



OLD TESTAMENT: ISAAC

Lesson 8

BIG IDEA

God proves his faithfulness to Abraham by giving him a son. He tests Abraham, but has another plan to provide. He proves his faithfulness to Isaac by giving him a wife.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 8 and/or Genesis 22:12b

KEY VERSES

Genesis 21-22

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON

Cast

- TL wearing baseball cap
- Bear wearing bear ears
- EM will provide baseball cap and bear ears

GAME - STEAL THE BEAN BAG

- bean bag(s)

CRAFT - BLINDFOLD OBSTACLE COURSE

- blindfolds (bandanas)
- obstacles such as chairs, tables, trash cans (gather what you can find on the field)

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



EM PROVIDES

- scissors
- hole punches
- staplers

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(extend hands to sides)

You have set your glory in the heavens.



(extend hands high)

Through the praise of children and infants you have



("stop" hand)

established a stronghold against your enemies,

To silence the foe and the avenger.



(index finger over lips)

(wiggle fingers both hands)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,



The moon and the stars which you have set in place,



(point to moon and stars)

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,



(shrug shoulders)

Human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels



(flat hand at waist)

And crowned them with glory and honor.



(make crown with hands)

You have made them rulers over the works of your

hands;



(open hands)

You put everything under their feet:



(stomp feet)

All flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,



(hands like claws)

The birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim

the paths of the seas.



(hands together wiggle like fish)

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(arms up as if cheering)



OLD TESTAMENT: ISAAC

BIBLE LESSON • SKIT

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CAST

TL wears baseball cap. Bear wears bear ears.

SCRIPT

Bear (Enter stage trying really hard to open a jar with a tight lid. Grunt and groan, unable to open jar)

TL Hey Bear. What's going on?

Bear This...urg...jar...(panting)...is...aarr...too...(pant more)...too...(strain hard)...hard...uuuurrrrg...to...open!

TL You can do it Bear! Put your muscles into it!

Bear (Try harder, unsuccessfully)

TL Try with all your might!

Bear (Try with everything in you and the collapse on the ground)

TL Bear! Are you OK?

Bear (panting) Sure...I'll...be...fine....in a moment. (Rest on the ground.)

TL Gosh, sometimes things are just too hard no matter how much we try.

Bear (exhausted on the ground still) TL, while I recover, can you finish that story about Abraham and Sarah? Remember how Abraham was got that great promise from God? Remember how he's totally old and he's supposed to have more kids than there are stars in the sky? Remember how Sarah laughed? I was just wondering, did God come through with his promise?

TL Sure Bear, you rest and I'll finish the story. Sarah really did have a baby 9 months later. Abraham was actually 100 years old when the baby was born! Can you imagine? The baby was a boy, and they named him Isaac which means laughter.

Bear Really? (Sit up, slightly recovered) That's funny that they would name him Isaac, especially since his mom, Sarah laughed when she heard the stranger predicting his birth.

TL Yep. It was the perfect name. Well, time went by and baby Isaac grew into a healthy young boy. His father loved him very, very much. Then one day the Lord tested Abraham. He told Abraham to take Isaac to a certain mountain and offer Isaac as a sacrifice to the Lord.



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT. 2)

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Bear WHAT!?! (Stand up, alarmed)

TL You heard right, the Lord told Abraham to offer his only son as a sacrifice.

Bear You mean to tell me that God told Abraham to kill and burn his little boy on a mountain?

TL That's right.

Bear That can't be right. Surely you read the story wrong. TL, go home and read that story again. God wouldn't do that! I'm sure of it.

TL Bear, calm down. Just listen. Early the next morning, Abraham cut wood for the sacrifice and strapped it to his donkey. He took Isaac and some servants and headed for the mountain. It took them 3 days to get close to the mountain and when they could finally see it Abraham told his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. Isaac and I will go to the mountain and worship. We'll be back soon." On the way to the mountain, Isaac asked, "Father, where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" His father, Abraham, answered, "God himself will provide."

Bear (Cover eyes) I can't bear it!

TL Just keep listening. When Abraham and Isaac came to the right place, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Next he tied up Isaac, his dear son, and placed on the altar.

Bear Aaahhhhh!

TL Shhhhh. (Gently) Listen. Just as Abraham lifted his knife to kill his son, the angel of the Lord stopped him. The angel said, "Don't hurt the boy. Now I know that you honor God." Abraham then noticed a ram whose horns were caught in a nearby bush. He offered the ram as a sacrifice in place of his son Isaac.

Bear (Hands off of eyes) Whew!

TL The God spoke to Abraham and said, "I, the Lord, will richly bless you because you did not keep back even your only son from me. Your descendents will be as numerous as the stars in the sky, and through them all nations will be blessed—all because you obeyed my commands." Abraham's faith had passed God's test.

Bear Gee, it was all a test to see if Abraham would obey? That's intense.

TL Very intense... God knew his test of Abraham's faith would be too hard for Abraham to do. God always knew he was going to provide a perfect sacrifice, even though he didn't reveal his plan to Abraham at the beginning.

Bear Gee, it makes this hard jar lid seem kind of small and insignificant.

TL You know what Bear? God knows all things and he cares for all his creatures. He knows about the little things and the big things that we deal with every day. Can I try to open the jar?



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT. 3)

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Bear Sure, give it a try.

TL (Try a few times and then finally open the jar). Whew, that was tough. Here you go.

Bear Thanks TL! I don't know how you did that, but I'm so glad you did.

TL Perhaps God was providing for you through me. He knew we'd bump into each other today just when you'd be having trouble with that jar. And he knew I'd be able to help you with it.

Bear Wow. He cares about me even in when I'm frustrated with a jar lid?

TL Actually Bear, he cares about you all the time in everything you do and in everything you think.

Bear That makes me feel kinda special. Thanks again TL.

TL My pleasure.

(Exit stage)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Did God fulfill his promise to Abraham and Sarah?
- Did he do it quickly?
- Have you ever had to wait a long, long time for something?
- How does it feel to wait a super long time?
- What did God ask Abraham to do to Isaac when he was a young boy?
- Did Abraham argue?
- Why did God ask Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?
- What did God provide for a sacrifice?
- What does faith mean?
- What does it look like to have faith in God?
- What does God want us to believe about him?

• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: JACOBS LADDER

Make a Jacob's Ladder toy or paper craft.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, hole punches, staplers

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM - PAPER CRAFT

- Strips of colored paper
- Glue

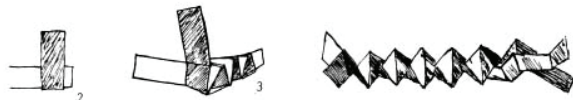
MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM - TOY

- 6 small (not mini) bars of chocolate per child
- red and green paper, one of each per child
- tape
- ruler

DIRECTIONS

Jacob's Ladder Paper Craft

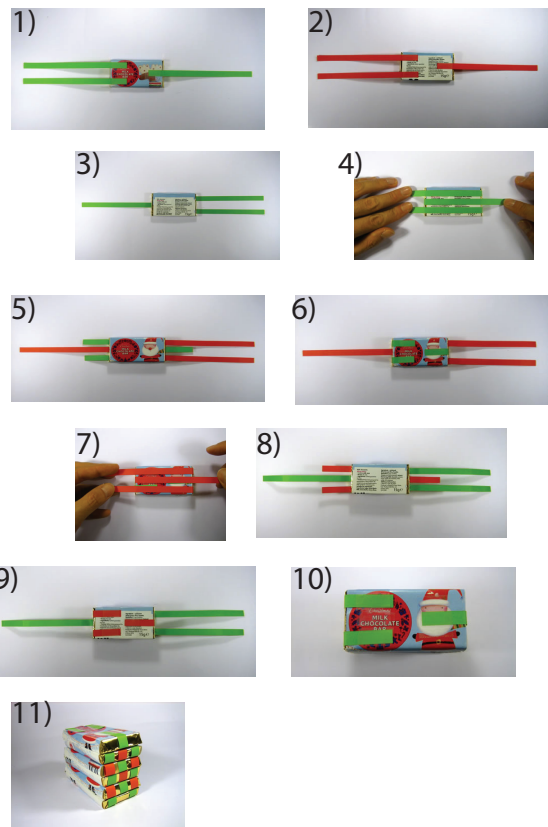
- 1) Cut two strips of paper 1" wide and about 20" long.
- 2) Lay the strips perpendicular to each other and overlap at one end and then glue or staple these ends together.
- 3) Taking the strip at rear, fold it over the front strip. Then take the second strip and fold it forward over the first. Continue folding until the entire length is folded according to the illustration. To finish the chain, glue the ends.
- 4) Pull the ends to open the ladder.



Jacob's Ladder Toy

This craft is much more complex and may not be suitable for large groups of kids. Please look at the following website for detailed photos: <http://www.homemade-gifts-made-easy.com/jacobs-ladder-toy.html>

- 1) Cut out 9 thin strips of green paper and 6 thin strips of red paper. Each strip should be as long as the two blocks of chocolate laid end-to-end, and about 1/4 as wide as the block of chocolate.
- 2) Place chocolate on table with nice side up. Tape three green strips onto the bar two on the left, one on the right.
- 3) Place 2nd block on table with nice side down. Tape three red strips exactly as in step 2.
- 4) Repeat the previous steps until you have 3 blocks with green strips, 2 blocks with red strips and one block with nothing.
- 5) Take one block with green strips and place in nice side down. Fold strips over the back side (see example).
- 6) Place a block with red strips on top of the first block nice side up. Fold green ends over and tape them to the second block. Then fold red strips over.
- 7) Place another block with green strips on top, nice side down. Fold red strips over and tape. Then fold green strips over.
- 8) Keep adding the blocks alternating colors. Place the plain bar on last, fold green strips over and tape.
- 9) Hold the Jacob's Ladder vertically, hold the top bar by the long sides, gently pivot block until the ladder action begins.





OLD TESTAMENT: ISAAC

CRAFT & GAME

lesson 8

• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: BLINDFOLD OBSTACLE COURSE

Sometimes things are just too difficult to do on our own. If we rely on God and our friends we will find that obstacles are easier to overcome.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- blindfolds (bandanas)
- obstacles such as chairs, tables, trash cans (gather what you can find on the field)

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions:

- Divide kids into two teams.
- The first two kids on each team pair up, one wearing a blindfold and the other is the guide.
- Pairs race through the obstacle course. When they get to the end they tag the next pair and hand off the blindfold. First team through the obstacle course wins.

Variations:

- Guide can only use his/her voice.
- Whole team is blindfolded except one guide.
- Set up two identical obstacle courses.
- Divide a large group into 3-4 teams.
- Use rope or tape to outline a maze type course.

