

Lesson 17

Cross

Formed

Kids

What does God require of the children of Abraham?

God requires that all the children of Abraham put their whole faith in his promises.

Read aloud:

Recommended Illustration

Start by letting the kids know you are about to do something crazy and that you are about to put your safety in their hands. You are going to allow them to secure you inside a box (make sure to make plenty of air holes!), and you will trust them to let you out when you start knocking. Get inside and allow someone to secure you inside. After what will seem to the kids like a long time, knock. Hopefully, the kids will let you out.

Now begin to ask the kids a few questions: Did I put my whole trust in you? How can you tell? What if I had only stuck my foot into the box? Would that have been putting my trust or faith in you? What if I had a knife in my pocket so I could cut my way out? Try and help the students to see that they can know you trusted them because you placed your whole body in that box and you made it so that they were your only way out.

Helpful Insights

As grown ups, we are always making sure we have back-up plans. When it comes to our faith, as long as we trust in back-up plans, we are not fully trusting God. When I was a kid, my mom used to pick me up after school. Sometimes she was late, sometimes she was on time, but she was always there to pick me up. How would she have liked it if she pulled up to pick me up and I had left because I had given up on her and called someone else to come and get me? In the same way, God wants us to place all our faith in his promises, and that means doing away with our back-up plans and making it so that our only hope is him. When we rely on ourselves for what only God can offer: security, comfort, status, provision, etc., we are situating ourselves in a fantasy world where there is no God, and no need for God.

Help your children to see that God is perfectly good, perfectly wise, and perfectly powerful. All three are crucial to their faith. What if Jesus is sovereign and wise, but not good? In that case, we would have to be horrified. An all-powerful king who is not good would mean we are doomed. What if on the other hand, Jesus is sovereign and good, but not wise? We would feel horribly insecure. We would know he is going to have his way, and we would know that he means well, but we could not trust that he actually knows what he is doing as the ruler of the universe. Finally, what if Jesus is good and wise, but not sovereign? In that case we would not have much hope. We would surely cheer for this Jesus and we could trust that he is a skillful ruler, and we may even do our best to support his cause, but without sovereignty, how could we believe that things will turn out as he has promised?

The Point

Only Jesus can take away our sin and provide us with the best blessing of all, knowing God as Father. All he requires from us in order to do that is all of our faith. Maybe your child has never placed his/her faith in Jesus. This lesson might be the perfect time to offer that opportunity.

