

Lesson 16

Cross

Formed

Kids

Who are the children of God's promise to Abraham?

The children of Abraham are all those who trust God and hold onto his promises.

Read aloud:

Recommended Illustration

Bring an heirloom, or something that you were given by a parent, or some sort of object that is meaningful to you because it was made or given to you by someone in your family. Show off the item you brought, talk about its importance to you for a few minutes, and let the kids ask questions.

We are all given things by our families. Not just "things" either. We are given our looks, our intelligence, our habits, our likes, our dislikes, and so many other things, at least partly by our parents. Sometimes you can tell just by looking at someone who their parents must be. We have talked before about family resemblances. We talked about how all the children of Adam are sinful and how our kinship to Adam means that we share in his sin and in his judgment. Being kin to Abraham is a whole different story. Instead of being identified by our sinfulness, children of Abraham are identified by our faith.

Helpful Insights

Remember, God made an agreement with Adam, and in order to keep that agreement going, Adam had to be completely obedient. With Abraham, the agreement is totally different. It is not based on whether or not Abraham is perfectly obedient, but instead on whether God will be faithful. When God called Abraham to leave his homeland, and made all his promises to Abraham and his descendants, God was creating a brand new family of people. These people would be known by their family trait, faith. Faith is the thing that Abraham hands down to his children, from one generation to the next. The history of the children of Abraham is the history of God teaching his family to believe his promises. In fact, when God made his promises to Abraham, he started making a brand new family that would be known, not by a language or a spot on a map, or even by the cool things we can give each other (hold up the heirloom), but by their faith in God. This means that we can become children of Abraham as well, by placing our faith in Jesus, who was completely faithful to God.

The Point

God has promised to be a shield and a reward for those who trust him. That means no matter how difficult life gets, we can know that God is still working to take care of his children, those who are in a family relationship with him by faith in Jesus, the faithful one.

