

LESSON 2

## **ISAAC AND REBEKAH**

#### **LESSON AT A GLANCE**

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Faithful

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 24

GOD'S BIG STORY: Abraham's servant travels to find a wife for Abraham's son Isaac. God

provides a bride, Rebekah, and proves faithful in keeping His promises.

## **Object Lesson: Animal and Doll Play**

## Worship

### **God's Big Story**

## **Prayer and Blessing**

### **Activity: God Is Faithful Song**



### **LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS**

### INVITATION

## We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

I often read the Bible and wonder how people could mistrust God. He spoke directly to you! You heard Him with your own ears. How could you not trust that He will do what He said?

But I look back at my own life and realize that even if I heard God's audible voice, I would still struggle to trust. It is who we are. God shows up in smoke and fire and a booming voice, and the next day we wonder if it really happened. The enemy continues trying to persuade us to mistrust—did God really say that?

When have you struggled to trust Him, despite God's past faithfulness to you?

The journey with Jesus isn't a sprint. Abraham had a long road with God—ups and downs, all caused by Abraham's unfaithfulness. But by the end of his life, Abraham seems to have finally realized that God is faithful and knows He will provide a wife for Isaac.

As I ponder this story, my prayer is that it won't take me until the end of my life to consistently put my faith in the Lord. May my trust overflow as I look back and see how God showed up. May I be able to remember that God is faithful.

### —Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

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#### **ISAAC AND REBEKAH**

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

## FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

#### WHO?

The "best servant" in Abraham's house is likely the same head servant mentioned in Genesis 15:2. His name was Eliezer of Damascus. He oversaw all of Abraham's possessions. Before Ishmael and Isaac were born, he was considered the heir of Abraham's fortune and property.

#### WHAT?

Isaac has grown up. Abraham knows that part of God keeping His promise of having as many descendants as the stars means his son will need to marry. Abraham sends his servant to find a woman from Abraham's home country for Isaac. His servant finds Rebekah, and she marries Isaac.

#### WHERE?

Abraham is living in Canaan, which is the land God promised to give him and his children (Genesis 17:8). It's found in modern-day Lebanon, southern Syria, and Israel. Abraham's servant travels to Abraham's home country of Mesopotamia in the Euphrates Valley.

### WHEN?

Abraham probably lived between 2100 to 1800 BC. Sarah had just died, and Abraham purchased from the Hittites a place to bury her (Genesis 23). The Hittites were a major power in the nineteenth century BC. Abraham died soon after Isaac was married, and he left everything to Isaac.

### **CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

Through Isaac, God's promise to Abraham grows. Isaac and Rebekah have a son named Jacob, whom God blesses and calls Israel. Israel is the nation from whom the Messiah would be born. Israel's Messiah—Jesus—fulfills the Abrahamic promise through which the blessings of God open to all nations.

## **Object Lesson: Animal and Doll Play**

**SUPPLIES:** baby dolls, stuffed animals, plastic food, plates, spoons

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church. Set out baby dolls, stuffed animals, and toy food and plates as well as spoons.

Welcome! I'm so glad you're here! Today we're going to hear a story about how God took care of Abraham. God took care of Abraham because God is faithful. Let's practice taking care of our animal friends and baby dolls today.

Let kids play with and practice taking care of the dolls and animals by feeding them.

### **Our Wonder Truth today is GOD IS FAITHFUL.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

IS FAITHFUL.—Squat down and jump up with arms in the air.

### **Clean Up**

### At the end of free play...

Play the Clean Up video and encourage kids to work together to put away toys.

### **Snack**

**SUPPLIES:** Small paper cups, cheerios, pitcher of water

Gather kids at chairs around snack tables and pass out snacks and water. While kids are busy eating, begin the Bible story.

## **God's Big Story**

**SUPPLIES:** Isaac and Rebekah Pictures

**Leader Tip:** Consider attaching the Isaac and Rebekah Pictures to a wall as you tell the story to give kids an overall visual of it.

God promised a man named Abraham a big family! Eventually, Abraham and his wife Sarah had a baby boy named Isaac. Hold up picture #1: Abraham and Sarah with a baby. Isaac grew up and needed a wife to be part of the big family God promised. Show kids picture #2 and point out Isaac. Abraham's servant loaded up camels and went on a journey to find a wife for Isaac. Show picture #3: Abraham and servant with camels carrying gifts. The servant came to a well and prayed, and when he looked up, he saw Rebekah. Rebekah gave him and his camels water to drink. The servant knew that Rebekah was God's answer to prayer and would be Isaac's wife! Show kids picture #4: Servant at the well with Rebekah.



The servant met Rebekah's family and enjoyed a meal with them at their home. They were all amazed at God's faithfulness because God always does what He says He will do. Show kids picture #5: Servant, Rebekah, and Rebekah's family eating at Rebekah's house. The next day Rebekah left with Abraham's servant on the journey back to Abraham's home. When they arrived, Rebekah met Isaac. Show kids picture #6, Isaac and Rebekah. God kept His promise to Abraham, and through Isaac and Rebekah's marriage, Abraham's family grew. God is faithful.

### **Activity: God Is Faithful Song**

We're learning today that God is faithful! He showed His faithfulness to Isaac by providing a wife —Rebekah. God is faithful to us too! Let's sing a song to remember His faithfulness!

Sing "God Is Faithful" to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?" ("Frère Jacques") and lead kids in the following motions:

God is faithful; God is faithful. (Point up.)

That's my God; that's my God. (Thumbs-up.)

God is always faithful; God is always faithful. (Spin around with arms out.)

Yes, He is! Yes, He is! (Point up and nod head.)

## **Prayer and Blessing**

Let's talk to God and thank Him for being faithful.

God, You are faithful. You made a promise to Abraham and Isaac and kept it. Thank You for being faithful and loving. You are our faithful God. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God is good and keeps His promises, so may you always expect Him to be faithful. The same God who kept His covenant to Abraham will remain faithful to you because He does not change. In seasons of waiting, may your faith grow, and may your life tell of God's faithfulness.

# Worship

**SUPPLIES:** Worship music videos

Today we're learning God is faithful and keeps His promises. Let's sing to Him now!

Play songs and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.