

GOD TESTED ABRAHAM

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 22:1-19

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 4:3

MAIN POINT: God made a promise.

The Bible Story

Genesis 22:1-19

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS

Abraham and his wife Sarah were very old when their son Isaac was born. God said Isaac would be part of God's special promise to send Jesus. One day, God wanted to see if Abraham loved God most of all. In Bible times, people gave gifts to God called *offerings*. God told Abraham to give Isaac as an offering. Abraham obeyed. Abraham and Isaac went up the mountain and built the altar. A voice called to Abraham from heaven and said, "Abraham, do not give your son Isaac as an offering." God sent a sheep instead. God knew Abraham loved God most of all.

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- * People should love God most of all.
- * God always keeps His promises.
- * God promised to send Jesus into Abraham's family.

Additional resources for each session are available at gospelproject.com.

For free training and session-by-session help, visit <http://www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject>.

Babies Activities



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to hold and turn the pages. Open your Bible to Genesis 22. Say the Gospel Gems to babies in a soothing voice. You may read the key passage card printable.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE to Abraham. People should love God most of all. Abraham loved and obeyed God. Abraham believed God always keeps His promises.



SING A SONG

Sing to the tune “The More We Get Together”:

“God always keeps His promise,
His promise, His promise!
God always keeps His promise,
*We can trust God!”

*Substitute a baby’s name each time you sing.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE to Abraham. God said Isaac would be part of God’s plan to send Jesus. God promised to send Jesus into Abraham’s family.



LOOK FOR A SHEEP

Show the babies a plastic sheep and let them watch as you place it under a blanket. Guide each baby to look for the sheep when you lift the blanket.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE to Abraham. People should love God most of all. Abraham loved God most of all. God gave Abraham a sheep to offer instead of Isaac.



TAKE A NATURE WALK

Push babies in a stroller outside if weather permits.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. God told Abraham to go to a mountain with his son Isaac. Abraham trusted God.

Toddler Activities



CIRCLE TIME (5 MINUTES)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it after you. Read the Bible story or tell it in your own words. Review the word *promise*.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. Abraham trusted God's promise.



MAKE GIFT BOW ART

Assist toddlers in peeling the backing off gift bows and guide toddlers to stick the bows to construction paper.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. God provided a sheep for Abraham to give to God instead of Isaac. God planned to send Jesus through Isaac's family.



GIVE GIFTS TO FRIENDS

Place one classroom item in a gift bag for each toddler. Invite toddlers to open their "gifts."

SAY: In Bible times, people gave gifts to God. Abraham was ready to give Isaac to God. **GOD MADE A PROMISE** to bless Isaac, and God kept His promise.



TRAVEL UP THE MOUNTAIN

Open a book and make a "mountain" out of it on a table. Guide toddlers to finger-walk or drive cars up and down the mountain.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. Abraham and Isaac went up the mountain because they believed God's promise.



EXPLORE NATURE ITEMS

Gather in clear, sealed containers several nature items Abraham and Isaac might have seen on the mountain. Invite toddlers to turn the containers to examine the items.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. Abraham and Isaac loved God.

Bonus Teaching Hour

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TRANSITION - WILL IT SINK OR FLOAT?

Spread a towel on a table and place a small tub of water on the towel. Ask toddlers whether an item (rock, toy boat, piece of paper) will sink or float. Invite toddlers to “test” the item by dropping it into the water. Test other items as time allows.

SAY: You tested to see if items will sink or float. God tested Abraham to see if he loved God. People should love God most of all. Abraham trusted God because **GOD MADE A PROMISE**.



MARCH TOGETHER

Invite toddlers to follow you as you march around the room. Encourage them to pump their arms as they march.

SAY: Abraham and Isaac marched up the mountain to show they loved God. **GOD MADE A PROMISE** and Abraham trusted God. People should love God the most.



READ BOOKS ABOUT GOD'S LOVE

Read board books or picture books about God's love and care. You may also show toddlers pictures in a small Bible.

SAY: GOD MADE A PROMISE. God promised to send Jesus into Abraham's family. God keeps His promises because He loves us.

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release babies and toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures.

**Abraham
believed
God.**

Romans 4:3 (HCSB®)

**“Abraham
believed
God.”**

Romans 4:3 (ESV)

**Abraham
believed
God.**

Romans 4:3 (KJV)

**“Abraham
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God.”**

Romans 4:3 (NIV)