

God told Abraham to travel to a new country and to visit new lands he'd never seen or been in before. It wasn't easy. There were no motorized vehicles; no cars, planes or trains.

Abraham and his team had to walk or travel on camels or other animals, or wagons. He had many animals.

Abraham chose to obey. So he packed everything up and moved with his big team of helpers and all that they had. They lived in tents, as they travelled wherever God said to go.

Abraham had a wife called Sarah, and God said that one day she would have a child. They looked forward to the day when this would happen. It took faith and patience to wait.



Abraham was a man who took action and did whatever God told him to do. He had faith that everything would work out well. His life wasn't easy as he travelled in the hot desert, and stayed in the country of Egypt for a while, and had to deal with troublesome people at times. But he spent time with God, praying and listening to what He had to say, and this gave him peace and assurance in his heart.

Abraham believed what God said, and it gave him faith and courage through all the difficulties. First God told him to move from where he was living and to go to a new place. Then God promised him a child of his own, which he and his wife Sarah did not yet have. They were looking forward

to having a child for a very long time.



God promised that not only would they have a son, but that eventually there would be so many great-great grandchildren, that they would be as uncountable as the stars! Abraham and Sarah had to wait

though, until it was the right time, and keep having faith.

Activity

*Act out a travelling trip. Pretend you are going on a trip to another country with modern means of travelling. What would you need to bring? Where are you going to go? How will you get there? Have fun!



It's not easy to move, to leave friends and relatives, houses or places that you've become accustomed to, things you like and enjoy. Have you ever had to say good bye to loved ones, pets, or friends, and to give away many of your possessions? It can feel pretty difficult, especially when you wonder if you'll be happy in the new place you are going to move to, since you've never been there before.

Or perhaps you've lost everything you own in a flood or fire or other disaster, or a bad or sad event, and you feel sad and in despair. Well, if you are choosing now to do things God's way, you can be encouraged by what He told Abraham one time. God said, "I am your exceeding great reward."

If you follow God's plan for your life, then you'll sense the richness of God's presence and the joy He can give you. You'll experience His help and friendship, and the amazing things He can do for you when you pray. You'll enjoy the wonderful reward of the Heavenly life to come while living with God in a beautiful paradise land. It will surpass all you could have gained on Earth if you were to just gather possessions and earn rewards on Earth.

Abraham loved
God more than having
things, or staying in a
certain country, or
having a family with
children of his own. He
had confidence that if
he just kept doing what
God told him to, good
things would eventually
work out for him.

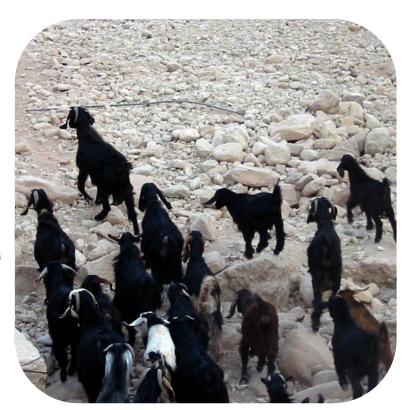


So when God told Abraham to travel from where he was living and go see a new land, he did it. He and all those that were with him, including his nephew Lot, moved. They lived in tents, looked for water, found grass and food for their animals, and were a travelling team for many years.

They didn't have trailers with a fridge and stove, or fold out beds, or camping lights. Through the hot days and cold nights they stayed in tents.

They were campers, travelling here and there, as God led them.

God took good take care of Abraham. He became a very rich man with many animals and people to help him. God kept him safe all his life till he was old. When there was a famine in the land, and not enough food around, they were allowed to stay in Egypt, and had all that they needed there, until they could leave to go to their next place.



Let's Talk About It

*What do you have that would be the hardest to part with, to give up or lose, if that ever happened to you? Can you think of anything that would make it worth it to you, if you got that in return for what you gave up?

*Is there something you have waited for a long time to have? How long have you waited? What are some things you can do to help you patiently wait for things that you can't yet have?

Activity

*Draw a few means of transportation from thousands of years ago.

Then draw a few pictures of what are used today. List some benefits and some drawbacks to the different means of transportation used in olden days and in modern times. What type (old, modern, or newly invented) can you imagine would be the best, if it were used worldwide?





Habakkuk 3:19a

The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.



Connect and Communicate

*Fill a cloth bag or pillowcase with various items collected from around the room. The players take turns reaching in and pulling out an item and tells something that it reminds them to be grateful for.

Study Fun

Mark: The parts that mention the Lord talking to Abraham. (Abram was his name at that time.)

Look up: On a Bible map, where Abraham lived and places mentioned in these verses.

List: The blessings and promises given to Abraham by God.

Genesis

- 12:1 Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:
- 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:
- 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.



12:4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

12:5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

12:7 And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him.

12:8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord.

12:9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

12:10 And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.

13:1 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

13:2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

15:1 After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.



- 15:2 And Abram said, Lord God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?
- 15:3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.
- 15:4 And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir
- 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.



- 15:6 And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness.
- 15:7 And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

Activity

*Look at pictures and information about our galaxy and how many stars there are estimated to be. Write out some of the large numbers and learn to read them.

Chapter Studies—Psalm 1

Praise

Psalms 71:14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise Thee more and more.

*Think of a time when something didn't happen as you had hoped, and you were disappointed. Praise Him for knowing better than we do, what will be for our good, even though we don't always get to see right away all the reasons why.

Psalm 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Ideas:

*Learn the meanings of the words: blessed; counsel; scornful.

*Act out the action words.

*Discuss what it can mean today for you. (Example: Following the wrong ideas of others; joining in conversations that aren't good or true, etc.)

*Talk about "blessed": Does it mean that when you do what's right, when many others are choosing the wrong, it will be easy for you? Who is going to "bless" you?

*Think about and answer: What are some ways God might bless or reward those who do things His way, no matter what others are doing?

Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Ideas:

* Learn the meanings of the words: delight; meditate.

*Act out the above two words.

*Discuss: When is it easiest to do things?—When you like something, or when it is something that is not your most favourite?

*Talk about: What does this verse suggest as an idea to make obeying God and remembering His Word easier?

*Think about and answer: What are some times of the day or night when it would help you to think about God's Word and promises?

Psalm 1:3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Ideas:

*Learn the meanings of the words: wither; prosper.

*Act out the life cycle of a tree (seed, roots and shoots, branches, leaves falling in autumn, new leaves growing, leaves blowing in the breeze, growing fruit, etc.)

*Discuss: What are the fruits we can bear in our life? (Good things we can do for the Lord that help others.)

*Talk about: Different things that happen in different seasons—list some of them. In your life also different events happen at different times. You don't always make great progress and succeed all the time. There are times for learning, times for sickness, times to be honoured, times to learn humility, times to know success and progress, times for patience and waiting and

plodding along one step at a time, and times for seeing the wonderful results of your efforts.

*Think about and answer: Why would a tree planted by water be a good tree?

What is the "water" we can be close to in our lives?

Psalm 1:4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

Psalm 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Ideas:

*Learn the meanings of the words: chaff; judgment; congregation.

*Act out a Biblical harvest time (harvesting, separating the wheat corn from the "chaff", grinding the wheat into flour, etc.)

*Discuss: The differences in the two given examples - chaff blown in the wind, and the strong tree. How is that related to people and their lives?

*Talk about: Are these verses and examples only talking about things always going well for you if you are following in God's way: always having your possessions, never losing anything, and everything staying stable and the same? And is it only talking about things seemingly going poorly for someone who is "ungodly", and losing what they have? Or could it be talking about God's blessings of happiness and peace in your heart, rewards in Heaven, and eternally lasting good effects from your work for God on Earth?

*Think about and answer: What are some kinds of things done on Earth that might be "blown away" with the passing of time and not make a lasting difference for good in this life, or in the next life? What kinds of things are the best use of time and energy and resources?

Beautiful Bible Treasures Lesson 13, Page 13 **Psalm 1:6** For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Ideas:

*Learn the meanings of the words: righteous; ungodly; perish.

*Act out "righteous": Good & Godly responses and actions, and ungodly or wrong reactions that might happen in ours or others everyday lives. One person proposes the scenario, another person acts it out, and others guess and state if they were acting out the right or wrong thing to do.

*Discuss: How much do you think God actually knows about you - what you do, what you wear, what you eat, what you think about?

*Talk about: What things might help you make the right decisions to please the Lord with your actions and the things you do? (Ideas: pray, listen to Him, read His Word, talk with the right people about your ideas, etc.)

*Think about and answer: Is it always easy to do what God wants you to do when others are saying and pressuring you to do differently? Who will reward you most? Who actually really cares the most, in the long-term, about what you do, and will always be around?



Topic Treasures

-Faithful Service

Study Fun

<u>Mark</u>: In one colour where the verses express the difficulties we may face in our service for God, and mark with yellow some of the rewards mentioned, or what He will do for us.

Look up: The definitions of "delight", and "entangle."

<u>List</u>: The "do's" that are mentioned. For example: "endure", "finished", etc.

Revelation 2:10b Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Matthew 25:23 Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Galatians 6:9 Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt

be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Psalm 40:8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

- 2 Timothy 2:1-2 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
- 2 Timothy 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
- 2 Timothy 2:4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.
- 2 Timothy 4:7-8 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Luke 9:23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.



Daily Diary

Think about and talk with Jesus about something that you miss, that you no longer have for some reason. Think also about something you are thankful for, something that will always be yours, or that God promised you'll have forever!

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