

Date – October 18, 2020

Scripture/Bible Story/Theme

Children's Illustrated Bible p. 32-33 Genesis 11-13, 15

God's Call to Abram

Trusting in God

Workshop Name

Sand Stars

Opening Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you for this time to share your word. We thank you for the blessings you always give us. Help us to always remember that you will keep your promises to us. As we each travel on our journey of faith, help us to follow you always. Amen

Objectives

1. Name that the story is found in the first book of the Old Testament, Genesis.
2. Define a covenant as a promise or agreement.
3. Identify the covenant God made with Abram and with all of us as God's promises to bless us.
4. Tell in his/her own words the story of Abram and Sarai – their call to leave home to travel to a distant land, the promises God made to them, their name change, the incident of the three visitors, the birth of the promised son Isaac, and God's test of Abram.
5. Discuss how illogical God's promises seemed. Recognize that with God all things are possible.
6. Draw parallels between Abram and Sarai's journey to their own faith journey.

Supplies – All the supplies you will need for this project will be in the bag that has been delivered to you. Those supplies include the colored sand both green and orange, toothpicks and a piece of cardboard pre-cut in the shape of a star. You will also see a piece of white paper with the star on it. If you want to provide more contrast between the colored sand and the star you can glue the white star onto the cardboard.

Supplies to have at home include white glue, not glue sticks, a large piece of paper or newspaper to catch the excess sand and a pencil.

Depending on how you want them to shake the sand onto their name written in glue you could use an empty salt shaker or a small funnel.

Magnifying glass – optional

Activity

For General Discussion before the activity:

Remember the Bible is divided into two testaments – the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament is stories that Jesus learned as a child. The New Testament tells us the story of Jesus' life.

Besides being divided into two testaments, the Bible is divided into 66 books. The Bible is like a library – a library of 66 books.

What is the name of the first book of the Bible? Hopefully, they will remember from the last two weeks

studying Cain and Abel and the three weeks before of Adam and Eve. Tell them that this Bible story is found in the book of Genesis. Genesis is the first book of the Bible.

The main character in our story is an old man named Abram. He was asked by God to move away from their home.

Ask what they would think of this situation: God tells your parents that you are going to have to move. You are going to start over someplace new and wonderful, but far away from friends and family. You will live in a tent in this new place. What would your reaction be to this?

Read the passage p. 32-33 Children's Illustrated Bible

What is a covenant? - a promise – maybe someone will remember signing a covenant at school to promise to do or not do something.

What was the covenant that God made with Abram? - that he would be the father of many people

What was it that God told Abram? God told him that he would have many children and grandchildren and great grandchildren – that they would equal the number of stars in the sky.

What is a descendant? – a child, grandchild, Abram's children & grandchildren & great grandchildren

Pass out the piece of cardboard.

Use a magnifying glasses if you have one, toothpicks and some sand. Use the toothpicks to move the sand around. Try to count the grains of sand. After they have counted, have them estimate the grains of sand on their paper.

Remind them that God said that Abram would have as many descendants as the sand on the seashore.

Next, have them imagine looking at the stars at night.

Ask them if they can count how many stars there are.

Ask them what was so magnificent and unbelievable about God's promise to Abram?

Tell them that we can count ourselves as descendants of Abram because we also believe in Abram's God and his Son, Jesus. We are one of the stars that God promised Abram.

Create Sand Art

Pass out pre-cut star shapes made out cardboard.

Have the kids write their names lightly on the star with pencil.

Go over the name with glue. Not too heavy or the glue will absorb all the sand and it won't work.

Cover the glue with sand and holding the star over a larger sheet of paper to tip off excess sand.

Reflection/Evaluation

How did Abram trust God? How do we trust God? What are some times where you have had to learn to trust God?

Lord's Prayer



