

L3.9 “Abram”

Read Together: After the flood, the earth began to be repopulated by Noah’s sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Abram was born 292 years after the flood, the youngest son of Terah, who was of Shem’s lineage. An interesting fact is that Noah and Shem were still alive during Abram’s lifetime. Abram was born in the city of Ur. He married his half-sister Sarai. His father Terah left Ur for Canaan and took his family, including Abram, with him. They stopped in Haran where Terah died, and perhaps Abram would have remained there.



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However, God spoke to Abram and told him to leave his family and go to an undisclosed place. God promised to make Abram a great nation and his name great. He promised to bless those who blessed Abram and curse those who cursed him, and that all nations would be blessed through his seed. Abram believed God, and without hesitation, he left Haran.

Read Together: Genesis 11:10–32; 12:1–4; Hebrews 11:8–10.

Discuss:

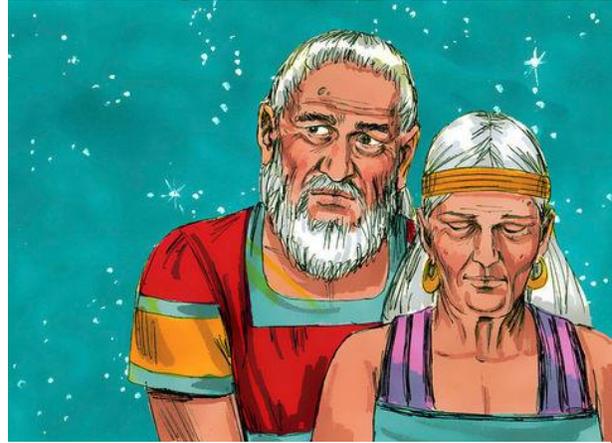
- Explain to your child that marriage between relatives was common in the earlier years after the flood. Remember, everyone was closely related initially. However, God forbade such relationships later (Leviticus 18:6–18).
- Point out that God’s promises to Abram were conditional. He first had to obey God. Remind them that obedience must always come first.
- Abram was already quite wealthy; he had servants and animals. He was comfortable where he was. Ask your child if they could see themselves leaving the comfort of home to embrace the unknown? Point out that Abram had a very difficult choice to make, but he did it without hesitation.
- Explain that the promise to bless all nations through his seed is stating that the Messiah would come from Abram’s lineage. Clearly God taught Abram the gospel of the Kingdom of God.

Review memorization:

Genesis 18:19 *“For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”*

L3.10 “From Abram to Abraham: Promises of Blessings”

Read Together: Abram left Haran and headed for Canaan at 75 years of age. The life that God had called him to was filled with adventure. Sarai was Abram’s wife. Because of Sarai’s beauty, Abram found himself in trouble with the Pharaoh of Egypt and later with Abimelech king of Gerar. But God intervened to save them. When Abram’s nephew Lot was kidnapped in a war, Abram put together an army from his own servants and rescued Lot. Throughout life’s adventures, Abram never lost sight of what was important. He obeyed



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God and walked with Him. God promised that Abram’s children would be greatly blessed, but Abram asked God how the promises could be fulfilled when he had no heirs. At the age of 99, God again appeared to Abram and promised that he would be a father of many nations. God changed Abram’s name to Abraham to reflect His promise. He also changed Sarai’s name to Sarah. God let Abraham know that Ishmael, Abram’s son through Hagar, was not the promised heir and that he and Sarah would have a son whose name would be Isaac. Isaac would be the son of promise, because God promised that he would be born.

Read Together: Genesis 12:1–20; 14:1–24; 17:1–27; Galatians 3:29

Discuss:

- Talk with your child about some of Abraham’s adventures. God delivered him from them all. Remind them that nothing is too difficult for God!
- Explain that God always keeps His promises, though sometimes we have to wait for a long time. He teaches us patience. Explain that Abraham and Sarah learned patience by waiting a long time to have their son, Isaac.
- Explain to your child that true Christians, no matter what race they are, are considered by God to be Abraham’s spiritual children because they obey God just as he obeyed God.

Review memorization:

Galatians 3:29 *“And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

L3.11 “The Promises Made Unconditional”

Read Together: God promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations. God said that Abraham’s descendants would be as many as the sand on the seashore! Yet Abraham and Sarah were getting old with no heir. In spite of their old age, Abraham and Sarah believed God would fulfill His promises, and He did. Isaac was born when Sarah was 90 and Abraham was 100 years of age. Abraham had waited 25 years from the time God first made the promise that he’d have a son. Ishmael and his mother were sent away, but God promised to make his



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descendants grow into nations as well. Just as Isaac began to mature as a young man, God told Abraham to sacrifice him on Mt. Moriah. Abraham set out early the next morning to do what God said. No wonder Abraham is called the father of the faithful! Abraham began to carry out God’s instructions, and Isaac, in obedience to his father, allowed himself to be tied up. When Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, God stopped him and provided a ram for an offering instead. By Abraham’s act of faith, God knew that Abraham would always obey Him no matter what. Because of Abraham’s faith, God made His promises to Abraham unconditional. That means they would happen no matter what.

Read Together: Genesis 18:1–15; 21:1–21; 22:1–19; Romans 4:3; Hebrews 11:11–12, 17–19

Discuss:

- Point out to your child that Ishmael is the forefather of Arab people today.
- Ask how long did it take for Abraham and Isaac to reach Mt. Moriah. What was Abraham thinking during that time? Did his faith waiver? Explain.
- Discuss with your child Isaac’s role in this story. What does his attitude say about him?
- Ask how Abraham became a friend of God. Discuss how we can become God’s friend (John 15:14), and what it means to be a friend of God.
- Faith works. Abraham believed God so he did what God said. Ask your child to think of an example in which faith was demonstrated by actions.

Review memorization:

Genesis 18:19 *“For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”*

L3.12 “Inheriting the Promises”

Read Together: After Abraham showed God that he would obey Him no matter what, God made His promises to Abraham unconditional. These promises included rulership, military power, and ownership of the most productive land on earth. Yet, Abraham died without having received them. Did God lie? No! God passed the promises on to Abraham’s son Isaac, and from Isaac to Jacob. Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel, had twelve sons, who next received the promises. Through Jacob, God gave the “scepter” promise, which includes kingship and the promise of the future Messiah, to Judah. A scepter is a staff that a king holds, which represents his rulership and authority. The promise of the Messiah was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who was born of the tribe of Judah and who will rule over all nations. The “birthright” promise of national wealth and greatness was given to Joseph. The English-speaking nations of today, who are descendants of Joseph’s sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, have inherited the birthright promises. Many of the blessings we enjoy today are a direct result of Abraham’s obedience to God, and God’s faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to Abraham.



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Read Together: Genesis 35:9–15; 48:8–20; 49:1–2, 8–12, 22–26; Hebrews 7:14

Discuss:

- Ask your child how they think Abraham felt about not receiving all the promises during his physical life. What was Abraham’s focus (Hebrews 11:13–16)?
- Encourage your child to think about the millennium. Will Jesus Christ be the Messiah and King of kings? Will the descendants of Jacob possess national wealth and greatness?
- Remind your child that the identity of the English-speaking peoples can be proven. Refer to the booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* by Mr. John Ogwyn.

Review memorization:

Genesis 18:19 “For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”