

Lesson 4

Cross

Formed

Kids

What was the second promise God gave to Abraham?

God promised to bless Abraham and his children with a land of their own.

Read aloud: Genesis 17:8

Recommended Illustration

Bring with you a few items that are descriptive of one of your favorite rooms in your home. Maybe it is your office. Maybe it is your bedroom. Maybe it is your kids' bedroom. Pillow, alarm clock, decor, etc. Take some time to share with the kids what you like about each item.

Now that you have their attention, take the opportunity to make the point that what is in a home can tell us a lot about the people who live there. But in Abraham's case, he and his descendants would be receiving a home from God that they had never even visited, let alone had an opportunity to decorate. Their home would not say all that much about them. Rather, it would say a lot about the God who gave it to them. The land of promise is the gift of God, a place where God's people could enjoy him and each other.

Helpful Insights

God sent Abraham to a place that Abraham had never seen before, never heard of before, and certainly had not been given the

opportunity to appraise. God told Abraham that this place would be home, not just home to Abraham, but home to all of Abraham's descendants.

Remember, this promise begins not with Abraham, but all the way back in Eden as the first humans are given the command to "fill the earth". Human sin ruins their chances of seeing this beautiful plan unfold, but God's plan has not changed. God calls Abraham to be the one through whom God will make everything as it should be. The word for this is redemption. God's people will be in God's place, enjoying God's presence.

Later on, when Abraham's descendants finally arrive in this land, we find out that it is a place filled with gardens they did not plant, trees they did not water, livestock they did not breed, houses they did not build, and rooms they did not decorate. This would be their place. It would not be their place because of all the things they would do to it and put in it. Instead, it would be their place because of all the things God did to get them there. It would be their place because of God's gracious promise to Abraham.

The Point

The land of promise is not about what we find there, but how we got there. It is the gift of God where those who know him enjoy each other and God's presence.

