sand out of their eyes but still see!





ABRAHAM IS CALLED

Objective: Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.

Memory Verse: "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

Scripture Connections: Rom. 4:16-18; 9:3-5; Gal. 3:26-29

Look-alikes. Has anyone ever said you are the "spitting image" of your parents? That means you look a lot like your parents. Some children look almost like small copies of their parents.

People with faith in God are much like Abraham. In fact, the Bible says they are his children (Rom. 4:16-18; Gal. 3:5-7). Christians do not really look like Abraham. But because of their trust in God, they are amazingly like him in a different way. The apostle Paul tells us why.

Having a *face* that might look like Abraham's does not make us Abraham's children. Paul taught that it's having a *faith* that trusts God like Abraham that makes us children of Abraham. When our faith is the "spitting image" of his faith, we are his children. And together with Abraham, we are the children of God. We will receive the spiritual blessings that God promised to Abraham (Rom. 4:13; Gal. 3:14, 29).

People in many nations trust Jesus as Savior and in this way are true children of Abraham! (See Galatians 3:7-8.)

God's special people. Do you remember God's promises to Abraham? One of those promises was that Abraham's family would grow into a great nation. This happened just as God had promised. The nation became known as Israel, and the people became known as Jews. God blessed the Jews greatly and helped them in many wonderful ways (Rom. 9:3-5). Israel was chosen by God to learn about His grace and salvation in a special way. God's desire was also to use them to tell others about Him. The Israelites were God's special people (Deut. 7:6).

Faithless people. Sadly, the Israelites were not thankful for God's kindness to them. They knew God's promise to Abraham, so they felt sure that God would *always* bless them. They thought they deserved the blessings that God promised Abraham. As a result, they stopped caring whether they pleased God or not. They even angered God by worshipping idols and false gods.

They did not know that just being part of Abraham's family was not enough. The true children of Abraham are those who trust God the same way Abraham did. Hundreds of years later, Jesus said this very thing. He told some evil Jews that if they were really children of Abraham, it would show, because they would behave like Abraham (John 8:39).

Through faith in Christ, believers all over the world are our brothers and sisters. The United States, South Africa, China, Belgium, Peru, Israel, Iraq—we have family members scattered far and wide!

One blessed family. So why is all this important? It shows how everyone who trusts God like Abraham did will receive God's promised blessing of salvation. God's blessings are not limited to only those of the Jewish people. His plan and promises are for all whose faith is like Abraham's faith. He believed that God would act in an amazing way to fulfill His promise. God promises salvation and forgiveness to all who trust Jesus as Savior. He died to pay the penalty for our sins. Through faith in Jesus, Jews and **Gentiles** become part of the same spiritual family. Through faith, both receive God's promised blessings as Abraham's children (Gal. 3:9, 26-29).

Prayer Point

Rejoice! God made a way for us all to be Abraham's children!

Christ Focus

The blessings of Abraham come to us through Jesus Christ.



ABRAHAM IS CALLED



Objective: Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.



Memory Verse: "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

Doctrine: Children of Abraham

A special family. Have you seen pictures of family members who lived long before you were born? Do you know any stories about them? Those people are called your **ancestors**. It can be fun to see what our family members did long ago. Maybe one of your ancestors was a cowboy or a famous poet. What if a king or queen were part of your family's past?

As Christians, we have many stories about our family right in the Bible. But this family is not like many of the families you know. The Christian family is a spiritual family. Our Christian family members are those who have also put their faith in God and trusted Jesus as their Savior. And like a normal family, the Christian family has ancestors too! Every one of our ancestors had faith in God.

To be in Abraham's family, the only thing you need is true faith in God!

Our spiritual ancestors. The Bible tells us about our ancestors. Our spiritual family has many famous people. Moses, Elijah, Ruth, and Esther are just a few of our famous ancestors. All these spiritual family members pleased God with their faith. They did great deeds that should have been impossible. But they were not truly the ones doing those things. God used them and their faith in Him to accomplish great things. He used them to show His power!

As Christians, we also have the power of God's Spirit. So we can live by faith as our ancestors did. By faith, we can do the great things God desires. Praise the Lord that we can be a part of this wonderful family!

The most special family member. This week we have learned who the true children of Abraham are. Now we will find out more about the most important person in Abraham's family: Jesus. Jesus is part of Abraham's family in two ways. Although Jesus has always been God, He physically entered the world when He was born on earth as a Jewish person. This means He was part of the nation of Israel, which God began through Abraham. Jesus is part of Abraham's physical family. But He is also the one who connects every member of Abraham's spiritual family through faith in Himself.

Did you know you have spiritual brothers and sisters in Botswana in Africa? Take some time today to think about those in other countries who are part of our family.

Jesus Christ is at the center of all God's promises to Abraham (Gal. 3:16). Because Jesus died on the cross, our sins are forgiven when we put our faith for forgiveness in Him. Anyone can trust Jesus to save them from God's judgment. That means it does not matter what country a person is from. It does not matter whether that person is rich or poor, a man or a woman, or young or old. Through faith in Christ, all can receive God's promised blessing. A person's faith in the Lord makes him a part of Abraham's family of faith. That also means that a person is a part of God's family (vss. 26-29).

Prayer Point

Pray for members of our spiritual family around the world.

Christ Focus

Faith in Jesus as Savior is what connects God's family of faith!

ABRAHAM IS CALLED



Objective: Show a grasp of God's calling for Abraham.

Memory Verse: "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

REVIEW

This week, we learned about how **God called Abraham**. Let's do some review. For each step, begin by summarizing what you learned.



- What did God promise to make Abraham's **descendants** into? *A great nation.*
- What did Abraham do to deserve God's blessing? *Nothing.*
- What did Abraham have that pleased God? *Faith.*



- How many descendants did God promise Abraham in His **covenant**? *As many as the stars in the sky.*
- What did the people in Abraham's hometown (Ur) worship? *False gods.*
- What nation did Abraham's descendants become? *Israel.*



- How did the Jews show they were not thankful for God's kindness? *They worshipped idols.*
- Who made it so that anyone can become one of Abraham's true children? *Jesus.*
- How do **Gentiles** become children of Abraham? *By having faith in God as Abraham did.*



- All Christians are part of one big spiritual _____. *Family.*
- Name some of our spiritual ancestors. *Moses, Elijah, Ruth, Esther, etc.*
- How did Jesus fulfill God's promises to Abraham? *He died on the cross and let us be part of the family of faith.*

APPLY

After hearing from God, Abraham did not just say, "I believe You exist now, but I'm going to stay here and keep worshipping my fake gods." That would not show true faith. Abraham's faith pushed him to act in obedience and to trust God. Our faith should also push us to act. Get ready and take some time to think about what faithful actions you should be taking. Do you need to stop watching a certain TV show? Do you need to start treating your brother or sister with more kindness? Do you need to make a habit of praying or reading the Bible? Get set by asking God for help. Then go and take action!



READY?

SET?

GO!

Prayer Point

Ask God to help you act out your faith.

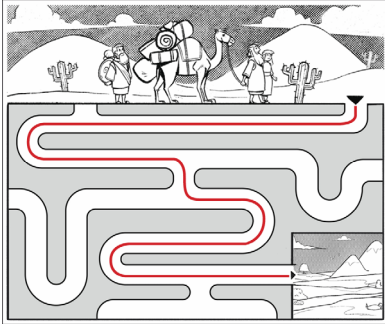
Christ Focus

Jesus is the Starter and Finisher of our faith (see Heb. 12:2). His life on earth was a perfect example of a faithful life!

UNIT 1 LESSON 1 / ANSWERS

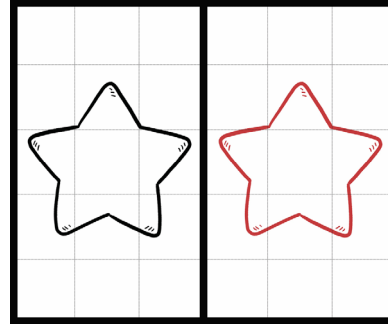
STEP 1

1. to make his family into a big nation
2. the whole world
3. Canaan



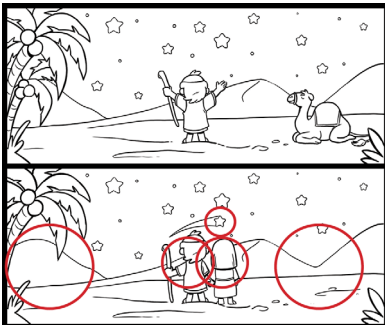
STEP 3

1. have faith
2. yes
3. that he believed in God



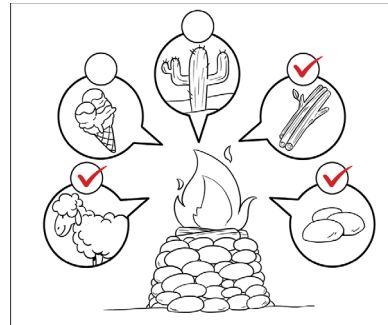
STEP 2

1. fake gods
2. They would be cursed.
3. They would be blessed.



STEP 4

1. yes
2. He built an altar and worshipped God.
3. yes



GLOSSARY

- ancestor:** a person from whom a family, country, or people group descends
- ark of the covenant:** the holy golden box that symbolized God's presence with Israel
- barren:** the condition of being unable to have a baby
- birthright:** the blessings and honors given to the firstborn son
- blessing:** a gift from God; asking God to give good to a person
- census:** count of a population that is administered by the government
- centurion:** a Roman officer in charge of one hundred soldiers
- circumcision:** the physical sign of God's covenant with Abraham, taken by all Hebrew men
- compassion:** a concern for others' pain
- courage:** to keep going even when afraid or challenged
- covenant:** a very serious agreement between two or more people or groups
- cupbearer:** person whose job is to serve a king what he is to drink
- deceiver:** a person who tries to make others believe things that are not true
- decree:** a command or choice made by someone in charge
- defiled:** unclean, dirty
- demon:** an evil spiritual being
- descendant:** one coming from an ancestor
- discipline:** how God trains us to become more like Him
- divorce:** when a marriage is ended legally
- dowry:** the gift a future husband would give to his future wife's family
- eternal:** able to last forever; eternal things cannot be destroyed
- exile:** to be kept from one's home as punishment
- faith:** a living trust in God and Christ's saving work
- famine:** a time when there is not enough food to eat
- fervent:** having very strong feelings about something
- foreigner:** someone who is from another nation
- foundation:** something firm to build a building upon; also, the ideas that matter most to a person and upon which he builds his life
- fulfill:** to complete
- general revelation:** how God reveals Himself to us through creation
- Gentile:** someone who is not Hebrew
- God's will:** God's plan, commands, and desires

Goshen: the best land in Egypt, where Jacob's family settled

government: the organization or person that rules over a country

grace: a gift given that is not deserved

hinder: to make it hard or impossible for a person to do something

holy: God's absolute purity; divine; set apart

hospitality: welcoming and being generous to guests

inherit: to receive from another as an heir; to receive a trait through genetics

inheritance: something received from another, usually after his passing

interpret: to explain what something means

joy: contentment and delight in God that is given by the Spirit

judge: to decide; one with authority to decide

justified: being declared as righteous as Jesus in God's sight, through Christ's death on the cross

leprosy: a contagious skin disease

mammon: money and earthly things that keep a person from loving God

manger: a box used to hold food for animals

marriage: a special relationship between one man and one woman, made as a serious promise before God and the law

martyr: a person who dies for serving Jesus

memorial: often a physical object that acts as a reminder of an important fact or event

mercy: not getting punishment that one deserves; treating someone with kindness when they do not deserve it or when they have no reason to expect it

mercy seat: the lid of the ark of the covenant, from which God would speak and where sacrificial blood was sprinkled

miracle: when God shows His power by making something amazing happen

mourn: to be deeply sad for great loss, usually death of a loved one

offering: something given to God as part of worship

omnipotence: having all power and control; all-powerful; it is possessed only by God

omniscience: knowing all things; only God has this ability

overcome: to defeat or successfully gain control over something

pagan: being of an idolatrous religion, often one with more than one god

paradox: a way of saying something that sounds false but can actually be true

patriarch: the most important male leader of a family, usually the firstborn son (or oldest male) in ancient times. The patriarchs of the people of Israel were Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

persevere: to continue doing something even when it is difficult

Pharisee: a person in a group within Judaism that was most strict, and most in error, about how to keep the laws in the Old Testament

plunder: things that are taken by force, especially by victors after a battle

polygamy: when a person has more than one spouse at once

pride: a feeling of pleasure in oneself that leads one to believe one is better than others

progressive revelation: God revealing His truth little by little over time in a way that helps believers understand more and more of His plan of salvation and plan for this world

prophecy: a message that is meant to tell the future, especially those written in the Old Testament; any message that comes from God

providence: God's care for His creation; God's intervention and guidance in our lives

reconcile: to be brought back together

redeem: to buy back; to pay the debt of

redeemer: one who delivers someone or something from debt or consequences

renew: to make new

repent: to feel sorrow for sin and decide to wholeheartedly follow God's commands

revenge: the act of hurting someone because they hurt you

righteous: acting in accordance with God's law; being free from sin and guilt

sacrifice: to give up something of worth for someone else

salvation: being rescued from the guilt and domination of sin through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross

scrolls: long rolls of parchment paper that were used to write on in ancient times

siege: when an enemy army surrounds a city to keep anyone or anything (even food) from getting in or out

sovereign: completely in control; supreme power and authority

special revelation: how God reveals Himself to us directly through His Word and His Son

spiritual battle: the invisible fight against evil spiritual forces (sin, the devil and the other fallen angels, or demons)

submission: the act of being under the authority of another

submit: to be under the authority of another

supernatural: related to the spiritual (not physical) world

tempted: to feel a desire or pressure to sin

the church: the group of everyone who has trusted Jesus as Savior

the tabernacle: the tent used as the place of worship until the temple was built

theophany: when God appeared to a person in a way that could be seen

to stone: to throw rocks at a person until he dies; a form of execution

trial: a difficulty that tests how patient, strong, or trusting a person is

type of Christ: a person or event in the Old Testament that points forward to Jesus

understanding: the way we perceive a situation

visions: special messages from God that are like dreams, but the person may actually be awake

wisdom: knowing how to use knowledge in a situation

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