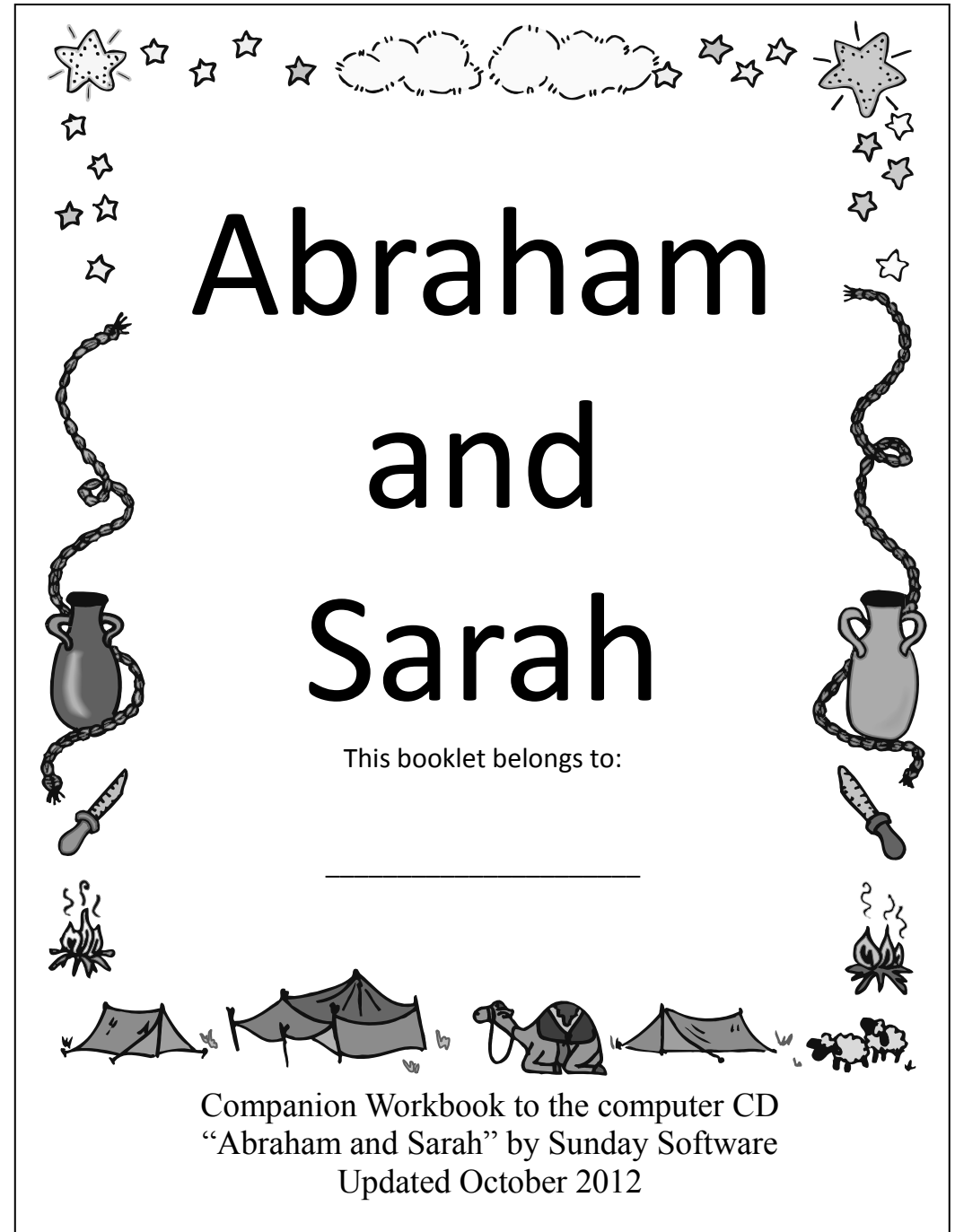


## Is it yours?

The opening video said that this is the story of Abraham and Sarah and asked you if it was your story, too.

Now that you've finished the lesson, what do you think? Is this your story?

Explain.



The Call  
*Genesis 12:1-5, 7 (NRSV)*

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 5 Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan... 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

**What 3 things does God promise Abraham in verses 2 & 3?** (Hint: each promise begins with the words "I will")

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

## Questions and Comments

Use the following blank pages to write down questions or make comments.

You can discuss these later with your teacher or pastor.

## The Call — Opening

This is Abraham and Sarah's story — is it yours?

What is *your* faith story? Fill in the spaces below

I first went to church...	About my baptism...
When I was little, this is what I thought about God...	Now I believe this...
I would describe my faith as...	When I am a grown-up, I think my faith story will include...

**Map** — draw a map of Abram and Sarai's travels.

**A C R O S S**

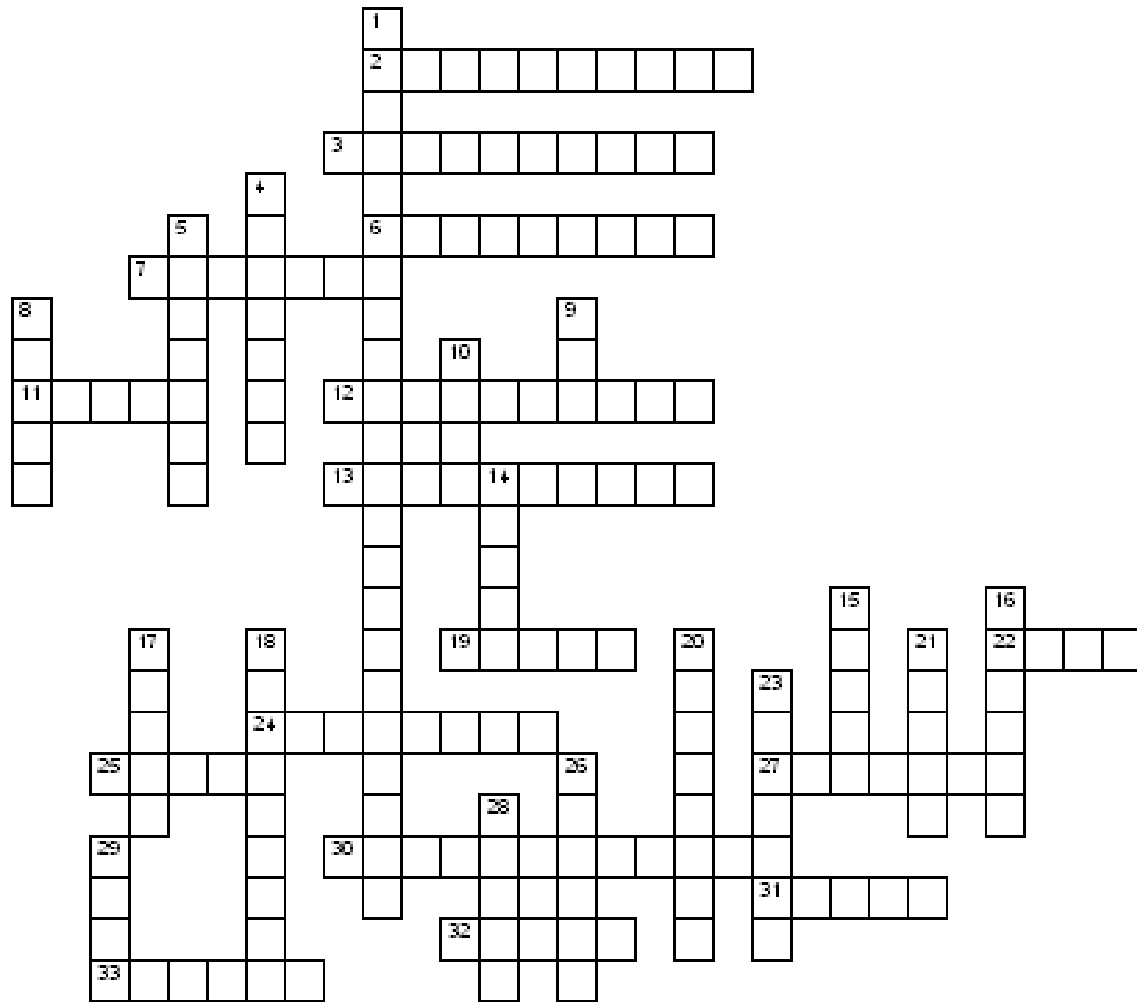
- 2 Genesis 15 symbol (2 words)
- 3 (two words) Abraham's age when Isaac was born
- 6 "T" promise word
- 7 Abraham's third wife (Gnesis 25)
- 11 Abraham's descendents will be more numerous than these
- 12 "A" promise word
- 13 (3 words)Memory Verse part 2
- 19 Weapon used for a sacrifice
- 22 Person who will get your stuff when you die
- 24 "C" promise word
- 25 Abraham's second wife
- 27 Abraham's oldest son
- 30 Dish given to the three visitors
- 31 Hagar's hometown
- 32 Abraham and Sarah had this. Do you?
- 33 Isaac's name for Abraham

**D O W N**

- 1 (4 words) Memory Verse part 1
- 4 What Sarah did when she was told she'd have a baby.
- 5 Book of the Bible where all this occurs
- 8 The reason we no longer offer sacrifices
- 9 Isaac's substitute
- 10 Home sweet home to Abraham and Sarah?
- 14 A & S's hometown
- 15 Genesis 15 symbol
- 16 Genesis 15 symbol
- 17 Place of sacrifice
- 18 Isaac almost became one, Jesus did.
- 20 What Abraham was to the nations who blessed him
- 21 Abraham's name before it was changed
- 23 thorny bush
- 26 Sarah's age when Isaac was born
- 28 Abraham's child by Sarah

# PEOPLE OF FAITH CROSSWORD

Have you learned the story? Test yourself by completing this crossword puzzle. Don't know an answer? The answers can all be found somewhere in this workbook or in the Bible. Good luck!



## Map Activity

Figuring an average pace of 2 miles per hour, and traveling 8 hours a day, how long would it take you to walk this journey of 1500 miles?

It would take me \_\_\_\_\_ days to travel the distance.  
Of course, for Abraham and Sarah the journey took much longer because they stopped, and backtracked, to find food for their flocks and herds.

## The Covenant

Fill in the blanks from Genesis 15:1-21 (Note: NRSV translation)

1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a v\_\_\_\_\_ "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your s\_\_\_\_\_; your r\_\_\_\_\_ shall be very great."  
2 But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue c\_\_\_\_\_, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4 But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." 5 He brought him outside and said, "Look toward h\_\_\_\_\_ and count the s\_\_\_\_\_, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your d\_\_\_\_\_ be." 6 And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.  
7 Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." 8 But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" 9 He said to him, "Bring me a h\_\_\_\_\_ three years old, a female g\_\_\_\_\_ three years old, a r\_\_\_\_\_ three years old, a t\_\_\_\_\_, and a young p\_\_\_\_\_." 10 He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when b\_\_\_\_\_ of p\_\_\_\_\_ came down on the c\_\_\_\_\_, Abram drove them away.  
12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and t\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_\_ descended upon him. 13 Then the Lord said to Abram, "Know this for certain, that your offspring shall be a \_\_\_\_\_ in a land that is not theirs, and shall be s\_\_\_\_\_ there, and they shall be oppressed for four hundred years; 14 but I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great p\_\_\_\_\_. 15 As for yourself, you shall go to you're a \_\_\_\_\_ in p\_\_\_\_\_; you shall be buried in a good old age. 16 And they shall come back here in the fourth \_\_\_\_\_; for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."  
17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a s\_\_\_\_\_ f\_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_ and a f\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_ passed between these pieces.  
18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your d\_\_\_\_\_ I give this land, from the river of E\_\_\_\_\_ to the great river, the river E\_\_\_\_\_, 19 the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, 20 the Hitites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21 the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

## Imagining the future of faith

What will your church be like in the 22 century (year 2100)?

## Insane Fanatasy

What words and images strike you most about this video?

How would you answer the final question: "How 'bout you?"

## Videos

Which music video do you like best and why?

## Pay it Forward

Print out one or more "Pay It Forward" certificate.

Fill in the following:

I began by helping	The certificate came back saying:

What do you think of this exercise?

Do you think there are ways to "pay it forward" even without certificates being mailed in?

Give examples/ideas.

How does this relate to the story of Abraham and Sarah?

List any vocabulary words that are unfamiliar to you below and look them up in a Bible dictionary or regular dictionary:

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Questions from the program

What are altars?

Which idea is better an altar or a communion table?

Why?

What do each of the following symbolize?

Torch

Smoking fire pot

Shield

What things from your world would you use to describe God?

## Covenant

What three words mean the same as covenant?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

T. \_\_\_\_\_

P. \_\_\_\_\_

John 3:16 gives a promise for the whole planet. Look it up and add it.

\_\_\_ Check here when you memorize it.

So...  
What have you promised to God?

What makes it hard to keep promises?

What persons or activities can make you better at keeping promises?

## QUIZ

Make up your own quiz to help test a classmate's knowledge of the Abraham story.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_



Reveals the heart of God.

Did God really want Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?

What makes you say that?

Would God really want you to do something drastic to prove your faith?

Explain

Have you heard of religious groups that do strange things because they say God told them to?

How do you feel about those groups?

Do you think they understand “the heart of God?”

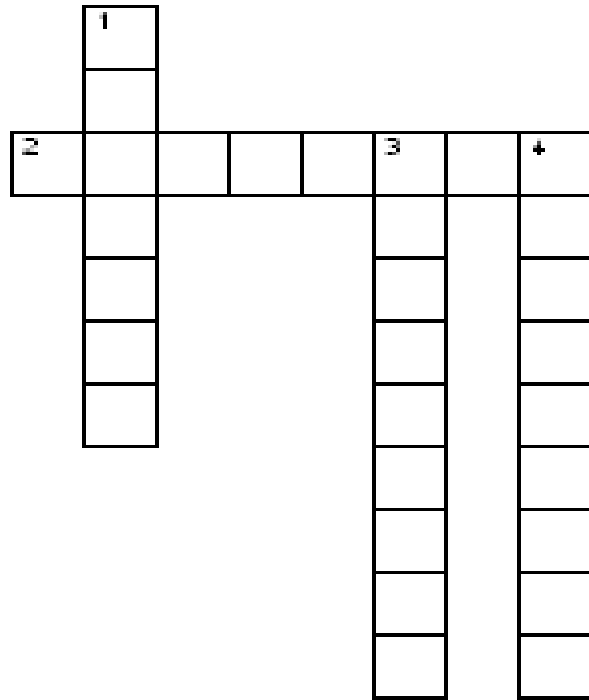
Why or why not?

### GENESIS 15 WORD SEARCH

Using the words you filled in on page 6, complete this word search. Note that words go up, down, and diagonally, both forwards and backwards. List the words in the spaces provided.

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

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



## What do you think?

Would Abraham have killed his son?

What do you imagine would have happened to Abraham if he hadn't been willing to sacrifice Isaac?

Do you have that much faith?

The Bible doesn't say what Sarah said about the sacrifice or if she even knew what was going on. Use your imagination and answer these questions:

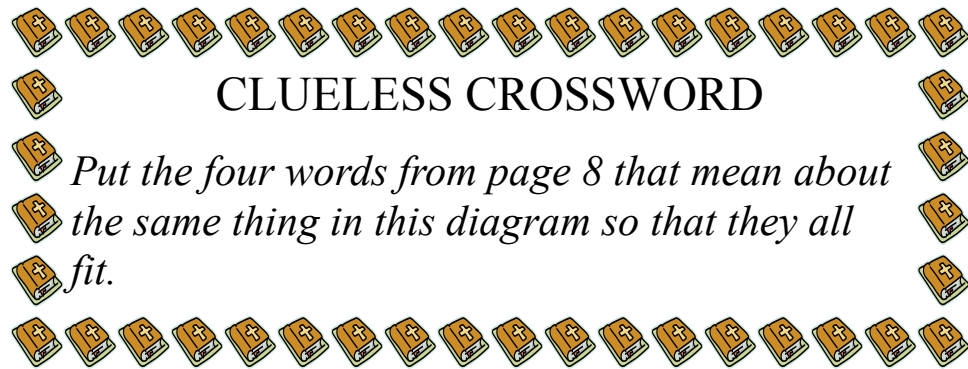
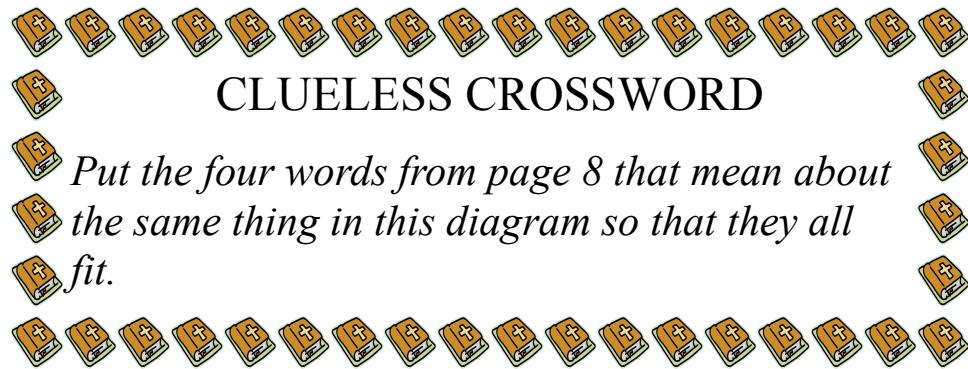
Did Sarah question the sacrifice?

What do you imagine she might have said and done?

What would you say to a friend who was part of a religious group that asked him or her to do strange things for God?

How does the almost-sacrifice of Isaac remind you of Jesus' death on the cross?

How is it different?

 **CLUELESS CROSSWORD** 

*Put the four words from page 8 that mean about the same thing in this diagram so that they all fit.*

## O Father Abraham

Listen carefully to the song and write the lyrics here

## For Further Study

God gave Abram the covenant a second time in Genesis 17 and changed his and Sarai's names. What were the meaning of their names before and after the name change according to your Bible notes?

Abram                      => Abraham

Meaning                      \_\_\_\_\_ => \_\_\_\_\_

Sarai                        => Sarah

Meaning                      \_\_\_\_\_ => \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think the name changes are important to the story?

What does your name mean?

---

In Genesis 16, Sarai takes the promise of children into her own hands. What exactly does she do?

What are the short term affects? (Genesis 16:4)

What are the long term affects? (Genesis 21:9-21)

What happens when we try and control things instead of leaving them in God's hands?

At the end of the video, what shape is the altar in?

Why do you think the makers of this video put the altar in this shape?

## The Visit

Genesis 18:1-15

Fill in the blanks. (Note, use NRSV text)

1 The Lord appeared to Abraham by the o\_\_\_\_\_ of  
M\_\_\_\_\_, as he sat at the entrance of his t\_\_\_\_\_ in  
the heat of the day. 2 He looked up and saw \_\_\_\_\_ men  
standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent  
entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. 3 He  
said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your  
servant. 4 Let a little w\_\_\_\_\_ be brought, and w\_\_\_\_\_  
your f\_\_\_\_\_, and r\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves under the tree.  
5 Let me bring a little b\_\_\_\_\_, that you may refresh  
yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have  
come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."  
6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said,  
"Make ready quickly three m\_\_\_\_\_ of choice  
f\_\_\_\_\_, knead it, and make c\_\_\_\_\_." 7 Abraham  
ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to  
the servant, who hastened to prepare it. 8 Then he took  
c\_\_\_\_\_ and m\_\_\_\_\_ and the calf that he had prepared,  
and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree  
while they ate.  
9 They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said,  
"There, in the tent." 10 Then one said, "I will surely return to  
you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a s\_\_\_\_\_."  
And Sarah was l\_\_\_\_\_ at the t\_\_\_\_\_ e\_\_\_\_\_  
behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were o\_\_\_\_\_,  
advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the

## STONES

What is a megalith?

Mega = \_\_\_\_\_ Lith = \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, a megalith is a \_\_\_\_\_

Megaliths were raised to be: (unscramble)

\_\_\_\_\_ ELTISN \_\_\_\_\_ SSSWEEINT \_\_\_\_\_ OT \_\_\_\_\_ IOEMSSRP

and to mark;

\_\_\_\_\_ DERSSCENSA \_\_\_\_\_ FO \_\_\_\_\_ ANTICOOL

What does it mean to be witnesses to this story?

## The Sacrifice

According to the Intro, what is this story about?

### Child Sacrifice

Why did some religions offer their children as a sacrifice to please their gods?

What was the most precious thing that God asked Abraham and Sarah to sacrifice?

What is the most precious thing in your life?

Would you be willing to give it up for God?

Why doesn't God require sacrifices anymore? (Hint: Whose death is a final offering for our sins?)

manner of women. 12 So Sarah l\_\_\_\_\_ to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have p\_\_\_\_\_?" 13 The Lord said to A\_\_\_\_\_, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" 14 Is anything too w\_\_\_\_\_ for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and S\_\_\_\_\_ shall have a son." 15 But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was a\_\_\_\_\_. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

## The Birth of Isaac

Genesis 21:1-8

**1** The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had p\_\_\_\_\_. **2** Sarah c\_\_\_\_\_ and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. **3** Abraham gave the name I\_\_\_\_\_ to his son whom Sarah bore him. **4** And Abraham c\_\_\_\_\_ his son Isaac when he was \_\_\_ days old, as God had commanded him. **5** Abraham was \_\_\_ years old when his son Isaac was born to him. **6** Now Sarah said, "God has brought l\_\_\_\_\_ for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." **7** And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse c\_\_\_\_\_? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age." **8** The child g\_\_\_\_\_, and was w\_\_\_\_\_; and Abraham made a great f\_\_\_\_\_ on the day that Isaac was weaned.

## The Visit

Hospitality — in the Middle East, especially among the Bedouin community (tent dwellers) hospitality is very important to their culture.

What are some of the nice things Abraham and Sarah did for their visitors?

Why would it be important for people who live in the wilderness/desert to take care of visitors?

How do you show hospitality when you have guests at your home?

How do we show hospitality at our church?

Why is it important to show hospitality to strangers when they visit our church?

How do you show hospitality to visitors?

If God came to visit you, would God feel welcome? Why or why not?



**11** But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." **12** He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." **13** And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. **14** So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the Lord it shall be provided." **15** The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, **16** and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, **17** I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, **18** and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice." **19** So Abraham returned to his young men, and they accompanied him and went together to Beer-sheva, and Abraham lived at Beer-sheva.

## The Sacrifice

Genesis 22

Fill in the blanks (NRSV text)

**1** After these things God t\_\_\_\_\_ Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." **2** He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of M\_\_\_\_\_, and offer him there as a b\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_ on one of the m\_\_\_\_\_ that I shall show you."  
**3** So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his d\_\_\_\_\_, and took two of his young men with him, and his son I\_\_\_\_\_; he cut the w\_\_\_\_\_ for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. **4** On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.  
**5** Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the b\_\_\_\_ and I will go over there; we will w\_\_\_\_\_, and then we will come back to you." **6** Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and l\_\_\_\_\_ it on his son Isaac, and he himself c\_\_\_\_\_ the f\_\_\_\_\_ and the k\_\_\_\_\_. So the two of them walked on together. **7** Isaac said to his father Abraham, "F\_\_\_\_\_!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are h\_\_\_\_\_, but where is the l\_\_\_\_\_ for a burnt offering?" **8** Abraham said, "God himself will p\_\_\_\_\_ the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. **9** When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an a\_\_\_\_\_ there and laid the wood in order. He b\_\_\_\_\_ his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. **10** Then Abraham r\_\_\_\_\_ out his h\_\_\_\_\_ and took the k\_\_\_\_\_ to k\_\_\_\_\_ his s\_\_\_\_\_.

## Why I laughed

What is your reaction to Sarah's statement:

Isn't that what God is all about: the birth of laughter and the wiping away of tears?

When has God wiped away your tears?

When has God brought you laughter or happiness?

Fill in the blank: If God told me \_\_\_\_\_, I would laugh, too.

Why would that make you laugh?

Do you think God minded that Sarah laughed?

Why or why not?

## SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the following words and phrases that relate to “The Visit” and the “Birth of Isaac.”

If you get stuck, look up the scripture on pages 12 and 13

SKOA FO REAMM \_\_\_\_\_  
ETTN \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEH ENM \_\_\_\_\_  
VAOFR \_\_\_\_\_  
WREAT \_\_\_\_\_  
ETTE \_\_\_\_\_  
ETERV \_\_\_\_\_  
ABDER \_\_\_\_\_  
ANTSVER \_\_\_\_\_  
HADNEST \_\_\_\_\_  
SEESAMUR \_\_\_\_\_  
FRULO \_\_\_\_\_  
ESKAC \_\_\_\_\_  
LACF \_\_\_\_\_  
CSDRU DNA IKLM \_\_\_\_\_

FIWE \_\_\_\_\_  
ONS \_\_\_\_\_  
ADEGHLU \_\_\_\_\_  
AEEULPRS \_\_\_\_\_  
DONERWULF \_\_\_\_\_  
IDDEEN \_\_\_\_\_  
RIAAFD \_\_\_\_\_  
DIMESROP \_\_\_\_\_  
VIDEOCNEC \_\_\_\_\_  
ASCIA \_\_\_\_\_  
DCCCUSIIMRE \_\_\_\_\_  
BRHAAAM \_\_\_\_\_  
RASAH \_\_\_\_\_  
DOL EAG \_\_\_\_\_

