



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**

Children's Pastor and Curriculum Developer

Wonder Ink Development Team

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

Curiosity Activity: To Laugh or Not to Laugh

In our story today, we're going to hear about a woman who laughed when she heard God's promise. Do you like to laugh? Laughing can make us feel better when we are feeling sad. But in our game today, you must try not to laugh. We're going to play a game called To Laugh or Not to Laugh. I'm going to tell you different actions to do, and you try to do them without laughing.

Ask the kids to do each of the following actions while trying not to laugh:

- Make a funny face.
- Make a funny sound.
- Talk in a funny voice.
- Try to say this tongue twister fast three times: I scream, You scream, We all scream for ice cream!
- Jump up and down, and spin around.
- Lean upside down and look through your legs at someone next to you.
- Try to touch the tip of your nose with your tongue.

It's hard not to laugh sometimes, isn't it? Laughter is good, and God gave us the ability to laugh so we can share our joy with others around us! We'll hear in our story today about someone who got surprising news—a promise from God—and laughed! We'll learn about how God's promises happened even though it seemed surprising and impossible!



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What did God promise Sarah and Abraham?** *(that they would have a baby; that they would have as many children as stars in the sky; to bless the world through their family)*
- **How did Sarah respond when she heard about God's promise?** *(She laughed.)*
- **What did Sarah and Abraham name their baby?** *(Isaac)*
- **Have you ever had to wait a long time for something? How did you feel while waiting?**
- **The messengers asked, "Is anything too hard for God?" What is something that is hard for you to do? Would it be too hard for God?**
- **How would you respond if God told you something was going to happen that you thought was impossible?**
- **What is a promise God makes us? Do you believe He will keep that promise?** *(If kids need help, offer ideas such as, to save and forgive us, to adopt us into His family as children of God, to love us, to never leave us.)*

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

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

— Psalm 90:2



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Craft: Abraham's Tent

SUPPLIES: kid-safe scissors, glue, stickers, dot markers, crayons, scissors (prep only, optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Abraham's Tent Craft Sheet (1 per kid)

Ahead of time, print one Abraham's Tent Craft Sheet per kid. If you want, cut the Abraham and Sarah out ahead of time.

In our story today, we learned about when Abraham and Sarah were at their tent and three visitors came to them. The visitors were messengers from God who brought a promise from God! Abraham and Sarah discovered that God keeps His promises, even when it seemed impossible. They knew that if God could give them a baby when they were so old, God would keep His other promises too. Let's make a picture to remind us of this story.

Give the kids a copy of the Abraham's Tent Sheet and invite the kids to cut out the Abraham and Sarah cutouts (or cut them out for the kids ahead of time). Let the kids decorate the tent and the paper, then glue Abraham and Sarah onto the page near the tent.

Allow kids to finish decorating their pictures using stickers, dot markers, or crayons.

Take this picture home to remind you of how God kept His promise that Abraham and Sarah would have a baby even though it seemed impossible. God keeps His promises to us too!

