

## **LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS**

# **INVITATION**

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

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

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Faithful

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 24

**WORD OF WONDER:** Deuteronomy 7:9

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

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## 10:45 Service

#### **LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS**

### **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 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.



# **Curiosity**

## LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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# **Activity: Backpack Surprise**

SUPPLIES: backpack (or bag), wrapped gift or gift bag, paper plate, toy food

Gather kids in a circle. Hold up the following objects and ask kids how each object is used:

- backpack (used to carry things)
- gift (We give gifts to people because we care about them.)
- paper plate and toy food (We need food to keep us strong; we also eat with people when we want to celebrate.)

We're going to see how all these things have something to do with today's story. I wonder what a backpack, a gift, and food have to do with God's big story today. Let's get ready and find out!

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.* 



# **Belief**

## LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

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# **Prayer of Invitation**

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: God, thank You for each kid and leader here today. Help us hear You and Your Word today through the power of Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# **God's Big Story**

Pull out the Bible.

Ask: What is this? The Bible

Ask: Why is the Bible important? Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.

#### **TELL THE BIBLE STORY**

The Beginner's Bible, pages 52-57

A Bride for Isaac

# **Word of Wonder**

# **WORD OF WONDER**

He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him.

— Deuteronomy 7:9

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- · How does it make you feel to know that God is faithful?
- · How can you praise God for being faithful?



# **Identity**

# **LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder. **LESSON AT A GLANCE** 

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# **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**

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for His faithfulness.

God, You are always faithful. Long ago, You made a promise to Abraham and Isaac, and You kept it. Everything they needed You provided and prepared, and You do the same for us today. 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.