

Lesson 13

Cross

Formed

Kids

Why did God bless Abraham? God blessed Abraham so that Abraham would be a blessing to all people.

Read aloud: Genesis 12:1-3

Recommended Illustration

Give one of your children a bag of individually wrapped Reese's cups. It does not have to be a HUGE bag, but truly the bigger the better. Just hand it over with no instructions. If he/she asks any questions, just shrug.

Now watch as the other kids start going for the bag or yelling "no fair". Even if the kids do not make a big deal of this, that is ok, you can make it a big deal. Ask them to share what they would do if they were given a bag like that. Most will probably say they would give some away. Some will say that they would keep them all.

Take the opportunity to transition by pointing out that Abraham was put in a position similar to this.

Helpful Insights

The key word for this lesson is "blessing". A blessing is anything good that has been given to you by someone else. Since we know that everything that comes to us from God is good, that means that everything God gives us is a blessing. God will always and only give us things that are blessings. Everything that comes from God

is a blessing. Intuitively, we may begin to think that if God gives a blessing TO us, that means the blessing is FOR us. This is where our intuition falls short.

Look at how God blessed Abraham. Of course Abraham receives the blessing, but the most important piece of God's blessing of Abraham is not about Abraham at all. It is about all the nations on the earth. Every good thing that God gave to Abraham, all God's promises, of course, but also his breath, his clothes, his money, his time, his family, his home, his personality, his energy, his food—EVERYTHING—was given to Abraham not only so that he could be blessed, but also so that he could be a blessing.

Most importantly, God blessed Abraham with God's promises so that Abraham's descendants could make those known to every nation on the Earth. God chose Abraham not just to be the recipient of blessing, but to be the vehicle of blessing. Likewise, we are blessed in order to be a blessing to everyone we meet.

The Point

Everything from God is good, and every good thing comes from God. We have been given much so that we can share the blessing of God with all the nations on the earth.

