

WEEK 2 LESSON GUIDE

Staycation!

BIG IDEA

God always shows us compassion.

BIBLE

Abraham and Isaac:
Genesis 21:1-7, 22:1-14

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Worship in the House!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "All The Things" (Yancy & Little Praise Party)
 - "A Great Big House of Friends" (VeggieTales)
 - "God's Family" (Life Kids)
 - "Father Abraham" (CJ & Friends)
 - "We Are Family" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)

ACTIVITY | Donkey Ride

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use a yardstick or pool noodle to serve as a pretend donkey. If you'd like to create a donkey head out of paper, check out [this printable](#). Have the kids stand in line and take turns riding the donkey across the room, around a cone, and back.
- **Has anyone ever given you a horse ride on their back?**
- It's fun for us, but it's hard work for the person who is pretending to be your horse! They play with you because they love and care about you.
- Today, we're going to learn about someone who really cared about their family, too, but they showed that they loved God even more.
- They needed a donkey for their journey so let's pretend we have a donkey, too! We can take turns riding our donkey . . . and of course, let's say thank you to the donkey when we are done!

ACTIVITY | What's Missing?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up four or five distinct items in the front of the room, such as a ball, doll, book, and other toys. Name each item together as a group. Then have everyone close their eyes or turn around. Cover one of the items with a large overturned bucket. Have them turn around and identify the missing (covered)

item. Repeat and cover a different item. You can add more items or shuffle the objects around to increase the difficulty each round.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Do the same activity on a smaller scale on a tray with three items kids can easily name (different shapes of tiles could work well, too).

- Great job figuring out what was missing! In today's Bible story, we will find out that something was missing, but God took care of it!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 21:1-7, 22:1-14 (Abraham and Isaac)

- Hey everyone! Let's get comfortable and cozy as I tell you about today's Bible story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up for the Bible story as though it's a slumber party! Wear pajamas (have kids come in PJs, too!), have kids sit on the floor with blankets, cushions, and pillows.
- Last time we heard about how God told a man named Abram that it was time to move. Abram obeyed and he took his family to live in a new land. God promised to bless him because he obeyed.
- Even though Abram and Sarai were too old to have children, God promised that one day, Abram and his wife would have so many children and grandchildren that they wouldn't even be able to count them!
 - **What is the biggest number you can count to?**
- God changed Abram and Sarai's name to show it will happen just as God said.
 - God changed Abram's name to Abraham.
 - **Can you say that with me?**
 - God also changed Sarai's name to Sarah.
 - **Do you know anyone named Sarah?**
- They waited a long time but then one day, it happened! Abraham and Sarah had a baby. They had a baby boy named Isaac. And they loved him very much!
- But God still had big plans for Abraham. And in order for God to bless him more, Abraham had to remember to put God first, over everything and everyone.
- So one day, God told Abraham to go with Isaac on a journey. That was pretty normal. They would go on these kinds of journeys to worship God. They rode their donkey and brought *another animal* with them to give to God.
 - This time, Abraham and Isaac brought the donkey . . . but **what's missing?** That's right! Another animal to give to God!
 - Isaac was confused, too. He asked his dad about this, and Abraham told him that God will give them what they need.
- They rode the donkey to the top of a mountain. Once they got there, it became clear. They didn't need another animal. Abraham was going to give God something he loved more than anyone else . . . Isaac!
- Abraham loved God even more than he loved his own son.
 - So Abraham got ready to give Isaac to God. God saw that Abraham really did love God with all his heart. Just then, a ram came out of nowhere.
 - **Anyone know what a ram sounds like?**
 - God had given Abraham and Isaac this ram that they can give to God instead.
- God didn't really want Abraham to give up his son. God cared about all of them and loved them so much.
- But because Abraham showed how much he loved God, too, he was ready to get even more blessings from God!

BIG IDEA | God always shows us compassion.

- Today, I have lost the Big Idea again! I think that it's in the junk drawer. Last time we found it in here, so hopefully we will have good luck again today. **Can you help me find it?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare an empty "drawer" filled with odds and ends, like scraps of paper, rolls of tape, keys, pens, spoons — nothing sharp or pointy! Write one word of the Big Idea on a few of these items. Invite kids to rummage through the drawer with you to find all the words of the Big Idea. Once all the words are found, put the words in order and say the Big Idea aloud for the kids, then have them repeat the words after you along with the hand motions.
- **Do you know what compassion is?** Compassion is caring for someone else. When you see that someone is having a hard time, you want to do something to help them.
- Today's Big Idea is . . .
 - **God** (Point upward.)
 - **Always shows us** (Hold out hands in front of you.)
 - **Compassion** (Hug self.)

VIDEO | Staycation!, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of Cali's World.

ACTIVITY | Compassion Tag

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play a game of Freeze Tag. When someone gets tagged by the person that is "it," they have to sit on the ground and another player has to come and physically help them up by the hand. Make sure to have kids wash and sanitize their hands before and afterward.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Have all of the kids begin by sitting on the ground. Have one person who is "it" go and help everyone else stand up. When everyone is standing, have someone else be "it" and start again.
- **God always shows us compassion.**
- God always shows us love and care. When we are feeling sad or lonely, God is there for us.
- God wants us to show compassion, too! Let's play a game where we get to help someone else.

PRAYER

- God, thank you for watching over Abraham and Isaac and thank you for watching over me. You always show us love and kindness and compassion. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Fire Sticks

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a pile of pretzel sticks. Let kids squirt a bit of orange icing on top of their pretzels so that it looks like fire.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give toddlers a small cup of icing for dipping, rather than squirting the icing on their pretzels.
- Here is your little firewood, just like the firewood Abraham and Isaac needed. **Have you ever roasted a snack over a firepit before?**
- As we eat, let's remember that God loved Abraham and Isaac so much that God gave them what was missing.

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Let kids take turns holding a baby doll and rocking it.
- **What was the name of Abraham and Sarah's son?**
- **Who promised that Abraham and Sarah would have kids?**
- **How did Abraham show that he trusted God?**
- **How did God show Abraham kindness and compassion?**

ACTIVITY | Ram to the Rescue Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids create a ram using paper, googly eyes, cotton balls, and clothespins, to remember God showed compassion by providing a ram in today's story. Check out [this example!](#)
- God gave Abraham and Isaac something that was missing. **Can you remember what it was?**
- A ram! A ram "came to the the rescue" by being just what Abraham and Isaac needed to say thank you to God.

MEMORY VERSE | Galatians 6:10 (NIV)

- **"Let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach preschoolers a small part of the memory verse each week. Remind them of the section they learned last time by singing it to the tune of ["This is the Way."](#)
- This month's memory verse is Galatians 6:10. Today we are going to sing a section of it together.
 - Let us do good to everyone
 - To everyone, to everyone
 - Let us do good to everyone
 - Galatians 6:10

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | Caring for Baby

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a station with a small basin of water, a baby washcloth, a baby towel, and a plastic baby bottle. Give each kid a chance to take care of a baby doll.

ACTIVITY | Find the Ram

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids search for [toy sheep](#) and [tree figures](#) in the rice sensory bin. Be sure to have kids wash their hands prior to touching the rice.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use [a plastic jar](#) with the rice and sheep figures inside. Have them [search for the sheep in the closed jar](#).