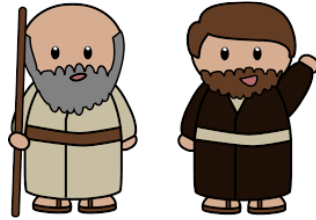


For your preschoolers!



Parents,

This week we are digging into the patriarchs, or fathers of the faith.

Because of these men, God's story eventually came to us. It is all about lineage this week and how, even in our attempt to make our own decisions, God has a plan. Below we have provided you with fun videos to watch throughout the week with your preschoolers! The questions that follow are a guide for you to walk your older preschooler through each story. If you do not already have it, **The Jesus Storybook Bible** is a wonderful resource for younger children to discover that Jesus was at the center of God's perfect plan from the very beginning.

Thanks for partnering with us as we explore the story of scripture. We know God says when His word is read it does not come back void. So, we are trusting that He is going to show up in our homes, and in our church as we seek to learn more about Him.

This week in church we learned the story of God's promise to Abraham; the promise that God would bless Abraham and Sarah with a son, and Abraham's family would come to number more than the stars in the sky. God promised Abraham that through Abraham's family, everyone on earth will be blessed!

This week use the fun videos below to learn about the lineage of Abraham in the Bible. You can find a family tree in our elementary family resources packet as well.

Day 1: Abraham and Sarah



Let's review!

- Who was Abraham? Why is he important? (Gen. 12)
- What do you know about Abraham's family?
- What promise did God make to him?
- Who was Abraham and Sarah's son?

Day 2: Isaac



Abraham has a son named Isaac. He was the evidence of God's promise to Abraham. His name means laughter, so we know that Isaac brought his mom and dad so much joy. But something unusual happens. Turn to Genesis 22 and read vs. 1-8.

- What does God tell Abraham to do to this long-awaited son?
- Why do you think he would ask this?
- How quickly does Abraham obey, even though he can't possibly understand what God is asking him to do.

Read verses 9-19.

- Talk with your family about what happens in this part of the story.
- Does Abraham sacrifice Isaac?
- What was God trying to find out about Abraham? (vs. 12)
- What does God provide as a sacrifice instead of Isaac? (vs. 13)

Isaac grows up and marries a girl named Rebekah. Rebekah and Isaac have twin boys named Jacob & Esau. Next, we will talk about these two brothers. They fight, and they're sneaky, and they get mad just like normal brothers today!

Day 3: Isaac's sons, Jacob & Esau



In Genesis 25-27, the story plays out like this: Jacob gets Esau to give him his birthright (that means that with Isaac dies Jacob will get everything!) Then Jacob dresses up like Esau to trick his dad (who can't see very well) into blessing him (this was a big deal back then). Then Esau finds out about what happened, and he is MAD! Esau wanted to kill Jacob, so Rebekah tells Jacob runs away! See, I told you things would get crazy!

In Genesis 28 we find out what happens to Jacob.

- Why does Isaac send Jacob to his uncle Laban?
- What blessing does Isaac pass down to Jacob?
- What happens in Jacob's dream?
- Do you see how Abraham's promise from God is being passed generation to generation?
- What does Abraham do in verse 18? He sets up a place to remember when he met with God.

Talk about something that God has done for you and your whole family that you want to praise him for. Your family could go together and collect rocks to place either in your home or in a garden the same way that Jacob did. All through scripture we will see where the people set up places to remember the things that God did. We can learn from them and do the same thing!

Day 4: Jacob, Laban, Rachel, & Leah



Let's continue with Jacob's story! We are going from jealous brothers to jealous sisters. Jacob is going to get married...uh, twice! But that's not what he intended. Read Genesis 29 together, stopping to discuss as needed.

- Who are the sisters in the story?
- Who does Jacob see and love first?
- What does Laban say that he had to get in order to marry Rachel?
- But Laban tricks him. What does he do?
- How do you think Jacob feels?

Jacob didn't want Leah as a wife, so he went back to Laban and Jacob has to work another 7 years to earn Rachel as his wife. That means that Jacob worked a total of FOURTEEN years for Rachel.

- How do you think this makes Leah feel? If you said unloved, you are right! Read Gen. 29: 31-35 again. Leah thinks she is going to be loved by Jacob every time she has a baby. She is looking for approval in all the wrong ways. But then Leah has a 4th baby boy. This time she realizes that there is only one person who loves her unconditionally. Not Laban, not Jacob, but the Lord. She praises God with his name.

- What does she name this baby?
- **GOD SENDS JESUS THROUGH JUDAH'S BLOODLINE!**

We should see that when Leah felt unloved, God saw her and knew she was loved.

So much so that he would send the Savior of the world through her pain.

Let's move onto the other sister, Rachel. Rachel was not able to have a baby, so she took things into her own hands (just like Sarah did with Hagar) and gave her servant, Bilhah, to have babies. Bilhah had two sons with Jacob.

Eventually Rachel had two sons. Read Genesis 30: 22 and 35: 16-18.

- Who was Rachel's first son?
- Who was Rachel's second son?

Day 5: Joseph's story



Jacob had TWELVE sons! One of those is Joseph. He is famous for his coat of many colors! Let's turn to Genesis 37 and our story starts there! Today is all about the story of Rachel's son, Joseph, and the journey that his brothers send him on!

- Why were Joseph's brothers jealous of him?
- What do the brothers plan to do to Joseph? Why?

Now that we know Joseph's story, let's answer these questions:

- Do you think Joseph was ever scared about what was going to happen to him after his brothers sold him?
- Who did he trust to take care of him?

Joseph ends up as a servant to Pharaoh in Egypt.

Jacob (now named Israel) sends his sons to Egypt to ask for food.

- What is Joseph's response to his brothers coming to Egypt? Does he give them food?
- What can we learn from Joseph?
- What does Joseph show us about Jesus?