

# Lesson 5

Cross

Formed

Kids

**What was the third promise God gave to Abraham?**

**God promised to forever be the God of Abraham and his children**

*Read aloud: Genesis 17:7*

### **Recommended Illustration**

The playground is a rough place to be. Every day, all over the world, kids are having their lunches stolen by the crazy, huge second grader who can already grow a beard. Who is that guy anyway? And why is he in every school in the world? Anyway, back to the point. Playgrounds are dangerous. Arguments come out of nowhere. Who can kick a kickball farthest? Who can run the fastest? Who can jump the highest out of the swing? Who can eat the most broccoli? Oh wait, that is not a playground game. You get the picture.

Even though all of the kids are scared of the second grader with a beard, you know who wouldn't be scared? A dad. There is a reason dads do not go to school anymore. It is because dads are way too big for the playground. Can you imagine a dad in the middle of your kickball game at school? He would kick the ball so far it would take all of recess just to run and get it. (Continue to make strong dad jokes.)

If you could have your dad on your team in any playground game, you would be guaranteed to win. And you would NEVER get picked on. (If you have a personal story, feel free to substitute it in place of the general illustration.)

When Abraham receives this third promise, it is like he has been promised a dad on the playground. It is the ultimate protection, the ultimate advantage, and the ultimate gift.

### **Helpful Insights**

In Abraham's world, fights broke out all the time. These fights were not between fourth graders. They were between grown men and their armies. There was constant posturing as to which family, which clan, which nation was the strongest or the richest. All of this pointed to a grander question: Whose god was the greatest?

This third promise is the most important promise God made to Abraham, because it is the one that gives meaning to the other promises. Without God, the land is just a lot of dirt. Without God, children may be a blessing, but they may feel like a curse. Disputes will come and go. Friends will come and go. Riches will come and go. Enemies will come and go. Poverty will come and go. But God will always be the God, the Protector and the Provider, of the children of Abraham.

### **The Point**

God makes many promises to his people, but his most important promise is to be exactly who he is. Our good and wise and holy God.

