

Lesson 6

Faithful Abraham

Genesis 11:27–12:8

Acts 7:2–4

Hebrews 11:8

Memory Verse

“Commit thy way unto
the LORD; trust also in
Him; and He shall
bring it to pass”
(Psalm 37:5)

Teacher’s Objective

At the end of the session,
the students should
be able to:

Define what faith is

Locate on a map the
journey of Abraham

Describe how God guid-
ed Abraham to a new
land,
and how God guides us
with His Word today

Express in their own
way how God kept His
promise to Abraham

Materials Needed

See “Teaching Activities”
for specific activities

Teacher’s Bible Study

Faith is the sure knowledge that God exists and that He will accomplish those things He has promised. Faith in God—trust in His promises and belief that He is in overall control—is a major element in the Christian life and is absolutely necessary for salvation.

Ultimately, faith deals with God’s promises—with the future. It is the trust in “things not seen.” Of course, belief cannot be blind. It must be built on genuine conviction. It has to come from perceiving God’s hand in creation, His work in history and the experience of His fulfilled promises in one’s own life. This is the foundation of faith. But one does not need faith in what has already been accomplished. Faith, therefore, is the willingness to believe God will not fail even though He has not actually brought about what is promised. “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1).

Faith is the motivator which causes us to live godly lives. From this it follows that one who has real belief in God and hopes in His promises will demonstrate this fidelity by his actions—by his obedience. Indeed, “whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Romans 14:23).

Abraham had faith in the promises of God. It is through the promises to Abraham that God revealed He had a plan. God commands that “the just shall live by faith” in every facet and area of his life. Abraham did just this. One must fully live by faith, because God has made promises which affect virtually every part of man’s existence. He has promised to help us in trials if we are faithful and to answer every prayer that is prayed according to His will and in faith. These expressions of faith are again not ends in themselves. In fact they are secondary compared to a Christian’s main thrust of faith, which is belief in God’s promise of the resurrection from the dead and in salvation.

To prepare for this week’s lesson, each day read the following scriptures:

<i>Abraham’s ancestry</i>	Genesis 11:10–30
<i>Abraham is obedient</i>	Genesis 11:31–12:9; Romans 4:1–5
<i>A bad decision</i>	Genesis 12:10–20
<i>Lot’s choice</i>	Genesis 13
<i>Abrahamic Covenant</i>	Genesis 15:17:1–8
<i>God remembers</i>	Psalms 105

Presenting the Bible Story

The City of Ur

Ur was located on the banks of the Euphrates River. This is where Abraham spent his childhood. Ur was located in the southern section of the region of Mesopotamia. Traveling merchants would bring exotic goods from India and other regions to trade. Farmers would trade a variety of food, such as apples, onions and barley.

The Fertile Crescent

The Fertile Crescent is what Abraham followed as he journeyed from Ur to Canaan. The Fertile Crescent is a large crescent-shaped strip of land that has fertile soil and plenty of water in the wilderness. This fertile land stretched northwest from Ur toward Haran, a city where Abraham lived for a while on his way to Canaan. The crescent turns southwest and follows along the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea.

Genesis 11:27–32

Terah was Abram's father.
He was an idolater. These verses give a brief account of Terah's three sons

A long time had passed after Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Sin continued to grow in the hearts of men. They did not obey God. Their disobedience showed their lack of faith in God. Man became more wicked as time went on. By the time of Noah, things had become so bad that God destroyed all people except Noah and his family. A descendant of Noah was a man named Abraham, who was originally known as Abram (Genesis 11:10–26).

Acts 7:2–4

Abraham and his wife Sarah were living in the city of Ur. They did not forget God. Abraham and his wife worshiped God, and knew He was the Creator. They were unlike their neighbors who worshiped the creation, and not God.

Genesis 12:1–3

Abraham answered the call; he responded by acting in faith

God called Abram and told him to leave his country, his family, and his father's household. He was not told about the land that he must travel to. His departure to do what God told him required a tremendous amount of faith. Abraham gives us the example that faith means obeying God.

Genesis 12:4–8

God showed Abraham the land that He would give to his descendants

If Abraham would leave Ur, God promised to do the following: (a) make a great nation, (b) bless him, and (c) be a blessing. Based on Abraham being obedient, God promised to (a) bless those who blessed him, (b) curse anyone who cursed him and (c) bless the families of the earth through Abraham.

Build trust with a game

As we read in these verses, Abraham obeyed. Because he obeyed, he was a blessing. When the Bible says, "and the souls that they had gotten in Haran," it may refer to the fact that Abraham had an influence on the people there, and they went with him. Abraham built an altar in two locations. He built an altar in the land of Canaan at Shechem and one east of Bethel. It was in Shechem that God appeared. God promised to reward Abraham for his faith. "To your offspring I will give this land." It was at the second location that

Abraham called on the name of Lord. Abraham built this altar to thank God for leading him to this promised land.

Introduce Memory Verse

Ask for a volunteer from the class to play the following game. Have your student stand in front of you with his or her back toward you. Tell the student to fall backwards, and that you promise to catch him or her. Do this with several of your students. Afterwards, ask your class if they had faith that the nastiest boy in school would catch them if they fell backwards.

Art and Activities

Promises are only as good as the people who make them. God will keep His promise every time. We can completely trust in God. Abraham did commit to God. We must do the same.

Teaching Activities

Young Children

Select the activity sheet suitable for your student's age.

Explore the following questions with your students:

Older Children

Select the activity sheet suitable for your student's age.

Explore the Subject

1. Did Abraham trust that God would guide him?

2. Does God give us commands in the Bible that we should follow today?

Always close your class with prayer

3. What promise did God make Abraham? *That he would make of him a great nation, and in him all the families of the earth should be blessed.*

Respond and Reinforce

1. When you follow God's commands this week, what are you going to do to obey Him?

2. Discuss the memory verse.

Activity Page

Faith

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
“By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received
the promises offered up his only begotten son.”



God Is Faithful

How can we build the characteristic of being faithful in ourselves?

Write a short paragraph explaining why you think you are a faithful person.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Activity Page

Faith

Abraham is called the “Father of the Faithful.” Search the letters below and find the words that help describe the attributes of faith.

D	E	P	E	N	D	A	B	L	G
Y	G	U	G	O	D	S	O	N	W
T	C	N	N	U	R	T	I	M	E
R	R	T	I	F	B	R	Q	N	S
U	N	U	T	K	E	U	E	L	L
E	V	G	S	V	L	S	T	L	O
S	H	H	A	T	I	T	A	U	Y
T	O	W	L	Z	E	W	R	F	A
A	N	G	R	M	V	O	U	H	L
U	E	E	E	A	E	R	C	T	T
N	S	U	V	R	D	T	C	I	S
C	T	R	E	B	O	H	A	A	A
H	S	T	E	A	D	Y	S	F	L


Find the Words That Describe Faith

Steady	Staunch	Faithful	Believed	Steadfast
Reliable	Trustworthy	Honest	True	Incorruptible
Accurate	Loyal	Confident	Upright	
Dependable	Trusted	Constant	Unwavering	

Activity Page

“Building Faith” Token

Fill in the blanks and give to someone for a gift. They may redeem it when they wish—knowing that you will do what you said you will do. Color the gift token and glue it to colored construction paper.



I can
do everything
through him
who gives me
strength
Philippians 4:13

Dear _____

As a gift to you I will

You can redeem this at any time.

I love you very much.

Signed:
