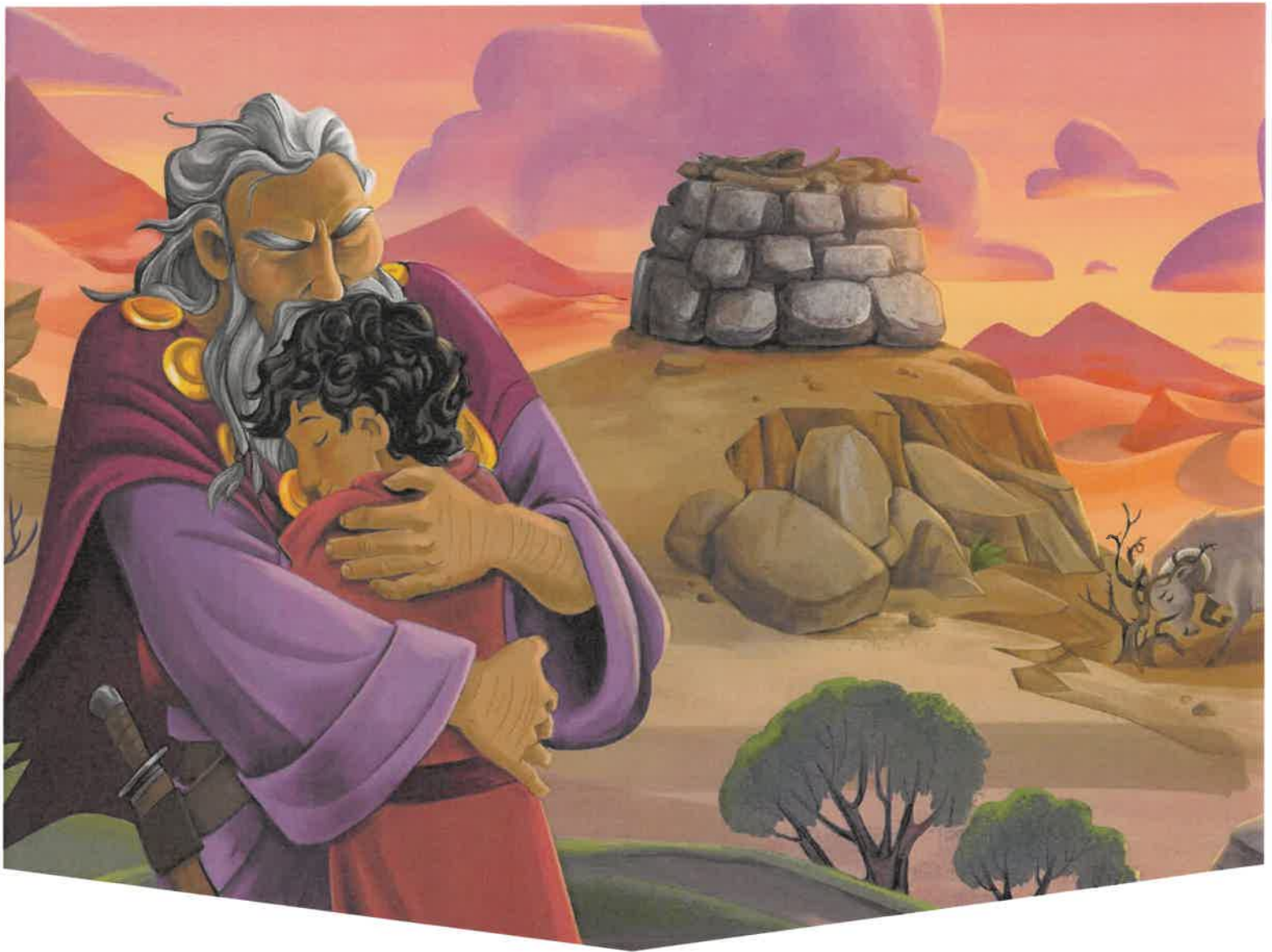


Large Group Leader:

Time	Slide	What to Do	Materials
	1	Video for 10,000 Reasons with no words to practice before the service.	
10 minutes	2	Set up Computer with songs on Youtube, google slides powerpoint for today	
3 minutes	3	Start timer. Invite classes to join	Timer video
2 minutes	4	Welcome kids Collect the offering: For the Philippines, to buy a sink.	Offering bag
	4	Birthdays: Lee Barnum, (Coen Tolsma wasn't here last week, if he is here this week, he can get a prize)	
2 minutes	5-6	Call to Worship Leader: Come, everyone! Let's gather to thank God! Kids: God is good—all the time! Leader: Who gives us food to eat and homes to live in? Kids: God does! Thank You, God! Leader: Who fills our hearts with joy and our lives with love? Kids: God does! Thank You, God! Leader: The Bible says, <i>"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever."</i> (Psalm 107:1) Kids: We thank You, Lord, for Your never-ending love! Leader: Let's lift our voices and our hearts to praise Him! Kids: We worship You, God, with thankful hearts	Bible
8 min	7-8	I want to be thankful	

4	9	Kids share what they're thankful for video (because they might not have gotten to see it while we were entering the room)	
1	11	Memory Verse: Galatians 5:22-23 But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. **If you weren't here last week, you can tell your memory verse to Mrs. Shena. This is the last day!	
		Learn the new song! Christmas video verse 1 See video for actions	
5	12	Tell the story (see notes from story if you wish to tell it from here)	
3 minutes	13	Watch the video of the story	powerpoint
		Ask a few questions: 1) What did God ask Abraham to do? 2) Why did Abraham trust God? 3) How does this story point to Jesus?	
2 minutes	14	Pray with the kids	
1 minute	15	Do the blessing with them: May the Lord Bless You and Keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favour and give you peace."	



UNIT 3 | SESSION 3

GOD PROVIDED ISAAC

GENESIS 21-22

KEY PASSAGE:

Psalm 135:5-6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. God provided a ram instead. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him.



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, ask kids about their week, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “When we love someone a lot we often give them gifts. A gift doesn’t always have to be something you buy. Sometimes a gift is special time spent together or a kind word. Tell us about a time you gave someone a special gift.”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete the “Prized Possessions” activity page.

SAY “Which of these items would be the most important to you? Was there something you love that wasn’t on the list? How would you feel if you had that thing but were told to give it away? Would that be hard or easy for you?”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: WHAT WE LOVE



Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Choose one kid to go first. He will begin by saying something he loves (e.g. a person in his family, a sport, a toy). The next kid will repeat the first kid’s answer then add his own. Continue around the circle until everyone has had a turn.

SAY “We all have things that we love. The Bible tells us we must love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. When we do that, we are willing to give God whatever He asks of us. In our story we’ll hear what God asked Abraham to do and how Abraham was willing to give God what He wanted, no matter what it cost him.”

☐ OPTION 2: GIVING IT UP

Write the following on separate index cards:

- Career: athlete
- Career: teacher
- Career: musician
- Behavior: sleeping late
- Behavior: eating junk food
- Behavior: playing video games

Display the six cards. Challenge the kids to match each Behavior card to a Career card to show which careers would be most likely to give up which behaviors. You may choose to print pictures to use instead of index cards.

SAY “We often must give up certain things to excel at other things. Often it’s hard to give up things we enjoy, but such sacrifices may be necessary. Our Bible story today is about a much harder sacrifice. Let’s learn more.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Genesis 21–22. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “God Provided Isaac.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

GOD PROVIDED ISAAC

“God kept His promise to give Abraham a son. Abraham and his wife Sarah were very old when their son Isaac was born. **One day, God tested Abraham.** He wanted to make sure that Abraham loved God most of all.

“Abraham,” God said.

“Here I am,” Abraham answered.

“**Take your son Isaac to the mountain and give him to Me as a sacrifice,**” God said. **Abraham obeyed God.** He got up early the next day and left with Isaac, two servants, and a donkey carrying supplies. They walked for three days before they got to the mountain where God wanted Abraham to make the sacrifice. **Abraham** asked his servants to stay with the donkey. “We’ll be back,” he said. Then he **and Isaac went up the mountain with the supplies for the sacrifice.**

Isaac saw something was missing. “My father,” he said, “where is the lamb for the offering?” Abraham answered, “God Himself will provide the lamb.” When they got to the place God had directed them, **Abraham built an altar** and placed the wood on top. Then he put Isaac on top of the wood. **Just as Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, the angel of the LORD called out,** “Abraham, Abraham!”

Abraham stopped. “Here I am,” he said.

The angel of the LORD said, “**Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from Me.**” **Abraham looked up and saw a ram trapped by its horns in the bushes. He offered the ram to God instead of Isaac.** Abraham named the place The LORD Will Provide.

The angel of the LORD reminded Abraham that God would keep the covenant He made with Abraham. God again promised to bless Abraham, to make his family as numerous as all the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashores. God promised victory over Abraham’s enemies and blessing to all the earth through Abraham’s family.

Christ Connection: Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. God provided a ram instead. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him. ☺

STORYTELLING TIPS

Use silence for effect: Build suspense by pausing at various times as you tell the story. For example, pause after Isaac questions Abraham about the sacrifice and again after Abraham puts Isaac on the altar.

Convey emotions: Let your face reflect some of the emotions Abraham may have felt—confusion, fear, grief, relief, gratitude, and so forth.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY Sometimes stories in the Bible are hard to understand. It may be difficult for us to understand why God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. God does not call for human sacrifice, but in this story God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a means of testing Abraham's faith. Let's take a look at three important things we can take away from this story.

First, this story shows that God provides the greater sacrifice. God never intended for Abraham to sacrifice his son. He told Abraham to do this as a means of testing and growing his faith. Abraham didn't waver. He was ready to obey. On the way up the mountain Isaac noticed that they didn't have what was needed for the sacrifice. Abraham told him that God himself would provide. Just like God provided the ram for Abraham to sacrifice, God provided the ultimate sacrifice for our sin. God called Abraham to offer his son, but instead God gave up His one and only Son on our behalf.

Second, we learn that God knows what is best for us. The Lord had something to teach Abraham in this story. Abraham may have been tempted to love his son Isaac more than he loved God. But God had something better in store for Abraham. God wanted Abraham's faith to grow and for Abraham's love for God to go even deeper. God wants the same for us. Are there things in your life you are tempted to love more than God? Those things may not be bad things, but if anything becomes an idol in our hearts, it becomes bad for us. God wants what is best for us, and that is Himself! God wants us to know and love Him, to trust and obey Him alone.

Third, we see that God always keeps His promises. When Abraham demonstrated his great faith in and love for God, God reminded Abraham again of His promise. God promised Abraham that He would make his descendants as numerous as the sand on the seashore, and that one day his family would take possession of the special land that God would give them. God also reminded Abraham of His promise to bless all the nations of the world through his descendants.

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY Abraham showed his love for God by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac. God provided a ram instead. This is how God showed His love for us: He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could have eternal life through Him.

(Tip: Use Scripture and the guide provided to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 3, Session 3" questions from kids video. Prompt the kids to discuss:

1. Why did God test Abraham? Do you think God might test you?
2. When do you feel most loved?



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

SAY “ The Caldwell family from Virginia went to Ecuador with a team from their church to work with a ministry called For His Children. Let’s find out more about this ministry to children and families. ”

Play the missions video. Ask kids to describe some of the activities they saw and the care the children are receiving. Ask a volunteer to pray for missionaries in Ecuador and the For His Children ministry. Also pray for any missionaries your church supports.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read together the passage. Then instruct the kids to get into groups of 2-3. Pass out the paper and markers and invite the kids to create a poster with the key passage. They can decorate it however they wish. Then, the kids will cut their poster into puzzle-shaped pieces. The groups can trade puzzles and practice putting them together.

SAY “ Our key passage comes from the book of Psalms. The word “psalm” means song. So this book contains worship songs to be sung to God. Just like lots of songs that are written today, the psalms express a wide range of emotions. Sometimes the writer was sad and expressed his grief or mourning to God. Our key passage comes from Psalm 135 which contains reminders of all that God has done for His people. In remembering God’s faithfulness the writer, he praises God! ”

Lead the kids to sing “For I Know (Psalm 135:5-6).” You may also choose other worship songs to sing

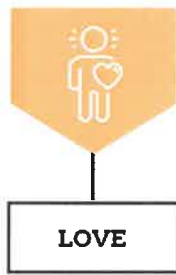
7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to apply the story.

SAY “ Father, we are so thankful that we have Your word and can know You through these words. You are wonderful and we want to praise You for all that You have done for us. Give us thankful hearts this week. Help us to love You more than anything else. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 BIBLE SKILLS & REVIEW (10 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and help the kids find Genesis 21-22. Remind kids that Genesis is the very first book in the Old Testament. Ask for a volunteer to name the first five books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

| SAY Our story today teaches us about God's faithfulness to provide everything we need. God wants us to love Him more than anything else in our lives. He alone is worthy of all our worship.

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the kids to discuss their answers.

| SAY Why do you think Abraham was able to trust God?

Guide the kids to see that Abraham knew God's promise to provide a family for him. The whole world would be blessed through Abraham's family. It took great faith for Abraham to trust God. Consider reading Hebrews 11:1 to the kids or having a volunteer read it. Explain that we have faith when we are confident in the things we hope for. It requires faith to trust that God is with us and is working for our good and His glory. Remember, who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan. It takes faith to trust that the Bible comes from God and that He speaks to us through it. We can have faith like Abraham and trust and obey God.

| SAY Who is someone you love very much? How do you show that person you love them?

Help the kids understand that God tested Abraham because God wanted to know if he loved him more than anything else. Was Abraham willing to sacrifice the son he loved for God? The stakes were high for Abraham but he didn't waver. Abraham loved God and was willing to do whatever God asked of him, even when it meant his own son would die. Do we love God so much that we put Him before everything else in our lives? We can point to the things we love most by the way we spend our time, or thoughts, or even our money. If there are things we are tempted to love more than God we can turn away from those idols and turn to God instead. He is worthy of our worship and ultimately, He is the one who will satisfy our hearts.

| SAY What are some of the good things God has provided for you?

After God gave Abraham the ram to sacrifice, Abraham named the mountain The Lord will Provide. This served as a reminder of the incredible thing God had done for him. God provided the sacrifice, so Abraham didn't have to lose his only son. God provides for us today too. Every good gift we have comes from God. We can thank and praise Him for all that He gives to us. The greatest gift is Jesus, our Savior and the way that we can be made right with God.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**

