



# ADORATION:

Give God praise for who He is.  
Tell God why you love and adore Him.



# **CONFESSION:**

Confess your sins to God. Ask for His forgiveness.  
Thank God for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin problem.

A large, bold, black letter 'T' with a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance. The horizontal bar is thick and the vertical stem is also thick, with a slight shadow or gradient effect.

**THANKSGIVING:**

Thank God for any blessings or wonderful things  
in your life.

A large, bold, black letter 'S' with a slightly irregular, hand-drawn style. The letter is centered in the upper half of the image.

# **SUPPLICATION:**

Pray for people. Ask God for the things you  
or other people might need.



**SOTO PHOTO CAPTIONS (SESSION 4)**

*Explore the Bible: Kids Worship*  
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Directions: Print one set for your group.



LUIS AND BEATRIZ (BETTY) SOTO, AND THEIR DAUGHTER ELIANA, LIVE IN A CITY WHERE THEY CAN USE THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE, SPANISH, AND ALSO ENGLISH. LUIS AND BETTY ARE BOTH FROM PUERTO RICO, SO SPANISH IS THE FIRST LANGUAGE THAT THEY SPOKE.

SALT LAKE CITY IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE WHERE MANY VISITORS LIKE TO GO. WE CAN PRAY THAT EVERYONE IN THE CITY WILL HEAR THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS AND CHOOSE TO BELIEVE.

LUIS ENJOYS MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND SPENDING TIME WITH THE PEOPLE WHO COME TO HIS CHURCH. HE WANTS PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT JESUS AND HOW WE CAN HAVE ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN.

LUIS AND BETTY STARTED A CHURCH CALLED GRACE BAPTIST. MANY CHURCHES GAVE MONEY TO A MISSIONS OFFERING THAT HELPED TO PAY FOR THE START OF THIS CHURCH.

LUIS SOTO IS A CHURCH PLANTER IN THE STATE OF UTAH. HE STARTED A CHURCH THAT REACHES SPANISH SPEAKING PEOPLE IN SALT LAKE CITY.



# LARGE GROUP WORSHIP

Session

4



## ISAAC AND REBEKAH

**Genesis 21:1-7; 24**

God's call of Abraham is central to every episode in his life. God made several promises to Abraham in that calling. In subsequent encounters, God clarified and explained these promises. At the heart of all of them was God's pledge to multiply Abraham's descendants into a nation that would occupy the land of Canaan. God would bless all humanity through Abraham. Every event moves the narrative one step closer to that blessing. Therefore, every experience in Abraham's life must be interpreted in light of its correlation to the fulfillment of God's pledge.

God promised to make a great nation from Abraham's countless descendants. God is faithful. Within the year specified, Sarah became the mother of Abraham's son. The couple named him Isaac in obedience to the Lord's instructions. God promised to make a great nation from Abraham's countless descendants. Isaac— Abraham and Sarah's only son and heir to the promise—was in his late thirties. Fulfillment of the promise required a new generation, but Isaac was not married and his prospects for a wife weren't particularly hopeful. Abraham opposed any union with the women of Canaan.

Abraham commissioned a servant to go back to Haran and obtain a wife from Abraham's extended family. While he paused at a well in Haran, the servant prayed for success. God granted the servant's petition and led him to Rebekah, Abraham's brother's granddaughter. The servant lavished her with gold jewelry. When her brother Laban saw the expensive ornaments, he invited the servant to dine with the family. Before accepting the invitation, the servant shared in great detail his mission, his prayer, and his perception of Rebekah's advent. After hearing his story, Rebekah's father and brother consented to betrothing her to Isaac. Rebekah and Isaac were married when Isaac was 40 years old. God made a promise to Abraham, and God always keeps His promises.



## SESSION FOCUS

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Genesis 21:1-7; 24

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE:** Isaiah 40:28

**BONUS BIBLE VERSE:** Psalm 54:2

**TEXT TRUTH:** God hears our prayers.

**CHRIST IN CONTEXT:** The Book of Genesis is a book of beginnings. In the beginning, God created a perfect world. Sin separated mankind from God and showed that people need a Savior. God called Abraham and promised him that one day his descendants would be God's special people and one day, He would send a Messiah—Jesus—to rescue them.

## ISAAC AND REBEKAH

**BIBLE STORY PASSAGES:** Genesis 21:1-7; 24

*God kept His special promise. Sarah and Abraham had a son and named him Isaac. Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. Isaac grew up and one day Abraham called his servant—the one who managed all Abraham owned. Abraham asked the servant to travel back to the land Abraham was from and find a wife for Abraham's son, Isaac.*

*The servant took 10 camels and many goods. When he arrived, he made the camels kneel beside a well. It was the time of day when women would come to the well for water.*

*The servant prayed to God, "Please help me today. Let the girl to whom I say, 'Please lower your water jug so I can have a drink' and who responds, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'—let her be the one you have chosen to marry Isaac."*

*Before he finished his prayer, a woman named Rebekah appeared. She was very beautiful. She went to the spring and filled her jug. The servant went to her and said, "Please let me have a little water from your jug." Rebekah answered, "Drink." When she finished giving him water, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels too."*

*She drew water for the servant's camels until they were finished drinking.*

*The servant watched her to see whether or not she was the woman God had selected for Isaac.*

*When the camels finished drinking, the servant asked Rebekah about her family. He wanted to stay with them. Rebekah agreed.*

*The man bowed down and worshiped the Lord for providing for Abraham's son Isaac.*

*Rebekah led him to meet her family. Soon, Rebekah's family agreed that God had chosen her for Isaac and agreed to let her travel back with the servant to Abraham's home. The servant gave Rebekah many objects of silver and gold and garments. He gave precious gifts to her brother, Laban, and Rebekah's mother. Rebekah agreed to leave right away. Rebekah traveled with the servant back to Abraham's home. When she arrived, she and Isaac were married. Isaac loved her.*

## WELCOME

- Play a favorite song and greet the children excitedly as they arrive.
- Begin: “Welcome boys and girls. I’m so glad you are here today.”
- Show the ring you brought with you today and ask girls and boys what it is. Ask kids to give specific characteristics of the ring such as size, shape, color, etc. Talk about different types of rings that people sometimes wear.
- Ask: “If you had a ring what would you want it to look like?”
- Give kids a few moments to give idea of their perfect ring.
- Continue: “Have any of you ever been to a wedding? What happens sometimes at a wedding that would involve rings? (*the husband and wife exchange rings*) Why do married people wear rings?” (*to remember the promises they made to each other and to symbolize never ending love*)
- Show the “Marriage Ring” slide.
- Say: “Take a look at this marriage ring. The ring in this picture is over 1,700 years old and was found in Constantinople. Today we are going to hear a story about Abraham’s son, Isaac, and the woman Isaac married.”

## WORSHIP

- Say: “Today we are going to hear about Isaac and Rebekah and a prayer Abraham’s servant prayed. Let’s sing and give God our praises because **God hears our prayers.**”
- Play a song and guide kids to worship as they sing.
- Say: “Prayer is talking and listening to God. When we talk to God we show that we love Him and respect Him and that we depend on Him. We also pray, knowing that God hears us and will answer our prayers. Let’s take a moment and pray as we continue to worship.”
- Pray and thank God for listening and hearing our prayers.
- Invite kids to sing another song as the offering is collected.

## INTRODUCE THE SESSION

- Share the following clues one at a time, and give kids a chance to guess what animal you are describing. If someone does get the identity correct, don’t let on until the end.
- This animal ...
  - is an excellent pack animal, able to carry heavy loads
  - can weigh up to 2,200 pounds
  - has excellent eyesight
  - can detect danger from up to 3 miles away
  - is around 7 feet tall
  - can drink about 30 gallons of water in 15 minutes

## TOOLBOX

- Welcome: a ring, “Marriage Ring” (slide)
- Worship: music videos, offering basket
- Introduce the Session: dry erase board and markers, “Genesis” (Bible Book poster), Bibles, option: “Explore the Bible: On Location” (video)
- Dig Deeper: Bibles, “Text Truth: Session 4” and “Psalm 54:2” (slides)
- Practice Bible Skills: “Prayer Stations” (print item), tape, pencils, markers and crayons, white paper,
- Missions: “Soto Family and Ministry Photos” (pack item), “Soto Photo Captions” (print item), tape, index cards, pencils
- Review: white paper, marker, “Review Questions” (print item), outlined drawings of camels
- Closing music videos

- can survive for long periods of time without food or water
- has cushioned hooves, allowing it to walk long distances across desert sand
- stores fat in its hump to give it energy for long journeys
- If no one has yet identified the animal as a camel, reveal the identity.
- Say: “Listen to today’s story to see if you can tell how a camel was used to find God’s perfect choice for Isaac’s wife.
- Option: Show the “Explore the Bible: On Location” video.

## DIG DEEPER

- Ask: “Who can remember the promise God made to Abraham? (*God promised that Abraham would have many descendants*) Does God keep His promises? (*yes*) How old was Abraham when God told him his wife would have a baby?” (*99 years old*)
- Tell the Bible story in your own words from your open Bible.
- Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to Genesis 21 and have a volunteer read verses 1-3.
- Ask: “Did God fulfill His promise to Abraham? (*yes*) What was Abraham’s baby’s name?” (*Issac*)
- Invite someone to read verse 5 and tell how old Abraham was when Isaac was born. (*100 years old*)
- Ask: “How many people do you know that are 100 years old?” (*probably very few*)
- Say: “Even though Abraham was very old, God fulfilled the promise He made to Abraham. Aren’t you glad God keeps His promises? Let’s see what God did next.”
- Choose a volunteer to read Genesis 24:1-4 and ask: “What did Abraham ask his servant to do?” (*return to Abraham’s homeland and find a wife for Isaac*)
- Invite girls and boys to find Genesis 24:10-14 and ask them to scan those verses and answer the following questions: “Did the servant do what Abraham asked?” (*yes*) “What had the servant brought with him?” (*ten camels*) “What did the servant do to figure out who God had chosen to be Isaac’s wife?” (*he prayed and asked God for a specific sign*)
- Read Genesis 24:15 and 17 and ask “What did the servant ask Rebekah?” (*to let down her jar*)
- Read verses 18-21. Ask: “What did Rebekah do?” (*she let down her jar and gave the servant a drink and also offered to water the camels*) “Is this the sign the servant had prayed for?” (*yes*) “What did the servant know?” (*Rebekah was the one God had picked to be Isaac’s wife*)
- Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 24:26-27. Ask: “What did the servant do?” (*worshiped God*)
- Read Genesis 24:58-61.
- Continue: “Did Rebekah return with the servant to Abraham and Isaac’s

### BONUS BIBLE VERSE

The bonus Bible Verse for this week is Psalm

home?" (yes) "What happened at the end of chapter 24?" (*Isaac and Rebekah were married*)

- Continue: "What did the servant do first when he arrived in Abraham's hometown?" (*he prayed*) "Did God hear the servant's prayer?" (yes) "How do you know?" (*God sent a woman just as Abraham's servant had prayed*) "Does God hear our prayers?" (yes, **God hears our prayers**)
- Display the Psalm 54:2 slide and guide kids to read the verse. If you do not have access to the slides just have kids look this up in their Bibles.
- Ask: "What does this verse ask God to do?" (*listen to our prayers*) "Does God hear our prayers?" (yes, *God hears our prayers*)

54:2. Display this verse while telling the Bible story. Challenge your group to remember the verse throughout the week as they recall today's Bible story.

## PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- Before the session use the "Prayer Stations" print item to set up four prayer stations for kids to complete.
- Ask: "What did Abraham's servant do when he arrived in Abraham's hometown?" (*he prayed*) "Did God hear his prayer?" (yes)
- Introduce boys and girls to the four prayer stations. For pre-readers you may want to pair them with a reader or explain the activity and provide assistance as necessary.
- Give each kid a piece of paper to fold in half, and then in half again to create four quadrants—one for each prayer station. As the kids rotate through the stations, they may use the paper, pencils, markers, and crayons to write or draw their prayers in response to the station prompts.
- Once everyone has rotated through the stations say: "Prayer is important as we learn to communicate with God. These activities used four words that may or may not be familiar to you to help you remember ways we can pray. The words first letters spell the word ACTS. These four words help us to know that we should praise God for Who He is (*adoration*) confess our sin, thank God for His blessing, and pray for others (*supplication*). While you don't have to use these words when you pray, it is one way to remember how we can pray."
- Conclude: "Remember that **God hears our prayers** and we can trust Him to answer our prayers."

## BIBLE SKILLS SPOTLIGHT

- Understands and applies truths from a Bible verse.

## MISSIONS

- Before the session, display the Sotos' photographs around your room. Also, print and cut apart the "Soto Photo Captions."
- Say: "This month, we have been focusing on a missionary couple named Luis and Beatriz Soto. They have started a church in Utah for people who speak Spanish."
- Continue: "Many of the people in Utah have heard about Jesus, but they don't know the truth of who the Bible says Jesus is. Luis preaches and



teaches from the Bible in Spanish so that his Spanish-speaking neighbors can know and understand that they need to repent of their sin and trust Jesus as Savior and Lord.”

- Invite the kids to look at the photos you have displayed around the room. Ask volunteers to select a caption. Encourage the kids to work together to match the captions to the photos. They may use the tape to put the captions and photos together.
- Give each kid an index card and pencil. Set aside time for the kids to quietly walk around and look at the photos again, reflecting on the Sotos’ story and writing down ways they can pray for the Sotos and for the mission work in Utah. Suggest prayers for their family, for their family members in Puerto Rico, for their health, and for their neighbors in Salt Lake to repent and trust Jesus.\*
- Suggest the kids place their prayer cards in their Bibles or hang them in their homes as a reminder to keep praying for the Sotos.
- Close in prayer, allowing some volunteers to read the prayer requests from their index cards aloud.

### \*GOSPEL CONNECTING POINT

- This may be a natural time to talk about The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me or to show The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me video to your group.

## REVIEW

- Prior to the session, draw a simple camel outline on a piece of paper. Make a copy for each child.
- Ask kids to recall some of the camel facts you presented earlier.
- Ask: “How were camels important in our story today? (*Abraham’s servant had prayed and asked God to have the woman who volunteered to give water to his camels to be the woman God had chosen to marry Isaac*) Have any of you ridden a camel before?” (*answers will vary*)
- Form teams and ask each team to collect their camel shapes. Designate each team with a number and begin by asking Team 1 a question from the “Review Questions” print item. If the team gets the answer correct, they may keep all of their camel shapes. If they get the answer incorrect the other team has a chance to answer. If Team 2 gets the answer correct, they collect one of the camels from Team 1. Continue play until you run out of questions or one team has all of the camels. For an added challenge consider asking review questions from previous lessons as well.

## CLOSING

- Recall the prayer stations activity and the ACTS prayer guide you used. Encourage kids to remember that God wants them to pray and ask Him for what they need, but it is also important for us to tell God when we have done something wrong.
- Close in prayer, thanking God for hearing our prayers.
- Play music videos as boys and girls are dismissed.