



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 Keeps His Promises

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 18; 21

WORD OF WONDER: From Psalm 90:2

Have you ever longed so much for something that you fabricate reasons for why it hasn't happened? I think this is part of human nature, but it is not what God desires for us. God desires for us to be near Him and learn His ways. What if our longing is an invitation to meet God more deeply?

Read Genesis 18:1–2, 10–15; 21:1–6. Abraham and Sarah had longing in their hearts since the moment God made the covenantal promise to give Abraham more descendants than he could count stars in the sky. God sent messengers to Abraham and Sarah to tell them that their longing for a family would end, and they would (finally) have a baby. But when Sarah hears this news, what is her reaction? Laughter. Perhaps she is caught off guard by this promise finally becoming a reality. But Genesis 18:14 reminds us of who God is: Is anything too hard for the Lord?

We can all relate to Sarah, can't we? When we wait long enough for something, it's hard to believe when it actually happens. But nothing is too hard for God. Longing for God's promises to finally happen is a gift. It is a gift that we can laugh about, a gift that draws us closer to the Promise Keeper. What are you longing for? May you draw closer to God in your longing and know deeply that God keeps His promises.

—**Kirsten Hitchcock**

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LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS
ABRAHAM AND SARAH HAVE A BABY

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Abraham was chosen by God as the man through whom He would bless the world. God appeared to Abraham through three messengers to assure him that within the next year, Sarah would deliver a son, Isaac, as He had promised.

WHAT?

Genesis 3:15 reveals that God had a plan for redemption. Through the covenant with Abraham, God would carry out this plan. Through the appearance to Abraham of the men at Mamre, God assured Abraham that he would indeed have a son through Sarah.

WHERE?

Abraham was still living “near the great trees of Mamre” (Genesis 18:1) when he was visited by the Lord through three messengers. This was where Abraham chose to live when he was called by God to Canaan and where he built an altar to the Lord.

WHEN?

The Lord appeared to Abraham through the three messengers approximately 24 years after God had promised Abraham a son. Abraham was 100 years old, and Sarah was 90 when she gave birth to Isaac.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

God made a covenant with Abraham to build a nation through which He would send a redeemer. Despite Abraham and Sarah’s age, God kept His promise, and Sarah gave birth to Isaac. The long list of Isaac’s descendants would one day include Jesus—the Redeemer!



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Activity: Baby Care

SUPPLIES: baby doll, toy baby accessories

Set out a baby doll and baby accessories.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I'm so glad you're here. Come see what we have today! We have a baby doll and things for the baby. Have you ever seen a baby? You can help take care of this baby.

Allow the kids to play with the baby doll.

We're going to talk today about how God kept His promise about a baby. We'll learn today that God always keeps His promises. Let the kids take turns rocking the baby and pretending to feed it or burp it. Ask them if they know any babies. Ask them what needs to be done to take care of a baby.



Curiosity

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LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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 loving us so much. Help us listen and understand this part of Your big story! Thank You for always keeping Your promises. Help us always remember we can trust You to do anything You say You're going to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? ***The Bible***

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

Tell the Bible Story

The Beginner's Bible, pages 46-51

The Visitors

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

Before You created the whole world, You are God. You will always be God.

—Psalm 90:2