















20 Bible Lessons

Creation of the World (Genesis 1:1-31)	4
Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:7-25)	8
The Fall of Man (Genesis 3:1-24)	. 12
Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)	16
Enoch and Methuselah (Genesis 5:21-27)	. 20
Noah Builds the Ark (Genesis 6:9-22)	. 24
The Great Flood (Genesis 7:1-24)	. 28
Rainbow Covenant – Genesis 8:1–9:17	. 32
The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)	36
The Call of Abram (Abraham) – Genesis 12:1-9	40
God's Promise to Abram – Genesis 15:1-21	. 44
The Birth of Ishmael – Genesis 16:1-16	. 48
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-7	. 52
Abraham's Test – Genesis 22:1-19	56
Birthright and Blessing - Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40	60
Jacob's Dream at Bethel - Genesis 28:10-22	64
Joseph's Coat of Many Colors - Genesis 37:1-11	68
Joseph Sold by His Brothers - Genesis 37:12-36	72
Joseph in Egypt - Genesis 39:1-41:57	. 76
Joseph's Reunion - Genesis 42:1-45:28	80

This collection of Bible Stories was largely generated using AI because of its ease of use and speed. Though AI assisted in their creation, each Bible Story has been prayerfully reviewed to ensure it aligns with biblical truth. My hope is that these reflections inspire, equip, and encourage you in your walk with Christ.

The design allows you to print two pages one for lesson front and back to be used by leaders for guides and second with word search and crossword as take home for the kids. Both would include middle page with story and, artwork, and questions.

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Count Quest: Announce quest word (highlighted in text) and instruct the listeners to count the number times you read it out loud. Award points or prizes to those who get the correct count!

Word Search and Crossword: bold underlined words in text make up the puzzle words in Word Search and Crossword.

Study Questions: Simple question from story to use for review or other games after reading story.

Creation of the World

Bible Story: Genesis 1:1-31

Key Verse: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." – Genesis 1:1 (NLT)

Objective: To help children understand that God created everything with purpose, beauty, and love, and we are part of His good creation.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

• "Have you ever made something you were proud of? What was it?" Explain that today's story is about how God created the entire world from nothing, simply by speaking, and everything He made was good.

2. Bible Story: Creation (Genesis 1:1-31)

Materials Needed:

- Visual aids for each day of creation (printed pictures, drawings, or objects).
- Optional: Use a flashlight to represent "light," a bowl of water for "seas," and toy animals for the "animals" day.

Story Summary:

- Day 1: God created light and separated it from the darkness (day and night).
- Day 2: God created the sky above and waters below.
- **Day 3:** God gathered the waters into seas and made dry land appear. He also created plants and trees.
- **Day 4:** God created the sun, moon, and stars to light the day and night.
- **Day 5:** God filled the seas with fish and the sky with birds.
- **Day 6:** God made all kinds of animals on the land and created the first humans—Adam and Eve.
- Day 7: God rested and saw that everything He made was "very good."

Key Point: Everything in creation was made by God's power and love. He made the world for us to enjoy and take care of.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God create on the first day?
- 2. What did He create on the sixth day?
- 3. Why did God rest on the seventh day?
- 4. What is your favorite thing that God created?
- 5. How can we take care of God's creation?

4. Game: "Creation Scavenger Hunt"

Materials Needed: Nature-related items or pictures (e.g., pictures of animals, leaves, rocks, water).

How to Play:

- Hide the items or pictures around the room.
- Give the children clues to find them (e.g., "Find something that flies in the sky" for a bird picture).

• Once all items are found, review how each one relates to the days of creation. **Lesson Tie-In:** This activity reinforces the details of creation and helps children appreciate the beauty of the world around them.

5. Craft: "Creation Mobile"

Materials Needed: String, paper, markers, scissors, glue, and paper plates or hangers. Instructions:

- 1. Cut out circles to represent each day of creation (e.g., a sun for day 4, fish for day 5).
- 2. Have the children decorate each circle.
- 3. Attach the circles to the string and hang them from the plate or hanger to make a mobile.

Craft Reflection: The mobile serves as a visual reminder of the order and beauty of God's creation.

6. Object Lesson: "Blank Canvas"

Materials Needed: A blank piece of paper and colored markers or paint. Activity:

- Show the blank piece of paper and explain that in the beginning, there was nothing—just like the blank page.
- As you retell the days of creation, draw or paint something representing each day (e.g., light, sun, birds, people).
- Discuss how God's creative work turned "nothing" into "something beautiful."

Lesson Connection: Just as the paper became a picture, God turned the emptiness into a beautiful world filled with life.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in a prayer:

- Thank God for creating the world and everything in it.
- Praise Him for His power, love, and creativity.
- Ask for help in being good stewards of His creation—taking care of the earth and loving others.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that the world was created by God's love and power, and everything He made was good. Encourage them to enjoy creation and to take care of the earth and the people around them as part of God's plan. End with a joyful declaration:

"God made it all, and it is good!"

- 1. What was there before the world was created? Nothing—it was dark, empty, and silent.
- 2. What did God say on the first day? "Let there be light!"
- 3. What did God call the light and the darkness? The light He called "day" and the darkness "night."
- 4. What did God create on the second day? *The sky (a space to separate the waters).*
- 5. What did God create by gathering the waters together on the third day? Dry land, called "earth," and the gathered waters, called "seas."
- 6. What kinds of things grew on the earth on the third day? *Plants, flowers, grass, and trees.*
- 7. What did God create on the fourth day to separate day from night? *The sun, moon, and stars.*
- 8. What did God fill the waters and the sky with on the fifth day? *Fish in the waters and birds in the sky.*
- 9. What blessing did God give the fish and birds? "Be fruitful and multiply!"
- 10. What did God create on the sixth day? *Animals and people.*
- 11. What kinds of animals did God make? Lions, cows, elephants, and even little bugs.
- 12. Who were the first people God created? *Adam and Eve.*
- 13. What special place did God make for Adam and Eve to live? *The Garden of Eden.*
- 14. What did God say about everything He made at the end of the sixth day? *"It is very good."*
- 15. What did God do on the seventh day? *He rested.*
- 16. What can we learn about God from His creation? God is powerful, loving, and everything He made is good.

Creation of the World (Genesis 1:1-31)

Before the **beginning** of the world, there was nothing. It was all dark, empty, and silent. But then, God spoke, and the **world** began to exist!

On the very first day, God said, "Let there be **<u>light</u>**!" And suddenly, light filled the darkness. God saw that the light was good, and He called it day. The darkness He called night. And that was the end of the **<u>first</u>** day.

On the **second** day, God said, "Let there be a space to separate the waters." He made the sky above and the waters below, creating clouds and air and called it the **beavens**. That was the end of



air, and called it the *heavens*. That was the end of the second day.

On the third day, God said, "Let the waters gather together in one place, and let dry <u>land</u> appear." The waters came together, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry land "earth" and the gathered waters "seas." Then, He said, "Let the earth grow <u>plants</u> and trees." Plants of every kind—flowers, grass, and tall trees—sprouted up all over the earth. God saw that it was good, and that was the end of the third day.

On the fourth day, God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night." He made the sun to shine in the day and the moon to light up the night. He also made stars to **twinkle** in the sky. God saw that it was good, and that was the end of the fourth day.

On the fifth day, God said, "Let the *waters* be filled with fish, and let the sky be filled with *birds*!" He made all kinds of fish and every kind of bird. The oceans and skies were filled with beautiful creatures. God blessed them and said, "Be *fruitful* and multiply!" And that was the end of the fifth day.

On the sixth day, God said, "Let the earth bring forth animals." So, He made all kinds of **<u>animals</u>**—lions, cows, elephants, and little bugs. He also made people! God created the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, and He told them, "Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth!" God gave Adam and Eve a beautiful **<u>garden</u>** called Eden to live in, full of trees, flowers, and animals. God saw everything He made and said, "It is very good." That was the end of the sixth day.

On the seventh day, God was happy with all that He had created, so He rested. He looked at the world and knew it was perfect.

And so, the world was born—beautiful and full of life—created by God's wonderful power and love.

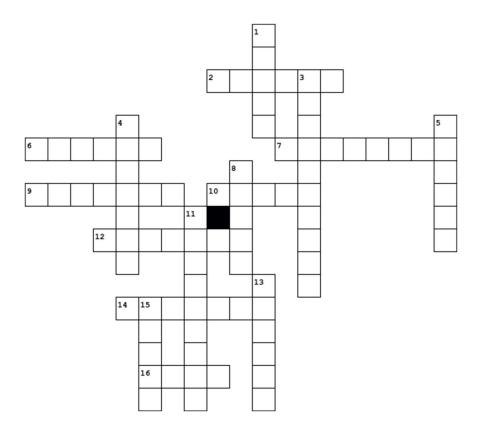
God made *everything* in the world, and He made it all good. He *created* us to enjoy the beauty of the world and to take care of it. When we look at creation, we can see how great God is! God (18)

- 1. What did God create on the first day, and why do you think He called the it "good"?
- 2. What is your favorite part of God's creation, and how can you help take care of it?

<u>Created</u>	<u>Animals</u>	<u>Twinkle</u>	<u>Heavens</u>
<u>Everything</u>	<u>Fruitful</u>	<u>Plants</u>	<u>First</u>
<u>Garden</u>	<u>Waters</u>	<u>Land</u>	<u>Light</u>
<u>Birds</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>World</u>

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Across

- 2. Special place for Adam and Eve
- 6. Rivers, lakes, and seas
- 7. Producing good things
- 9. Living creatures
- 10. What God called "Day"
- 12. The sky above
- 14. What stars do
- 16. Dry ground

- Down
- 1. Animals that fly
- 3. All things made by God
- 4. Made by God
- 5. Green, growing things
- 8. The very beginning
- 11. The start of something
- 13. Next in order
- 15. The Earth

Adam and Eve

Bible Story: Genesis 2:7-25

Key Verse: "Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person." – Genesis 2:7 (NLT)

Objective: To help children understand that God made people in His image, out of love, to have a special relationship with Him and to care for His creation.

1. Introduction

Ask the children:

- "What makes someone special?"
- "Who do you think made you?"

Explain that today's story is about how God created the very first people—Adam and Eve—because He wanted someone special to take care of the world and have a close relationship with Him.

2. Bible Story: Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:7-25)

Materials Needed: A toy garden set or pictures of trees, animals, and a human figure. Story Summary:

- God made the first man, Adam, from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him.
- God placed Adam in the beautiful Garden of Eden, filled with trees, plants, and animals.
- Adam named all the animals, but none were like him.
- God saw that Adam was lonely and caused him to fall into a deep sleep.
- God made the first woman, Eve, from one of Adam's ribs to be his companion and helper.
- Adam and Eve lived happily in the garden, spending time with God and each other.
- God gave Adam and Eve everything they needed and told them to take care of the garden.

Key Point: God created people out of love to have a relationship with Him and to care for the world He made.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. How did God make Adam?
- 2. What did God use to make Eve?
- 3. What was Adam's job in the garden?
- 4. Why do you think God made Eve to be Adam's helper?
- 5. How can we take care of God's creation today?

4. Game: "Animal Naming Relay"

Materials Needed: Animal cards or pictures of animals. How to Play:

• Divide the children into teams.

- Show a picture of an animal. Each team takes turns "naming" the animal with a fun or creative name, just like Adam named the animals.
- The team with the most creative names wins!

Lesson Tie-In: This game helps the children understand Adam's role in the garden and how God gave him responsibility to care for creation.

5. Craft: "Garden of Eden Scene"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, markers, scissors, glue, and cutouts of trees, animals, Adam, and Eve.

Instructions:

- 1. Have the children draw or glue cutouts of trees, animals, Adam, and Eve onto a large paper "garden" scene.
- 2. Encourage them to decorate their garden with colorful flowers, grass, and rivers.
- 3. Write the key verse *Genesis 2:7* at the top of the page.

Craft Reflection: Remind the children that just as God created Adam and Eve to care for the garden, He created us to take care of the world and love one another.

6. Object Lesson: "Breath of Life"

Materials Needed: Balloons.

Activity:

- Hold up an uninflated balloon and explain that before God breathed life into Adam, he was like this empty balloon—shapeless and lifeless.
- Blow up the balloon and show how it takes shape when filled with air.
- Explain that God gave Adam life when He breathed into him, and that same breath of life is what makes us special too.

Lesson Connection: This simple visual helps children understand that God's breath of life made Adam alive and gave him purpose.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for creating us out of love and giving us life.
- Ask God to help us care for the people and world around us.
- Pray for close friendships and a heart that honors God, just like Adam and Eve had at first.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that God created Adam and Eve with great care and love, just as He created each of us. We are all special and made to have a relationship with Him. Encourage the children to take time to thank God for His creation and to take care of the people, animals, and world around them.

End with a joyful declaration:

"God made me special, and He loves me!"

- 1. Who was the first man that God created? Adam.
- 2. What did God use to form Adam? *Dust from the ground.*
- 3. How did Adam come to life? *God breathed into his nose.*
- 4. What special garden did God make for Adam to live in? *The Garden of Eden.*
- 5. What was the garden full of? Every kind of tree and plant, with trees full of delicious fruit.
- 6. What were the names of the two special trees in the middle of the garden? *The Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.*
- 7. What did God tell Adam not to eat from? The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- 8. What did God say would happen if Adam ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?
- He would surely die.9. What job did Adam have in the garden?
 - To take care of the garden.
- 10. What did Adam do for the animals in the garden? *He named them.*
- 11. Why did God decide to make a helper for Adam? *Because Adam was lonely.*
- 12. How did God make the first woman? God took one of Adam's ribs and made a woman.
- 13. What did Adam say when he saw the woman? "She is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."
- 14. What name did Adam give the woman? *Eve.*
- 15. What did Adam and Eve have in the garden to meet their needs? *Food, water, and a beautiful place to live.*
- 16. Who would walk and talk with Adam and Eve in the garden? *God.*
- 17. How did Adam and Eve feel in the garden? *Safe, happy, and close to God.*
- 18. What was the relationship between Adam, Eve, and God like? They loved each other and had a close relationship with God.
- 19. What did God want Adam and Eve to do with His creation? *Take care of it together.*
- 20. Why are we special to God, just like Adam and Eve? Because God made us in His image to love Him and have a close relationship with Him.

Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:7-25)

After God *created* the world out of nothing and filled it with light, land, water, plants, and animals, He decided to create someone *special* to take care of His creation. That's when God made the first man.

God took some **dust** from the ground and **formed** it into the shape of a man. Then He breathed into the man's nose, and the man came to life! God called him Adam. Adam wasn't like the animals or plants—he was made in God's **image** and could think, talk, and love.



God planted a beautiful *garden* called Eden for Adam to live in. The garden was full of every kind of tree and plant, and the trees were heavy with delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden, there were two special trees: the Tree of Life and the Tree of the *Knowledge* of Good and Evil. God told Adam he could eat from any tree in the garden—except the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. "If you eat from that tree," God warned, "you will surely die."

Adam took care of the garden, naming all the **<u>animals</u>**. He named lions, zebras, butterflies, and even tiny ants. But Adam noticed something—none of the animals were quite like him. Adam didn't have a **<u>partner</u>** or a friend.

God saw that Adam was lonely, so He decided to make a <u>helper</u> just right for him. God caused Adam to fall into a deep <u>sleep</u>. While Adam was sleeping, God took one of Adam's ribs and used it to make a <u>woman</u>. When Adam woke up, he saw the woman and said, "Wow! She is just like me. She is bone of my <u>bones</u> and flesh of my flesh." Adam called her Eve.

Adam and Eve lived happily in the Garden of Eden. They had everything they needed—food, water, and a beautiful place to live. Best of all, they got to spend time with God, who would walk and talk with them in the garden. They loved God, and they loved each other.

Adam and Eve's life in the garden was *perfect*. They were safe, happy, and close to God. God wanted them to enjoy His creation and take care of it *together*.

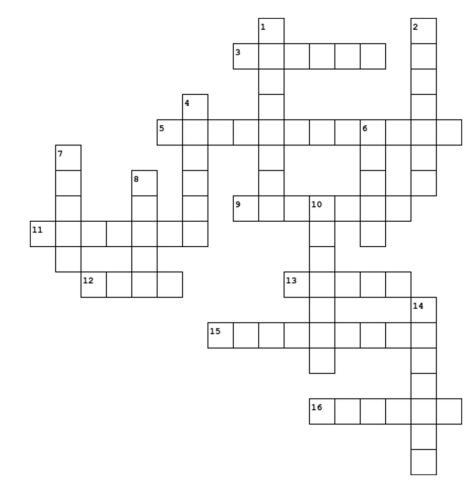
God created people to love Him and take care of His creation. Just like Adam and Eve, we are made to have a close *relationship* with God and each other. God loves us so much that He made us special, just like Adam and Eve were special! God (18)

- 1. Why did God make Eve for Adam, and how did Adam feel when he saw her?
- 2. How do you think Adam and Eve showed love for God and each other in the garden?

<u>Created</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Dust</u>	<u>Formed</u>
<u>Image</u>	<u>Garden</u>	<u>Knowledge</u>	<u>Animals</u>
<u>Partner</u>	<u>Helper</u>	<u>Sleep</u>	<u>Woman</u>
<u>Bones</u>	<u>Perfect</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Together</u>

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А	Η	Q	Y	W	Κ	Ρ	Η	S	Ε	D	D	Ε	U	G
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В	Ο	Ν	Ε	S	W	V	U	Ρ	Y	Ζ	Ι	U	S	0
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Across

- 3. God shaped Adam and Eve
- 5. A close connection with God
- 9. What God did to the world
- **11.** A friend who helps
- 12. What Adam was made from
- 13. We are made in God's ____
- **15.** What the tree gave
- 16. Where Adam and Eve lived

- 1. How God made Adam and
- **2.** Different and important
- 4. What Eve was for Adam
- 6. What God put Adam into
- 7. Made from Adam's rib
- 8. Adam said Eve was made from this
- 10. Adam named these
- 14. God's creation was this

The Fall of Man (Genesis 3:1-24)

Materials Needed: Toy snake or picture of a serpent, paper leaves or fig leaves, a toy sword to represent the angel's flaming sword.

Story Summary:

- Adam and Eve lived happily in the Garden of Eden, where they had everything they needed and walked with God.
- One day, a serpent (used by Satan) tempted Eve, asking if God had really said not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- Eve told the serpent they would die if they ate from the tree.
- The serpent lied and said they wouldn't die but would become like God.
- Eve saw that the fruit looked good and took a bite. She gave some to Adam, who also ate.
- Suddenly, they realized they were naked and felt ashamed, so they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.
- When God came to walk with them, Adam and Eve hid.
- God asked what they had done. Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent.
- God told the serpent it would crawl on its belly and promised that one day a Savior would defeat sin and Satan.
- God told Eve that she would experience pain in childbirth and Adam that he would have to work hard for food.
- God made clothes from animal skins to cover Adam and Eve and sent them out of the garden, placing an angel with a flaming sword to guard the Tree of Life.

Key Point: Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God, but He didn't leave them without hope—He promised a Savior to fix what was broken.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did the serpent tell Eve about the tree?
- 2. Why did Adam and Eve hide from God?
- 3. How did God show His love even after they disobeyed?
- 4. What did God promise about defeating sin?
- 5. How can we ask for forgiveness when we make mistakes?

4. Game: "Temptation Freeze Tag"

Materials Needed: None.

How to Play:

- One child is "Temptation" (the tagger) and tries to tag the other children.
- When a child is tagged, they must "freeze" in place.
- Another child, acting as "Jesus," can "unfreeze" them by gently tagging them and saying, "You are forgiven!"
- After a few minutes, switch roles so other children get to be "Temptation" and "Jesus."

Lesson Tie-In: This game illustrates how sin can trap us, but Jesus' forgiveness sets us free.

5. Craft: "Garden of Eden Scene"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, markers, scissors, glue, and stickers of trees, animals, and leaves.

Instructions:

- 1. Have the children draw the Garden of Eden with trees, flowers, and animals.
- 2. Cut out leaf shapes and attach them to represent Adam and Eve's coverings.
- 3. Add an angel with a flaming sword to the side to represent the entrance to the garden.

Craft Reflection: The craft serves as a reminder that God's creation was beautiful, and even though Adam and Eve disobeyed, God still loved them.

6. Object Lesson: "Clean and Messy Heart"

Materials Needed: Two paper hearts—one clean and whole, one crumpled and torn. Activity:

- Show the clean heart and explain that when God created Adam and Eve, their hearts were pure.
- Crumple and tear the second heart as you explain how sin damages our hearts and separates us from God.
- Show how Jesus "mends" the heart by taping or gluing the torn heart back together.

Lesson Connection: Jesus' forgiveness makes our hearts whole again, even when we make mistakes.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in a prayer:

- Thank God for His love and forgiveness.
- Ask God to help us resist temptation and make good choices.
- Pray for strength to trust and obey God, knowing that Jesus forgives us when we fall.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Adam and Eve's disobedience brought sin into the world, but God didn't leave them without hope. Jesus came to fix what was broken by sin and offers us forgiveness and a close relationship with Him. End with a group declaration: "God loves us and forgives us!"

- 1. Who came to talk to Eve in the garden? *A serpent (used by Satan).*
- 2. What question did the serpent ask Eve? "Did God really say you can't eat from any tree?"
- 3. What tree did Eve say they were not allowed to eat from? *The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.*
- 4. What did God say would happen if they ate from that tree? *They would die.*
- 5. What did the serpent say would happen if Eve ate the fruit? She wouldn't die and would be like God, knowing good and evil.
- 6. Why did Eve decide to eat the fruit? *The fruit was beautiful and tempting.*
- 7. Who did Eve give the fruit to after she ate it? *Adam.*
- 8. What did Adam and Eve realize after they ate the fruit? *That they were naked.*
- 9. What did Adam and Eve do to cover themselves? *They sewed fig leaves together.*
- 10. What did Adam and Eve do when they heard God in the garden? *They hid among the trees.*
- 11. What reason did Adam give for hiding? He was afraid because he was naked.
- 12. Who did Adam blame for eating the fruit? *Eve.*
- 13. Who did Eve blame for eating the fruit? *The serpent.*
- 14. What punishment did God give the serpent? The serpent would crawl on its belly and eat dust.
- 15. What did God do to cover Adam and Eve? He made clothes from animal skins.
- 16. What promise did God make after Adam and Eve sinned? That one day a Savior would come to defeat sin and Satan.

The Fall of Man (Genesis 3:1-24)

Adam and Eve were happy in the Garden Eden, where they had *everything* they needed and *walked* with God. But one day, a sneaky *serpent*, used by Satan, came to Eve and asked, "Did God really say you can't eat from any tree?"

Eve replied, "We can eat from any tree except the Tree of the Knowledge of **Good and Evil**. God said if we eat from we will die."

The serpent lied, "You won't die. **<u>Eating</u>** will make you like God, knowing good and

evil." Eve looked at the *fruit*—it was beautiful and *tempting*. She took a bite and gave some to Adam, who also ate. Instantly, they realized they were *naked* and felt *ashamed*, so they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

When God came to walk with them, they hid among the trees. "Adam, where are you?" God called. Adam answered, "I was *afraid* because I was naked, so I hid."

God asked, "Did you eat from the tree I commanded you not to eat from?" Adam **blamed** Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent.

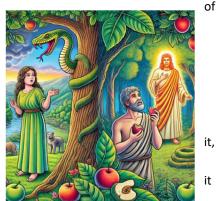
God was very sad. He told the serpent, "You will crawl on your belly and eat dust." He promised that one day a Savior would come to defeat sin and Satan. To Eve, He said, "You will have pain when you have children." To Adam, He said, "The ground is **cursed**, and you will work hard to grow food."

Then God made *clothes* from animal skins to cover Adam and Eve. But because they disobeyed, they could no longer stay in the perfect garden. God sent them out and placed an angel with a *flaming* sword to guard the Tree of Life.

Adam and Eve's **<u>disobedience</u>** brought sin into the world, but God still loved them. He promised a way to fix what was broken—through Jesus, who would save us from sin.

Even when we disobey, God loves us and offers *forgiveness* through Jesus. This story reminds us to trust and obey God, even when we face temptation.

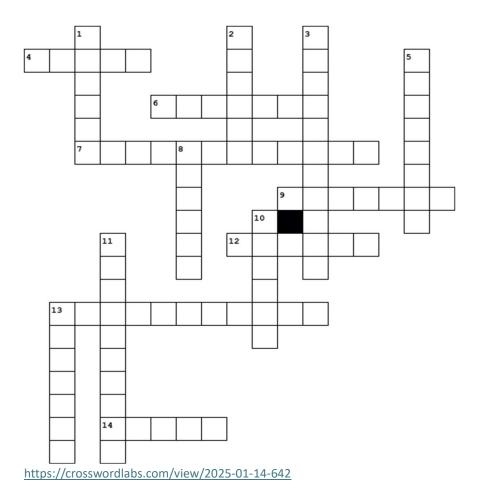
- 1. Why did Adam and Eve hide from God, and how do you think God felt when they disobeyed?
- 2. What can we do when we make a mistake, knowing that God still loves and forgives us?



<u>Everything</u>	<u>Walked</u>	<u>Serpent</u>	<u>GoodAndEvil</u>
<u>Eating</u>	<u>Fruit</u>	<u>Tempting</u>	<u>Ashamed</u>
<u>Naked</u>	<u>Afraid</u>	<u>Blamed</u>	<u>Cursed</u>
<u>Cursed</u>	<u>Flaming</u>	<u>Disobedience</u>	<u>Forgiveness</u>

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Across

- 4. The food from the forbidden tree
- **6.** Feeling embarrassed or guilty
- 7. Not following instructions
- 9. The snake that tempted Eve
- **12.** Taking food into the mouth
- **13.** Mercy shown after wrongdoing
- **14.** Without clothes

- 1. Punished by God
- 2. Feeling fear
- **3.** What the forbidden tree was named
- 5. Hard to resist
- 8. Said someone else was at fault
- 10. Moved on foot
- 11. All things created
- 13. Burning with fire

Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)

Key Verse: *"If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?" – Genesis 4:7 (NLT)* **Objective:** To teach children the importance of giving God our best and guarding our hearts against anger and jealousy.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever felt jealous of someone or angry when things didn't go your way?"
- Explain that today's story is about two brothers—Cain and Abel—and how one brother's jealousy led to a terrible choice, but how God's mercy was still present.

2. Bible Story: Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16) Materials Needed:

• Pictures or toy props: fruit, lamb, and heart shapes (to symbolize their offerings and heart attitudes).

Story Summary:

- Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain (who worked the fields) and Abel (who took care of sheep).
- Cain brought an offering of some fruits from his crops, but Abel brought the best lamb from his flock.
- God was pleased with Abel's offering because it came from a thankful heart, but He
 was not pleased with Cain's offering because Cain didn't give his best and his heart
 wasn't right.
- Cain became angry. God warned him that sin was waiting to take control, but Cain had the choice to do what was right.
- Instead of choosing to listen to God, Cain gave in to his anger and killed his brother Abel in the field.
- God asked Cain where Abel was, and Cain responded, "Am I my brother's keeper?"
- God punished Cain, making him a restless wanderer. But even in punishment, God protected Cain by placing a mark on him so that no one would harm him.
- Cain chose to live far from God, missing out on the joy he could have had if he had chosen to do what was right.

Key Point: God cares about the attitude of our hearts and calls us to give our best to Him and to live with love and kindness.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What jobs did Cain and Abel have?
- 2. Why was God pleased with Abel's offering but not Cain's?
- 3. How did Cain respond to God's warning?
- 4. What happened when Cain let his anger grow?
- 5. How can we guard our hearts from anger and jealousy?

4. Game: "Heart Check Relay"

Materials Needed: Heart-shaped cards with actions written on them (e.g., "Say something kind," "Share with a friend," "Thank God for what you have"). **How to Play:**

HOW LO Play.

• Divide the children into teams.

- Set up a relay where each child picks a card and performs the action written on it before tagging the next teammate.
- After the game, discuss how making good choices helps keep our hearts focused on doing what's right.

Lesson Tie-In: This game helps the children practice positive heart attitudes, reinforcing the importance of love, kindness, and gratitude.

5. Craft: "Best Gifts to God"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, markers, glue, stickers, and cut-out shapes of fruits, animals, and hearts.

Instructions:

- 1. Have the children draw or glue shapes representing their "best gifts" to God (e.g., helping others, sharing, being thankful).
- 2. Encourage them to decorate their papers with words and images that show what they can give to God with a thankful heart.
- 3. Write the key verse *Genesis 4:7* at the top.

Craft Reflection: Remind the children that God cares about the attitude of our hearts more than the size or type of gift.

6. Object Lesson: "Clean vs. Cloudy Water"

Materials Needed: Two clear jars of water (one clean, one with food coloring or dirt). Activity:

- Show the clean jar of water and explain how it represents a heart full of thankfulness and love.
- Show the jar with the dirt or coloring and explain how jealousy and anger "cloud" our hearts and lead to bad choices.
- Pour clean water into the dirty jar to show how God can help clean our hearts when we ask Him.

Lesson Connection: God wants us to keep our hearts clean by choosing love and giving our best.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in a prayer:

- Thank God for loving us and giving us the chance to make good choices.
- Ask God to help us guard our hearts from jealousy and anger.
- Pray for hearts full of thankfulness and kindness toward others.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Cain's story teaches us that anger and jealousy can lead us to make bad choices, but God offers us a chance to choose what's right. When we give God our best and show love to others, we reflect His goodness in our lives.

End with a group declaration:

"God loves me, and I will choose to do what is right!"

- 1. Who were Adam and Eve's two sons? *Cain and Abel.*
- 2. What job did Cain have? He worked in the fields, growing crops.
- 3. What job did Abel have? He took care of sheep.
- 4. What kind of offering did Cain bring to God? *Some of the fruits he had grown.*
- 5. What kind of offering did Abel bring to God? *The best lamb from his flock.*
- 6. Why was God pleased with Abel's offering? Because Abel gave the best he had with a thankful heart.
- 7. Why was God not pleased with Cain's offering? Because Cain didn't give his best, and his heart wasn't right.
- 8. What did God say to Cain when He saw Cain was angry? *"If you do what is right, you will be accepted. But be careful—sin is waiting to take control of you. You must master it."*
- 9. What did Cain ask Abel to do one day? To go out into the field with him.
- 10. What did Cain do to Abel in the field? *He attacked and killed him.*
- 11. What question did God ask Cain after Abel was killed? "Where is your brother Abel?"
- 12. What was Cain's reply to God? "I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"
- 13. What punishment did God give Cain?

The ground would no longer produce good crops for him, and he would wander the earth as a restless fugitive.

- 14. What did Cain say about his punishment? "My punishment is too much! If anyone finds me, they will kill me."
- 15. What did God do to protect Cain?
 He placed a special mark on Cain to protect him from being harmed.
- 16. What lesson can we learn from the story of Cain and Abel? To give our best to God, guard our hearts against anger and jealousy, and trust God's mercy when we make mistakes.

Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)

Adam and Eve had two sons. Their first son was <u>named</u> Cain, and their second was named Abel. As they grew up, the brothers had different jobs. Cain worked the fields, <u>growing</u> crops, while Abel took care of <u>sheep</u>.

One day, Cain and Abel brought <u>offerings</u> to God. Cain brought some the fruits he had grown, while Abel brought the best lamb from his flock. God was <u>pleased</u> with Abel's offering because Abel gave the best he had with a thankful heart. But God was not pleased



with Cain's offering because Cain didn't give *his best* and his heart wasn't right.

Cain became very angry. God saw this and said, "Why are you angry? If you do what is right, you will be accepted. But be careful—sin is waiting to take control of you. You must master it."

Instead of listening to God, Cain let his anger grow. One day, he asked Abel to go out into the field. While they were there, Cain attacked Abel and killed him. Cain's **jealousy** had turned into a terrible sin.

God spoke to Cain and asked, "Where is your *brother* Abel?"

Cain answered, "I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

God replied, "What have you done? Your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground." Then God **punished** Cain. He told him that the ground would no longer produce good crops for him, and he would wander the earth as a restless **fugitive**.

Cain cried out to God, "My *punishment* is too much! If anyone finds me, they will kill me."

But God, in His mercy, placed a special <u>mark</u> on Cain to protect him. He promised that no one would harm him, even though Cain had done something very wrong.

Cain went away from God's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden. He spent the rest of his life as a *wanderer*, far from the *happiness* he could have had if he had chosen to do what was right.

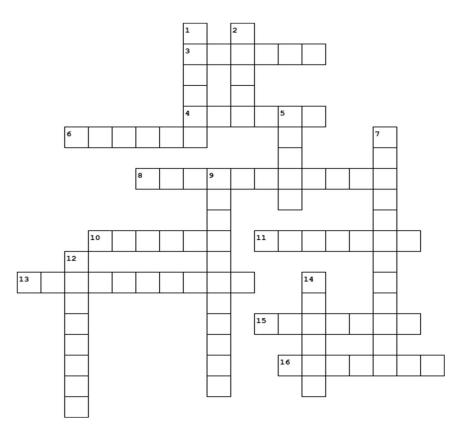
God cares about the **attitude** of our hearts. He wants us to give our best and live with love and kindness, not jealousy or anger. Even when we make mistakes, God is merciful and wants us to turn back to Him. This story reminds us to **guard** our hearts and choose to do what is right.

- 1. Why do you think God was pleased with Abel's offering but not with Cain's?
- 2. How can we choose to do what is right when we feel upset or jealous, like Cain did?

<u>Named</u>	<u>Growing</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
<u>Pleased</u>	<u>HisBest</u>	<u>Jealousy</u>	<u>Brother</u>
Punished	<u>Fugitive</u>	<u>Punishment</u>	<u>Mark</u>
<u>Wanderer</u>	<u>Happiness</u>	<u>Attitude</u>	<u>Guard</u>

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Down

1. Moved on foot

2. Food from the tree

7. Not following the rules

9. Knowledge from the forbidden tree

14. Said someone else was at fault

5. Without clothes

12. Hard to resist

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Across

- 3. Feeling fear
- 4. What Adam and Eve did with the fruit
- 6. Spoken punishment
- 8. Mercy and a second chance
- 10. Punished by God
- 11. Felt guilty or embarrassed
- 13. All things created
- 15. Burning with fire
- 16. The talking snake

Enoch and Methuselah

Bible Story: Genesis 5:21-27

Key Verse: "Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away." – Genesis 5:24 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children the importance of walking closely with God and living a life that honors Him.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "What does it mean to walk with someone?"
- "Who do you like spending time with and talking to?"

Explain that today's story is about a man named Enoch who walked closely with God every day. He loved God so much that one day, God brought him straight to heaven!

2. Bible Story: Enoch and Methuselah (Genesis 5:21-27)

Materials Needed: A pair of shoes to symbolize "walking" with someone. Story Summary:

- Enoch lived during a time when many people ignored God, but Enoch chose to follow Him faithfully.
- At 65 years old, Enoch had a son named Methuselah.
- After Methuselah was born, Enoch walked faithfully with God for 300 more years and had more children.
- Enoch's life was so pleasing to God that instead of dying like other people, God took Enoch straight to heaven!
- Methuselah, Enoch's son, lived for 969 years—the longest life recorded in the Bible. His long life shows us God's patience and faithfulness.

Key Point: Enoch's life teaches us that walking with God and honoring Him every day is the most important thing we can do.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What does it mean to "walk with God"?
- 2. How was Enoch's life different from the people around him?
- 3. Why do you think God took Enoch to heaven instead of letting him die?
- 4. How long did Methuselah live?
- 5. How can we "walk with God" in our everyday lives?

4. Game: "Walk and Talk"

Materials Needed: None.

How to Play:

- Pair up the children and have them walk side-by-side in a circle.
- As they walk, have them talk to each other about something simple (e.g., their favorite food or color).
- Switch partners after a few minutes.

Lesson Tie-In: After the game, explain that walking with God is like walking and talking with a friend. We can talk to Him in prayer, listen to Him through His Word, and make choices that honor Him.

5. Craft: "Walk with God Footsteps"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, scissors, markers, glue, stickers. Instructions:

- 1. Have the children trace their feet on construction paper and cut out the shapes.
- 2. Write "Walk with God" on each foot and decorate them with stickers and markers.
- 3. On the back of each foot, write or draw ways to walk with God (e.g., praying, reading the Bible, helping others).
- 4. Encourage them to take their "footsteps" home as a reminder to walk with God daily.

6. Object Lesson: "Walking Together" Materials Needed: None.

Activity:

- Choose a volunteer and walk side-by-side across the room.
- Then ask the volunteer to try walking while you go a different way or stop moving.
- Explain that just like we need to walk together to stay close, we need to stay in step with God by following Him, praying, and listening to His Word.

Lesson Connection: Walking with God means staying close to Him and making time for Him every day.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for loving us and wanting to walk closely with us.
- Ask for help to live in a way that honors Him and builds a strong relationship with Him.
- Pray for hearts that seek God and follow His ways.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Enoch's story shows us that walking with God is not just about one moment—it's about spending time with Him every day and making choices that honor Him. Methuselah's long life reminds us that God is patient and faithful to every generation.

End with a group declaration:

"I will walk with God every day!"

- 1. Who was Enoch? A man who loved God and followed Him closely.
- 2. How old was Enoch when his son Methuselah was born? 65 years old.
- 3. What was the name of Enoch's son? *Methuselah.*
- 4. How many years did Enoch walk faithfully with God after Methuselah was born?

300 years.

- 5. What made Enoch's life different from others around him? *He honored God in everything he did.*
- 6. What happened to Enoch instead of dying? *God took him directly to heaven.*
- 7. Why did God take Enoch to heaven? Because of their close relationship and Enoch's faithfulness.
- 8. What does Enoch's story teach us? That walking with God is the most important thing we can do.
- 9. Who was Methuselah? Enoch's son.
- 10. How long did Methuselah live? 969 years.
- 11. Why is Methuselah remembered? He is the oldest person recorded in the Bible.
- 12. What does Methuselah's long life show about God? God's patience and faithfulness through the generations.
- 13. What does it mean to "walk with God"? To live faithfully and honor God in everything we do.
- 14. What kind of relationship did Enoch have with God? *A close and special relationship.*
- 15. What lesson can we learn from Enoch's life? We can live a life that pleases God, even if others around us don't.
- 16. What does this story remind us about living faithfully? That when we honor God in our daily lives, we can enjoy a special relationship with Him.

Enoch and Methuselah (Genesis 5:21-27)

In the days after Adam and Eve, people *lived* for many, many years. Among them was a man named *Enoch*. Enoch lived a very special life because he loved God and *followed* Him closely.

Enoch had a son named <u>Methuselah</u>. When Methuselah was born, Enoch was 65 years old. After Methuselah's birth, Enoch <u>continued</u> to walk <u>faithfully</u> with God for 300 <u>years</u>, and during that time, he had more <u>children</u>.

The Bible tells us that Enoch's life



was different from the lives of others around him. While many people **ignored** God, Enoch chose to **honor** Him in everything he did. Enoch loved spending time with God so much that one day, God took him away! Enoch didn't die like other people; instead, God brought him **directly** to heaven because of their close relationship.

Methuselah, Enoch's son, also lived an incredibly long life—longer than anyone else in the Bible. Methuselah lived for 969 years! He is remembered as the **<u>oldest</u>** person who ever lived.

Even though Enoch and Methuselah lived a very long time ago, their lives teach us important lessons about *following* God. Enoch's story reminds us that *walking* with God is the most important thing we can do, and Methuselah's long life shows us God's patience and faithfulness through the generations.

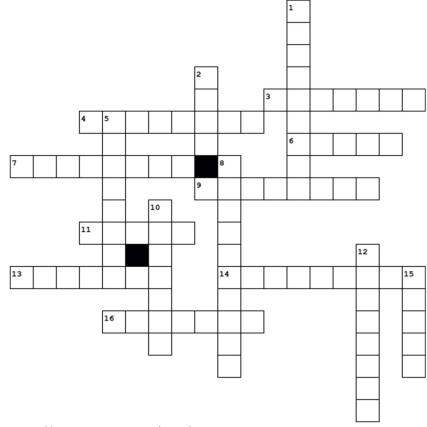
God wants us to walk closely with Him, just like Enoch did. When we live faithfully and honor God in our daily lives, we can enjoy a special <u>relationship</u> with Him. Enoch's life reminds us that it's possible to live a life that <u>pleases</u> God, even when others around us don't.

- 1. How did Enoch show that he loved God, and what made his life different from others?
- 2. What can we do each day to walk closely with God like Enoch did?

Lived	<u>Enoch</u>	<u>Followed</u>	<u>Methuselah</u>
<u>Continued</u>	<u>Faithfully</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Children</u>
<u>Ignored</u>	<u>Honor</u>	<u>Directly</u>	<u>Oldest</u>
<u>Following</u>	<u>Walking</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Pleases</u>

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Across

- 3. Becoming bigger
- 4. Someone who moves from place to place
- 6. Given a name
- 7. Someone running away
- 9. Received consequences
- **11.** Someone who protects
- 13. What Abel gave to God
- 14. Feeling joy
- **16.** Made God happy

- 1. Gifts given to God
- 2. A sign or symbol
- 5. Way of thinking or feeling
- 8. Consequence for wrongdoing
- **10.** A male sibling
- **12.** Feeling upset about someone else's success
- 15. An animal raised by shepherds

Noah Builds the Ark

Bible Story: Genesis 6:9-22

Key Verse: "Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him." – Genesis 6:22 (NLT) **Objective:** To teach children that obeying God, even when it's hard or others don't understand, shows our faith and trust in Him.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever done something that other people didn't understand, but you knew it was the right thing to do?"
- Explain that today's story is about Noah, a man who trusted and obeyed God, even though others laughed at him. Because of his faith, God protected Noah and his family.

2. Bible Story: Noah Builds the Ark (Genesis 6:9-22)

Materials Needed: Toy or paper cutouts of animals, a large box to represent the ark. **Story Summary:**

- The world had become filled with people who were doing wrong things, and this made God very sad.
- But Noah was different—he loved and obeyed God and walked faithfully with Him.
- God told Noah that a great flood would come to cleanse the earth, but He gave Noah a special plan to build an ark that would keep him, his family, and the animals safe.
- God gave Noah specific instructions for how to build the ark—its size, shape, and the materials to use.
- Even though Noah had never seen a flood before, he trusted God completely and began building the ark.
- People likely made fun of Noah for building such a huge boat, but Noah kept obeying God.
- When the ark was finished, Noah, his family, and two of every kind of animal entered the ark with enough food for everyone.
- Noah did everything God asked, showing his great faith and trust in God.

Key Point: Obedience to God shows that we trust Him, even when others don't understand or when things don't make sense to us.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God tell Noah to do?
- 2. How did Noah respond to God's instructions?
- 3. Why do you think people laughed at Noah?
- 4. What kinds of animals do you think were on the ark?
- 5. How can we obey God, even when others don't understand?

4. Game: "Build the Ark Relay"

Materials Needed: Building blocks, toy animals, and a box to represent the ark. How to Play:

• Divide the children into two teams.

- Each team races to "build" their ark by stacking blocks and placing toy animals inside a box.
- The first team to finish building their ark wins!

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Noah worked hard to build the ark exactly as God commanded, we can obey God by doing our best, even when it takes time and effort.

5. Craft: "Animal Pairs on the Ark"

Materials Needed: Paper plates, construction paper, markers, glue, scissors, animal stickers or cutouts.

Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a paper plate (this will represent the ark).
- 2. Cut and glue a construction paper "roof" on top of the plate.
- 3. Let the children draw or glue pairs of animals entering the ark.
- 4. Write the key verse *Genesis 6:22* on the back of the plate.

Craft Reflection: This craft reminds the children of Noah's obedience in following God's instructions and how God kept His promise to protect Noah, his family, and the animals.

6. Object Lesson: "Following Instructions"

Materials Needed: A simple set of building blocks or Lego pieces, a printed step-by-step guide for building a simple object.

Activity:

- Show the children the set of blocks and the instructions.
- Build the object following the instructions exactly.
- Then try building the same object without the instructions and point out the differences.

Lesson Connection: Explain that just as following the instructions led to a successful build, following God's instructions in life helps us stay safe and live in His plan for us. Noah followed God's plan exactly and was saved because of his obedience.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His protection and love.
- Ask for hearts that trust and obey God like Noah did.
- Pray for courage to follow God's ways, even when others don't understand.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Noah's story teaches us that obedience to God shows our faith and trust. Even when others don't understand, God's plan is always best. Encourage them to trust God and follow His instructions, just like Noah did.

End with a joyful declaration:

"I will obey God, because He always keeps His promises!"

- 1. Why was God sad about the world? Because most people were doing wrong things and turning away from Him.
- 2. Who was the man who loved and obeyed God? *Noah.*
- 3. What kind of life did Noah live? *A righteous life.*
- 4. What did God decide to send to cover the earth? *A flood.*
- 5. What did God tell Noah to build? An ark (a big boat).
- 6. Why did God tell Noah to build the ark? So Noah and his family would be safe during the flood.
- 7. What did God tell Noah to bring into the ark? Two of every kind of animal.
- 8. What material did God tell Noah to use to make the ark? *Wood, covered with tar to make it waterproof.*
- 9. How many levels did the ark have? *Three levels.*
- 10. What did the ark need on the side? *A door.*
- 11. Who went into the ark with Noah? His wife, his three sons (Shem, Ham, and Japheth), and their wives.
- 12. What did Noah bring onto the ark for the animals and his family? *Enough food for everyone.*
- 13. What did the people around Noah probably think about him building the ark? *They probably thought he was crazy and laughed at him.*
- 14. Why did Noah keep building the ark even though others didn't believe him? *Because he trusted God's plan.*
- 15. What does Noah's story teach us about obeying God? That we should obey God, even when it's hard or when others don't understand.
- 16. What does Noah's story show us about God? That God keeps His promises and will guide and protect those who trust Him.

Noah Builds the Ark (Genesis 6:9-22)

After Enoch and Methuselah, the world was filled with people, but most of them were doing *wrong* things and turning away from God. It made God very sad to see how the earth had become *full of evil*. But there was one man who loved and obeyed God—his name was *Noah*.

Noah was different from everyone else. He walked *faithfully* with God and lived a *righteous* life. Because of this, God chose Noah to do something very special.



God said to Noah, "I am going to send a

flood to cover the earth and destroy all the evil. But I want you to build an ark—a **big boat**—so you and your family will be safe. Bring two of every kind of animal into the ark with you to keep them alive."

God gave Noah exact *instructions* for how to build the ark. It needed to be very large, made of wood, and covered with tar to make it waterproof. It would have three levels, a door on the side, and rooms for all the animals and supplies.

Even though Noah had never seen a flood before, he trusted God and started *building* the ark just as God had told him. People around Noah must have thought he was crazy! They didn't believe a flood was coming and probably laughed at him. But Noah kept working because he trusted God's plan.

When the ark was finished, Noah brought his wife, his three sons **Shem**, **Ham**, and **Japheth** with their wives onto the ark. He also brought two of every kind of animal—big **animals** like elephants and lions, and small animals like squirrels and birds. **God** had told Noah to bring enough food for everyone, so the ark was filled with supplies.

Noah obeyed everything God *commanded*, and God was pleased with him. Soon, the great flood would come, but Noah and his family were ready because they trusted and followed God.

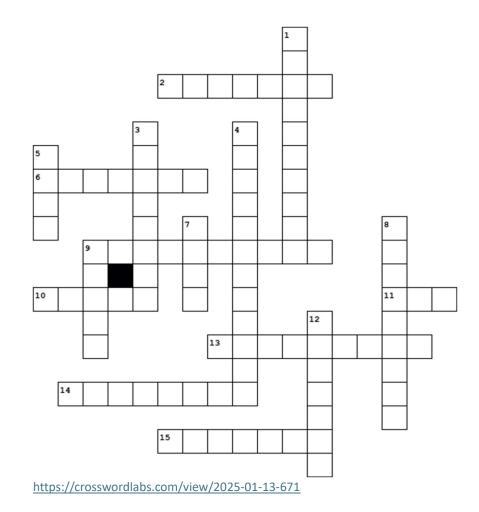
Noah's story teaches us the importance of **<u>obeying</u>** God, even when it's hard or when others don't understand. God always keeps His **<u>promises</u>**, and when we trust Him, He will guide and protect us. Just like Noah, we can choose to follow God no matter what!

- 1. Why did Noah build the ark, and how did he show his trust in God?
- 2. What can we do to obey God, even when others might not understand or agree with us?

<u>Wrong</u>	<u>FullOfEvil</u>	<u>Noah</u>	<u>Faithfully</u>
<u>Righteous</u>	<u>Flood</u>	<u>BigBoat</u>	<u>Instructions</u>
<u>Shem</u>	<u>Ham</u>	<u>Japheth</u>	Building
<u>Animals</u>	<u>Commanded</u>	<u>Obeying</u>	<u>Promises</u>

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Across

- 2. Creatures brought on the ark
- 6. Following instructions
- **9.** With trust and obedience
- 10. Not right or good
- **11.** Another son of Noah
- 13. Gave an order
- 14. God's words of hope
- **15.** What Noah built

- **1.** Filled with wickedness
- 3. Putting together
- 4. Directions from God
- 5. Built the ark
- 7. Noah's son
- 8. Doing what is right
- 9. A great covering of water
- 12. The third son of Noah

The Great Flood

Bible Story: Genesis 7:1-24

Key Verse: *"Then the Lord shut him in." – Genesis 7:16 (NLT)* **Objective:** To teach children that God is faithful to protect those who trust and obey Him and that God's promises are always true.

1. Introduction

Ask the children:

- "Have you ever waited for something to end, like a long rainy day?"
- "How did you feel during that time?"

Explain that today's story is about a time when it rained for 40 days and 40 nights! But in the middle of the storm, Noah and his family were safe because they obeyed God and trusted His plan.

2. Bible Story: The Great Flood (Genesis 7:1-24)

Materials Needed: Toy animals, a box to represent the ark, blue fabric or paper to represent water.

Story Summary:

- When the ark was ready, God told Noah and his family to enter the ark, along with two of every kind of animal and seven pairs of clean animals and birds.
- Once everyone was safely inside, God shut the door of the ark.
- Seven days later, it began to rain—pouring rain from the sky and water bursting up from the ground.
- It rained for 40 days and 40 nights until the entire earth was covered in water—even the tallest mountains.
- Everything outside the ark was destroyed because people had turned away from God.
- Noah, his family, and the animals were safe inside the ark because they obeyed God.
- The ark floated for a long time—150 days—before the waters began to go down.
- Even though it was scary outside, Noah and his family trusted God and took care of the animals while waiting for the flood to end.

Key Point: God is just and takes sin seriously, but He also shows great love and care for those who trust and obey Him.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God tell Noah to bring into the ark?
- 2. How long did it rain?
- 3. What happened to the people and animals outside the ark?
- 4. Who shut the door of the ark?
- 5. How did God show His care and protection for Noah and his family?

4. Game: "Animal Pairs Parade"

Materials Needed: Animal cards or toy animals (pairs of animals). How to Play:

- Scatter the animal cards or toys around the room.
- Divide the children into pairs and have them "gather" the animal pairs and walk them to the "ark" (a box or designated corner of the room).
- The team that brings the most pairs of animals safely to the ark wins!

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Noah gathered the animals into the ark according to God's instructions, we learn that following God's instructions keeps us safe in His care.

5. Craft: "Rainbow of God's Promise"

Materials Needed: Paper plates, markers, glue, cotton balls, colored paper strips, or rainbow-colored tissue paper.

Instructions:

- 1. Cut the paper plate in half to create a rainbow arch.
- 2. Color or glue rainbow-colored strips onto the arch.
- 3. Add cotton balls at the ends to represent clouds.
- 4. Write the key verse *"The Lord shut him in" Genesis 7:16 (NLT)* on the back as a reminder of God's protection.

Craft Reflection: The rainbow reminds us of God's promise to always be faithful and protect those who trust Him.

6. Object Lesson: "The Floating Ark"

Materials Needed: A large plastic container filled with water, a small cardboard box (representing the ark), and small objects (e.g., toy animals, paper cutouts). **Activity:**

- Place the cardboard "ark" in the water and let it float.
- Drop small "raindrops" (pebbles or small objects) into the water to simulate rain, show ing how the ark stays afloat despite the storm.
- Explain how, even though the storm was strong, Noah and his family were safe because God kept the ark floating.

Lesson Connection: Just as the ark stayed afloat, our lives can remain steady when we trust God during life's "storms."

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Noah obeyed God and trusted His instructions, even when the world didn't make sense. Because of Noah's faith, he and his family were safe inside the ark. Encourage the children to trust that God will guide and protect them when they follow His ways.

End with a joyful declaration:

"God is faithful, and I will trust Him!"

- 1. What did God tell Noah to do when the big boat (ark) was ready? *To go inside with his family.*
- 2. Why did God choose Noah to go into the ark? Because Noah obeyed God and did what was right.
- 3. How many pairs of clean animals did Noah take on the ark? *Seven pairs.*
- 4. How many pairs of unclean animals did Noah take on the ark? *One pair.*
- 5. How many pairs of birds did Noah take on the ark? *Seven pairs.*
- 6. How long did God say it would rain? Forty days and forty nights.
- 7. Who went into the ark with Noah? His wife, his three sons—Shem, Ham, and Japheth—and their wives.
- 8. Who closed the door of the ark? *God.*
- 9. How many days after Noah entered the ark did it start raining? *Seven days.*
- 10. What happened when it started raining? Water came from the sky and from the ground.
- 11. What was the tallest thing covered by the water? *The tallest mountains.*
- 12. Why did everything outside the ark die? Because the people had disobeyed God.
- 13. Why was Noah and his family safe? Because they obeyed and trusted God.
- 14. How long did the earth stay covered in water? *150 days.*
- 15. What does this story show us about God? *God is fair and keeps His promises.*
- 16. What can we learn from Noah's story? To listen to God and obey Him, even when it's hard.

The Great Flood (Genesis 7:1-24)

When the ark was ready, God said to <u>Noah</u>, "Go into <u>the ark</u> with your family because I have seen that you are <u>righteous</u>. Take seven pairs of every clean animal, one pair of every unclean animal, and seven pairs of every kind of bird. I will send rain on the earth for <u>forty</u> days and forty nights to <u>destroy</u> everything that breathes."

Noah **obeyed** God's instructions. He and his wife, their three sons— Shem, Ham, and Japheth—and their wives entered the ark. Two of every



kind of animal, from elephants to tiny insects, came to Noah and entered the ark, just as God had said. When everyone was safely inside, God *shut the door*.

Seven days later, it began to rain. The rain wasn't just a sprinkle—it poured from the sky! At the same time, water *burst up* from the ground. It rained for forty days and forty nights until the whole earth was covered in water. The tallest mountains were completely *underwater*.

Every living thing on earth—animals, birds, and people—was destroyed in the flood because they had turned away from God. But Noah, his family, and all the animals in the ark were safe because they obeyed God and *trusted* His plan.

The ark **<u>floated</u>** on the water for a long time. Noah and his family stayed inside, taking care of the animals and waiting for the flood to end. The earth remained covered in water for 150 days.

Even in this *great flood*, God was faithful to protect Noah and his family. His *promise* to Noah showed that God always keeps His word.

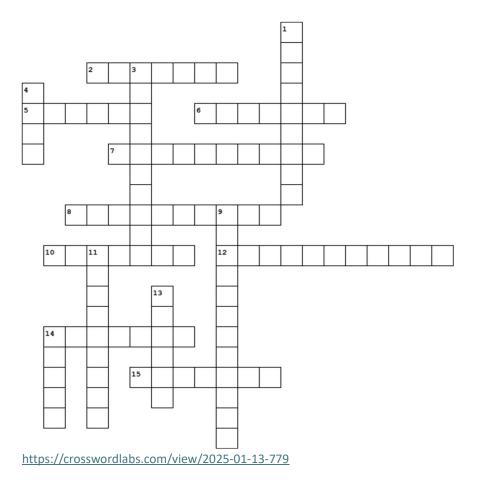
The story of the flood reminds us that God is just and takes sin *seriously*. But it also shows His great love and care for those who trust and obey Him. When we follow God's *instructions*, we can rest in His *protection*, just like Noah and his family.

- 1. How did Noah and his family stay safe during the flood, and what does that tell us about trusting God?
- 2. What can we learn from Noah's obedience and how God protected him during the flood?

<u>Noah</u>	<u>TheArk</u>	<u>Righteous</u>	<u>Forty</u>
<u>Destroy</u>	<u>Obeyed</u>	<u>ShutTheDoor</u>	<u>BurstUp</u>
<u>Underwater</u>	<u>Trusted</u>	<u>Floated</u>	<u>GreatFlood</u>
<u>Promise</u>	<u>Seriously</u>	Instructions	<u>Protection</u>

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Across

- 2. Believed in God's plan
- 5. Followed God's command
- 6. Water sprang from below
- 7. The worldwide flood
- 8. Safety from danger
- **10.** To wipe out completely
- **12.** What God did to the ark
- **14.** Stayed on the water
- **15.** God's covenant to never flood the earth again

- 1. Good and faithful to God
- 3. Covered by water
- 4. Man chosen by God to build the ark
- 9. God's specific directions
- **11.** With great importance
- **13.** The big boat Noah built
- 14. Number of days it rained

Rainbow Covenant

Bible Story: Genesis 8:1-9:17

Key Verse: "I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth." – Genesis 9:13 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children that God is faithful and always keeps His promises, and the rainbow is a reminder of His mercy and love.

1. Introduction

Ask the children:

- "Have you ever seen a rainbow? How did it make you feel?" •
- Explain that today's story is about a very special promise God made after the • flood—a promise that is still true today.

2. Bible Story: The Rainbow Covenant (Genesis 8:1-9:17)

Materials Needed: Pictures or drawings of a rainbow, a dove, and the ark. Story Summary:

- After the flood, God remembered Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark. He sent a wind to help the waters go down, and the rain stopped.
- The ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat as the water dried up.
- Noah sent out a raven, which kept flying back and forth. Then he sent a dove, but it ٠ returned because the earth was still covered in water.
- A week later, Noah sent the dove again, and this time it returned with an olive leaf, a sign that the water was receding. When he sent the dove a third time, it didn't return-meaning the land was dry.
- God told Noah to come out of the ark with his family and the animals. •
- Noah's first action was to build an altar and worship God, thanking Him for His protection.
- God was pleased and made a covenant, promising never to flood the earth again, even though people would still sin.
- God gave Noah and his family a blessing to fill the earth and placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of His covenant with all living things.
- The rainbow became a symbol of God's faithfulness, mercy, and love for all generations.

Key Point: God's promise reminds us that He is faithful and cares for us, even when things seem difficult.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did Noah do to thank God after he came out of the ark?
- 2. What was God's promise to Noah and all living things?
- 3. What did God place in the sky as a sign of His promise?
- How does the rainbow remind us of God's love and faithfulness? 4.
- 5. How can we show our thankfulness to God?

4. Game: "Rainbow Relay"

Materials Needed: Colored paper or fabric in rainbow colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).

How to Play:

- Divide the children into teams.
- Place the rainbow-colored papers at the other end of the room. •
- Each child runs to grab one color of the rainbow and bring it back. .

The first team to gather all the rainbow colors and form their "rainbow" wins! • Lesson Tie-In: Just as each color comes together to form the rainbow, God's promises bring everything in our lives together with love and hope.

5. Craft: "Rainbow Promise Bracelet"

Materials Needed: Rainbow-colored beads (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple), string or pipe cleaners.

Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a string or pipe cleaner and rainbow-colored beads.
- 2. Have them thread the beads onto the string in the order of rainbow colors.
- 3. Tie the string to make a bracelet.
- 4. Explain that each color represents God's faithfulness and love, and the bracelet will remind them of God's promise.

Craft Reflection: The bracelet serves as a reminder that God always keeps His promises, just like the rainbow.

6. Object Lesson: "Water and Light"

Materials Needed: A clear glass of water, a flashlight, and a small mirror.

Activity:

- Place the mirror inside the glass of water and shine the flashlight on it to create a • small rainbow.
- Explain that just as light passes through water to make a rainbow, God's promises shine brightly in our lives when we trust Him.

Lesson Connection: The rainbow is a sign of God's light and love shining through the storms of life.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His faithfulness and love.
- Ask for hearts that trust Him, even during difficult times. ٠
- Pray for reminders to be thankful and to live with hope, just as Noah did. •

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that the rainbow is more than just something beautiful—it's a sign of God's love and faithfulness. Even when things seem stormy, God's promises remain true. Encourage them to trust God's care, just as Noah did, and to thank God for His blessings. End with a group declaration:

"God keeps His promises, and I will trust Him!"

- 1. What did God send to make the waters go down after the flood? *A wind.*
- 2. Where did the ark come to rest after the flood? On the mountains of Ararat.
- 3. What bird did Noah send out first? *A raven.*
- 4. What happened when Noah sent the raven out? It flew back and forth but didn't find a place to land.
- 5. What kind of bird did Noah send out after the raven? *A dove.*
- 6. What did the dove bring back on its second trip? *An olive leaf.*
- 7. What did it mean when the dove didn't return the third time? *The earth was dry.*
- 8. What did God tell Noah and his family to do when the earth was dry? *To come out of the ark with the animals.*
- 9. What was the first thing Noah did after leaving the ark? *He built an altar to worship God.*
- 10. What did Noah thank God for? For keeping them safe during the flood.
- 11. What promise did God make after the flood? He promised never to destroy the earth with a flood again.
- 12. What did God tell Noah and his family to do? To be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth.
- 13. What is the special promise God made with Noah called? *A covenant.*
- 14. What did God put in the sky as a sign of His promise? *A rainbow.*
- 15. What does the rainbow remind us of? God's faithfulness and that He keeps His promises.
- 16. What can we learn from Noah's story? That we can trust God to take care of us and keep His promises.

Rainbow Covenant – Genesis 8:1–9:17

After the flood *covered* the earth, God *remembered* Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark. He sent a wind to make the waters go down, and the rain *stopped*. Slowly, the water began to dry up, and the ark came to rest on the mountains of *Ararat*.

After several months, Noah sent out a **<u>raven</u>** to see if the water had **<u>dried</u>** <u>up</u>. The raven flew back and forth, but didn't find a place to land. Then Noah sent out a <u>**dove**</u>, but it came back because the earth was still covered in



water. A week later, Noah sent the dove again, and this time it returned with an **<u>olive leaf</u>**! Noah knew the water was going down. When he sent the dove out a third time, it didn't return, which meant the earth was dry.

God told Noah, "Come out of the ark, you and your family, and bring the animals with you." Noah *obeyed*, and all the animals left the ark to live on the earth again.

The first thing Noah did was build **an altar** to **worship** God. He offered a sacrifice, thanking God for keeping them safe. God was pleased and promised, "Never again will I destroy the earth with a flood, even though people may sin."

Then God gave Noah and his family a blessing: "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth." He also made them a special promise called a covenant. God said, "I am making this *covenant* with you, your *descendants*, and every living creature. Never again will a flood destroy the whole earth."

To show this promise, God placed a beautiful *rainbow* in the sky. He said, "Whenever you see the rainbow, remember My covenant. It is a sign that I will never again flood the earth."

From that day on, the rainbow became a *reminder* of God's faithfulness and His promise to protect the earth. Noah and his family started a new life, trusting in God's care.

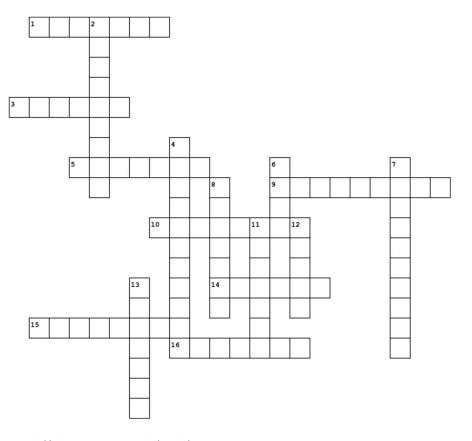
The story of God's covenant with Noah teaches us that God is faithful and keeps His promises. The rainbow reminds us of God's mercy and love, even when we make mistakes. Just like Noah, we can trust God to guide and care for us in every **situation**.

- 1. What did the rainbow mean in God's promise to Noah, and why is it important to remember?
- 2. How can we show thankfulness to God, like Noah did after the flood?

<u>Covered</u>	<u>Remembered</u>	<u>Stopped</u>	<u>Ararat</u>
<u>Raven</u>	<u>DriedUp</u>	<u>Dove</u>	<u>OliveLeaf</u>
<u>Obeyed</u>	<u>AnAltar</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Covenant</u>
<u>Descendants</u>	<u>Rainbow</u>	<u>Reminder</u>	<u>Situation</u>

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Across

- **1.** Praising and honoring God
- 3. Mountain where the ark rested
- 5. Hidden or submerged
- **9.** What the dove brought back
- **10.** Something to help you remember
- **14.** Followed instructions
- **15.** A promise from God
- 16. Came to an end

- **2.** A set of circumstances
- 4. Future generations
- 6. Second bird sent out
- 7. Not forgotten
- 8. Sign of God's promise
- 11. The water was gone
- 12. First bird Noah sent out
- 13. Place for worship

The Tower of Babel

Bible Story: Genesis 11:1-9

Key Verse: *"In their pride, they forgot to glorify God and followed their own plans."* **Objective:** To help children understand the importance of humility, obeying God's instructions, and working for His glory instead of our own.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- *"Have you ever tried to build something with friends?"*
- "What happens if you can't agree or understand each other?"

Explain that today's story is about a group of people who wanted to build something big and impressive, but they forgot about God and became proud.

2. Bible Story: The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)

Materials Needed: Blocks, toy bricks, or building materials to illustrate the story. Story Summary:

- After the great flood, everyone spoke the same language and could easily understand each other.
- They settled in a place called Shinar and decided to build a city with a tall tower that reached up to the heavens to make themselves famous and prevent being scattered.
- The people worked together, but their plan was full of pride—they wanted to glorify themselves instead of God.
- God saw their pride and decided to stop their plans.
- God confused their language so they couldn't understand each other anymore.
- The people couldn't work together and scattered across the earth as God originally intended.
- The city became known as Babel, which means "confusion."

Key Point: The story of the Tower of Babel reminds us to seek God's plans instead of our own and to be humble, giving Him the glory in everything we do.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did the people want to build a tall tower?
- 2. What did God do to stop their plans?
- 3. How did the people respond when they couldn't understand each other?
- 4. Why is it important to give God the glory for our work?
- 5. How can we honor God when we work together?

4. Game: "Confused Commands"

Materials Needed: None.

How to Play:

- Give simple commands (e.g., "Clap your hands," "Touch your head").
- Suddenly, switch to using silly words or nonsense sounds (e.g., "Blip your blop!").

• The children will laugh and be confused, illustrating what it might have felt like when the people couldn't understand each other.

Lesson Tie-In: Just like the people at Babel couldn't work together after their language was confused, it's important to listen to God's voice and work with humility.

5. Craft: "Tower of Thankfulness"

Materials Needed: Paper, markers, glue, and stickers.

Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a piece of paper with an outline of a tower.
- 2. Have the children write or draw things they are thankful for inside the "bricks" of the tower.
- 3. Decorate the tower with stickers and drawings.
- 4. Write the key verse at the top: "We will honor God with our plans."

Craft Reflection: This activity reminds the children to build their lives on thankfulness and humility, recognizing that everything we have comes from God.

6. Object Lesson: "Build It Right"

Materials Needed: Blocks or toy bricks.

Activity:

- Build two towers—one carefully and one in a sloppy, rushed way.
- The sloppy tower will fall over easily, while the carefully built one will stand firm.
- Explain that when we build our plans without God or with pride, they can fall apart. But when we build our lives on God's guidance, they stay strong.

Lesson Connection: Pride can cause our plans to crumble, but humility and trust in God help us build a strong life.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His guidance and wisdom.
- Ask for humble hearts that seek His plans and give Him glory.
- Pray for unity when working with others and for the ability to listen to God's voice.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that the story of the Tower of Babel teaches us that pride can lead us away from God, but when we seek His guidance, work together, and honor Him, our efforts can reflect His goodness.

End with a group declaration:

"I will trust God's plan and give Him glory!"

- 1. Where did the people settle when they moved eastward? *In the land of Shinar.*
- 2. What did the people decide to build? *A city and a tall tower.*
- 3. Why did the people want to build the tower? To make themselves famous and stay together in one place.
- 4. What were the people forgetting to do? They were forgetting to honor and glorify God.
- 5. Why didn't God like the people's plan? Because they were becoming proud and trying to make themselves great instead of trusting God.
- 6. What did God do to stop the people from building the tower? He confused their language so they couldn't understand each other.
- 7. What happened when the people couldn't understand each other? They stopped building the tower and scattered across the earth.
- 8. What was the city called where God confused the language? *Babel.*
- 9. What does the name "Babel" mean? It means "confusion."
- 10. Why did God want the people to spread out over the earth? So they would fill the earth as He commanded.
- 11. What did the people want to avoid by building the city and tower? *They wanted to avoid being scattered across the earth.*
- 12. What happened to the construction of the tower after God confused their language?

It stopped.

- 13. What lesson does the Tower of Babel teach us about pride? *That pride can lead us away from God.*
- 14. What does God want us to do instead of making ourselves great? To trust Him and follow His plans.
- 15. What should we remember when we work together with others? To honor God and give Him glory for everything we do.
- 16. What language did everyone speak after the flood? *The same language.*

The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)

Many **generations** after the great flood, everyone on earth spoke the same **language**. They could all **understand** each other perfectly. As they moved eastward, they found a wide plain in a land called Shinar and decided to settle there.

The people said to each other, "Let's make bricks and build a city for ourselves with a tower that **reaches up** to the heavens. This will make us **famous** and keep us from being **scattered** all over the earth."



The people worked together to build the city and the **tall tower**. But their plan wasn't what God wanted. Instead of glorifying God, they were trying to make themselves great. They were becoming proud and forgetting about God.

When God saw what they were doing, He said, "If they are all united and speak the same language, they will continue to do things like this. They need to be stopped before they go **too far**."

So, God decided to <u>confuse</u> their language. Suddenly, the people couldn't understand each other anymore! They started speaking in different languages, and it became <u>impossible</u> to work together. The construction of the city and tower stopped, and the people <u>scattered</u> in all directions, just as God had wanted from the beginning.

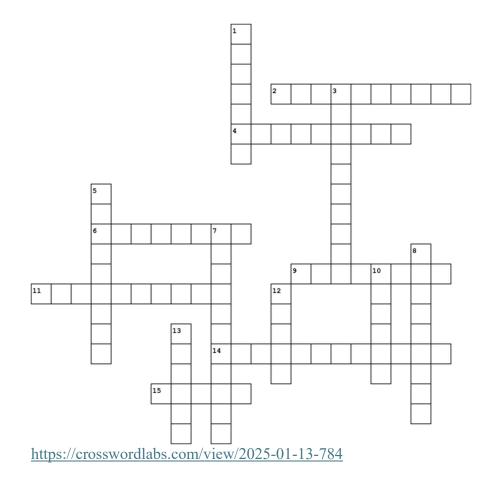
The city became known as **Babel** because it was there that God confused the language of the people. From Babel, people spread out across the earth, filling it as God had commanded.

The **<u>Tower of Babel</u>** reminds us that pride can lead us away from God. God wants us to trust Him and follow His plans, not our own. Even when we work **<u>together</u>**, we must always **<u>honor</u>** God and give Him the glory for **<u>everything</u>** we do.

- 1. Why did God stop the people from building the tower, and what does this teach us about pride?
- 2. How can we work together in a way that honors God and follows His plans?

<u>Generations</u>	<u>Language</u>	<u>Understand</u>	<u>TallTower</u>
<u>ReachesUp</u>	<u>Famous</u>	<u>Scattered</u>	<u>TooFar</u>
<u>Confuse</u>	<u>Impossible</u>	<u>Scattered</u>	<u>Babel</u>
<u>TowerOfBabel</u>	<u>Together</u>	<u>Honor</u>	<u>Everything</u>

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Across

- 2. To know the meaning
- 4. Spread out in different directions
- 6. Words people speak
- 9. In one group
- 11. Cannot be done
- 14. The tower built to reach heaven
- 15. To show respect and praise

- 1. To mix things up
- 3. All things
- 5. A very high structure
- 7. Groups of people over time
- 8. Extends toward the sky
- 10. A great distance away
- 12. The place where language was confused
- 13. Well-known

The Call of Abram (Abraham)

Bible Story: Genesis 12:1-9

Key Verse: "I will bless you... and you will be a blessing to others." – Genesis 12:2 (NLT) **Objective:** To teach children that trusting and obeying God, even when we don't know all the details, shows our faith and brings blessings.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever gone on a trip where you didn't know exactly where you were going?"
- *"How did you feel? Were you excited or nervous?"*

Explain that today's story is about Abram (later called Abraham), who obeyed God and went on a journey without knowing exactly where he was going. He trusted God to guide him every step of the way.

2. Bible Story: The Call of Abram (Genesis 12:1-9)

Materials Needed: A backpack filled with a few simple items (e.g., water bottle, map, walking stick) to represent Abram's journey.

Story Summary:

- Abram lived in the city of Haran with his wife Sarai and his family.
- God spoke to Abram and told him to leave his country, his relatives, and his father's family and go to a land that God would show him.
- God promised to make Abram into a great nation, bless him, and bless all the families of the earth through him.
- Even though Abram didn't know exactly where he was going, he trusted God and obeyed.
- Abram set out with Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all their belongings for the land of Canaan.
- When they arrived in Canaan, God told Abram, "I will give this land to your descendants." Abram built an altar to worship God and thank Him for His promise.
- As Abram continued his journey, he worshiped God wherever he went, trusting God's promise to guide and bless him.

Key Point: Abram's story teaches us that trusting and obeying God, even when we don't know all the details, shows our faith and brings blessings.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God ask Abram to do?
- 2. How did Abram show his trust in God?
- 3. What did God promise Abram?
- 4. How did Abram worship God during his journey?
- 5. How can we show trust in God's plan for our lives?

4. Game: "Step Out in Faith"

Materials Needed: Tape or markers to create a "path" on the floor. How to Play:

- 1. Create a simple obstacle course or path using tape or markers.
- 2. Blindfold one child and have a partner guide them with verbal instructions.

- 3. The blindfolded child must trust their partner to guide them safely to the end of the path.
- 4. After a few rounds, switch roles.

Lesson Tie-In: Just like Abram trusted God to guide him on his journey, we can trust God to lead us, even when we can't see the full picture.

5. Craft: "Journey of Faith Map"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, markers, glue, stickers. Instructions:

- 1. Have the children draw a "map" of their faith journey with symbols for different steps (e.g., a heart for trusting God, praying hands for worship, a star for blessings).
- 2. Encourage them to write or draw ways they can trust and obey God in their daily lives.

3. Decorate the map with stickers and bright colors as a reminder of God's blessings. **Craft Reflection:** The map serves as a reminder that even when we don't know the whole plan, God is guiding us.

6. Object Lesson: "Trust the Guide"

Materials Needed: A paper bag and a small mystery item (e.g., a toy or snack). Activity:

- Hold up the paper bag and ask if anyone trusts you to give them something good from the bag without knowing what it is.
- After they accept, reveal the item and explain that trusting God is similar—we may not see everything ahead of us, but we can trust that God's plan is good.

Lesson Connection: Just like Abram trusted God to guide him without knowing all the details, we can trust that God's plans for us are good.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His guidance and promises.
- Ask for hearts that trust and obey Him, even when we don't know all the details.
- Pray for courage to step out in faith and worship God along the way.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Abram's story shows us that trusting and obeying God, even when we don't know all the details, brings blessings. God has a plan for each of our lives, and when we follow Him, He will lead us every step of the way.

End with a group declaration:

"I will trust and obey God, because His plans are always good!"

- 1. What was the name of the man God called? *Abram.*
- 2. Where did Abram live when God called him? *In the city of Haran.*
- 3. What did God tell Abram to do? To leave his country, relatives, and father's family and go to a new land.
- 4. What did God promise Abram if he obeyed? To make him into a great nation and bless him.
- 5. How old was Abram when he obeyed God? *75 years old.*
- 6. Who went with Abram when he left? His wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all their belongings.
- 7. Where did Abram arrive after following God's directions? *The land of Canaan.*
- 8. What did God promise Abram when he arrived in Canaan? That He would give the land to Abram's descendants.
- 9. What did Abram build to worship God? An altar.
- 10. Why did Abram build an altar? To thank God for His promise.
- 11. Did Abram know exactly where God was leading him? No.
- 12. Why did Abram obey God even though he didn't know all the details? *Because he trusted God's promise.*
- 13. What does this story teach us about trusting God? That we can trust God to guide and bless us, even when we don't know what will happen.
- 14. What did Abram do as he traveled through Canaan? *He built altars and worshiped God.*
- 15. What does it mean to "step out in faith"? To follow God's plans even when we don't know all the answers.
- 16. What can we learn from Abram's story? To trust and obey God, knowing He has a good plan for our lives.

The Call of Abram (Abraham) - Genesis 12:1-9

A man named **<u>Abram</u>** lived a city called <u>**Haran**</u>. One day, God spoke to Abram and gave him an incredible command and promise. God said, "<u>**Leave**</u> your country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land I will show you."

God continued, "I will make you into a *great nation*. I will bless you and make your name great, and you will be blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and *curse* those who curse



in

you, and all the families of the earth will be *blessed* through you."

Even though Abram didn't know exactly where God was leading him, he trusted God's promise. At 75 years old, Abram *obeyed*. He took his wife **<u>Sarai</u>**, his *nephew Lot*, and all their belongings and set out for the land God would show him.

When they arrived in the land of *Canaan*, God appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your *descendants*." Abram built an altar there to worship God, thanking Him for His promise.

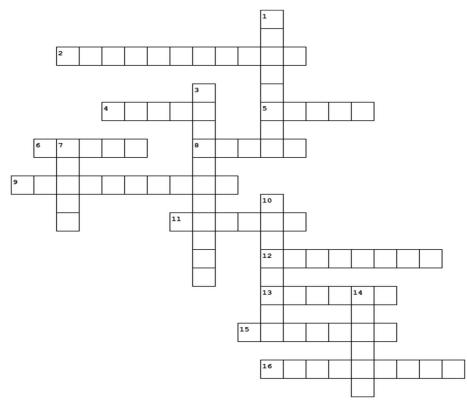
From there, Abram traveled to different places in Canaan, building altars and **worshiping** God along the way. Abram trusted God completely, even though he didn't know how God's promises would come true. He believed that God would guide him and provide for him.

The call of Abram shows us the importance of **trusting** and obeying God, even when we don't know all the details. God is **faithful** to His **promises**, and He has a plan for our lives. Like Abram, we can step out in faith, knowing that God will lead us and bless us as we **follow** Him.

- 1. Why did Abram trust and obey God, even though he didn't know where he was going?
- 2. What can we learn from Abram about following God's plans, even when they seem uncertain?

<u>Abram</u>	<u>Haran</u>	<u>Leave</u>	<u>GreatNation</u>
<u>Curse</u>	<u>Blessed</u>	<u>Obeyed</u>	<u>Sarai</u>
<u>NephewLot</u>	<u>Canaan</u>	<u>Descendants</u>	<u>Worshiping</u>
<u>Trusting</u>	<u>Faithful</u>	<u>Promises</u>	<u>Follow</u>

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Across

- 2. What God promised to make Abram's family
- 4. To go away from a place
- 5. Abram's wife
- 6. The place Abram lived before he left
- 8. A punishment or harm
- 9. Praising and honoring God
- **11.** The land God promised to Abram
- **12.** Believing in God's plan
- **13.** To go after or obey
- 15. Favored by God
- 16. Abram's nephew

- 1. God's commitments to His people
- **3.** Future generations of a family
- 7. The man God called to leave his home
- **10.** Staying loyal and true
- **14.** Listened and followed God's instructions

God's Promise to Abram (Genesis 15:1-21)

Key Verse: "And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith." – Genesis 15:6 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children that God always keeps His promises, and we can trust Him even when we don't understand how or when His promises will come true.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever had to wait a long time for something you were promised?"
- "How did you feel while you waited?"

Explain that today's story is about Abram, who had to wait a long time for God's promises. But Abram chose to trust God, even when things seemed impossible.

2. Bible Story: God's Promise to Abram (Genesis 15:1-21)

Materials Needed: Glow-in-the-dark stars or star stickers. Story Summary:

- Abram had faithfully followed God but began to wonder how God's promises would come true, especially since he had no children.
- God spoke to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, and your reward will be very great."
- Abram asked God how he could become a great nation if he had no children.
- God reassured Abram that he would have his own son and that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.
- God told Abram to look up at the stars and count them—something no one could do.
- Abram believed God, and because of his faith, God counted him as righteous.
- God asked Abram to prepare a special sacrifice as part of a covenant, or solemn promise.
- Abram obeyed and prepared the animals for the sacrifice. As the sun set, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and God spoke to him again.
- God told Abram that his descendants would face hardships but that He would rescue them and give them the promised land.
- As it became dark, a smoking firepot and a blazing torch—symbols of God's presence—passed between the pieces of the sacrifice.
- This was God's way of sealing His covenant with Abram, showing that He would keep His promise.

Key Point: Abram trusted God even when he didn't know how or when God's promises would come true. We can have the same faith in God's love and faithfulness.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did Abram ask God when he was worried about God's promise?
- 2. What did God show Abram by having him look at the stars?
- 3. How can we trust God when we don't know how things will happen?

4. Game: "Star Counting Challenge"

Materials Needed: A jar filled with small star-shaped beads or paper stars. How to Play:

- Show the jar of stars and ask the children to guess how many stars are inside.
- After a few guesses, reveal the actual number.
- Explain that just as it's hard to count the stars in the jar, it was impossible for Abram to count the stars in the sky—but God promised Abram that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars.

Lesson Tie-In: This game helps the children understand the vastness of God's promise and reminds them that God's blessings are greater than we can imagine.

5. Craft: "Starry Promise Card"

Materials Needed: Black construction paper, star stickers or glow-in-the-dark stars, glue, markers.

Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a piece of black construction paper.
- 2. Have them decorate the paper with star stickers or glue on paper stars.
- 3. In the center, write the key verse: "Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous."
- 4. Encourage the children to take their cards home as a reminder to trust God's promises.

Craft Reflection: The stars remind us that God's promises are trustworthy, even when they seem impossible.

6. Object Lesson: "The Waiting Game"

Materials Needed: A timer or stopwatch, a wrapped gift or treat. Activity:

- Show the children the gift and explain that they'll have to wait until the timer goes off to receive it.
- Set the timer for a few minutes and talk about how hard it can be to wait for something we really want.
- Once the timer goes off, give the children the treat and explain that just like Abram had to wait, the reward is worth it when we trust God.

Lesson Connection: Waiting for God's promises can be hard, but we can trust that His timing is perfect and His plans are always good.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His faithfulness and love.
- Ask for patience and trust in God's promises.
- Pray for hearts that believe in God's plan, even when we don't understand how or when it will happen.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Abram trusted God even when he couldn't see how the promises would come true. God always keeps His promises, and we can trust Him no matter what. End with a group declaration:

"God's promises are true, and I will trust Him!"

1. What did Abram wonder about God's promise?

How he would become a great nation since he had no children.

- 2. What did God say to Abram in the vision? "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, and your reward will be very great."
- 3. Who did Abram think would inherit everything he had? *His servant.*
- 4. What did God promise Abram instead? That Abram would have his own son.
- 5. What did God compare Abram's descendants to? *The stars in the sky.*
- 6. Why did God tell Abram to look up at the stars? To show Abram how many descendants he would have—too many to count!
- 7. What did God count Abram as because of his faith? *Righteous.*
- 8. What land did God promise to give Abram? The land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River.
- 9. What did God tell Abram to do to prepare for a special promise? To bring animals for a special sacrifice.
- 10. What happened to Abram as the sun set? *He fell into a deep sleep.*
- 11. What did God tell Abram about his descendants' future? That they would be enslaved in a foreign land for 400 years but would be rescued.
- 12. What appeared in the darkness after Abram's sacrifice? *A smoking firepot and a blazing torch.*
- 13. What did the firepot and torch represent? *God's presence.*
- 14. What was the special promise between God and Abram called? *A covenant.*
- 15. Did Abram know exactly how and when God's promise would happen? *No, but he trusted God.*
- 16. What does Abram's story teach us about God? That God always keeps His promises, and we can trust Him.

God's Promise to Abram – Genesis 15:1-21

Abram had been <u>faithfully</u> following

God, but he was starting to wonder how God's promises would come true. God had said Abram would become a great nation, but he and his wife <u>Sarai</u> still didn't have any children. One night, God spoke to Abram in a vision and said, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your <u>shield</u>, and your reward will be very great."

Abram replied, "Lord, how can this happen? I have no <u>children</u>, and my servant will inherit everything I have."

But God reassured Abram, "You will have 🛛 🚪



your own son, and your descendants will be as numerous as the <u>stars in the sky</u>." God asked Abram to look up at the night sky and count the stars—something no one could do. That's how many descendants God promised Abram would have!

Abram believed God, and because of his faith, God counted him as *righteous*.

Then God reminded Abram, "I am the Lord who brought you out of your **homeland** to give you this land to possess." Abram asked, "How can I be sure I will inherit it?"

God told Abram to prepare a special **sacrifice**. Abram obeyed and brought animals to God, dividing them in two as God **instructed**. As the sun set, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and God spoke to him again. God told Abram that his **descendants** would face hard times and be enslaved in a foreign land for 400 years, but God would **rescue** them and bring them back to the land He had **promised**.

When it was dark, something amazing happened. A smoking firepot and a blazing torch, symbols of God's presence, passed between the pieces of the sacrifice. This was God's way of making a *covenant*—a solemn promise—with Abram. God promised to give Abram's descendants the land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River.

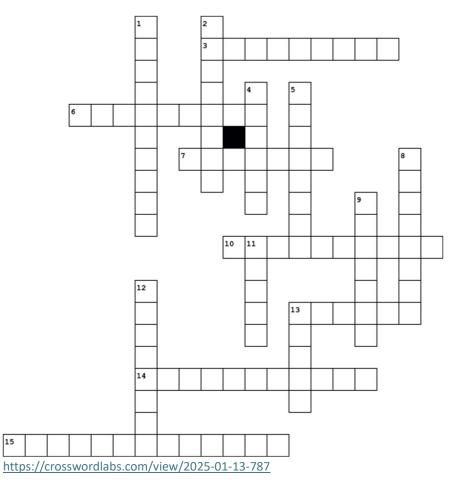
Abram didn't know how or when all of this would happen, but he **trusted** God's promise. He believed that God would keep His word.

God's promise to Abram **teaches** us to trust God's plan, even when we don't see how it will happen. Just as God kept His promises to Abram, He will keep His promises to us. When we have faith in God, like Abram did, we can rest in His love and faithfulness.

- 1. How did God show Abram that He would keep His promise, and why did Abram believe Him?
- What can we learn about trusting God when we don't understand how His plans will happen?

<u>Faithfully</u>	<u>Abram</u>	<u>Sarai</u>	<u>Shield</u>
<u>Children</u>	<u>StarsInTheSky</u>	<u>Righteous</u>	<u>Homeland</u>
<u>Sacrifice</u>	<u>Rescue</u>	<u>Promised</u>	<u>Covenant</u>
<u>Trusted</u>	<u>Teaches</u>	<u>Instructed</u>	<u>Descendants</u>

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Across

- **3.** Living in a way that pleases God
- 6. An offering given to God
- 7. Helps others learn
- **10.** With complete trust and loyalty
- **13.** Something used for protection
- **14.** Future generations of a family
- **15.** What God compared Abram's descendants to

- **1.** Gave specific directions
- 2. Made a commitment to give
- 4. To save from danger
- 5. A special agreement with God
- **8.** The land where someone belongs
- 9. Believed and relied on God
- 11. The man God chose to bless
- 12. Sons and daughters
- 13. Abram's wife

The Birth of Ishmael (Genesis 16:1-16)

Key Verse: "You are the God who sees me." – Genesis 16:13 (NLT) **Objective:** To teach children that trusting God's timing is always the best choice and that God sees, cares for, and helps us, even when things go wrong.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever tried to fix something on your own instead of asking for help?"
- "What happened when you did things your way instead of waiting for the right help?"

Explain that today's story is about Abram, Sarai, and Hagar, and how they tried to solve their problem on their own instead of trusting God's timing. But even though mistakes were made, God still showed care and love.

2. Bible Story: The Birth of Ishmael (Genesis 16:1-16)

Materials Needed: A baby doll (to represent Ishmael) and paper hearts labeled "God's Promise" and "God Sees Me."

Story Summary:

- Abram and Sarai had waited many years for a child as God had promised, but they still didn't have one.
- Sarai doubted that she could have a baby because she was very old. She decided to create her own plan and told Abram to have a child with her servant, Hagar.
- Hagar became pregnant, but when she realized this, she began to treat Sarai with disrespect. Sarai became upset and treated Hagar harshly, so Hagar ran away into the wilderness.
- While Hagar was near a spring of water, the angel of the Lord found her and spoke to her.
 - The angel reassured Hagar that God saw her pain and would bless her with many descendants.
 - The angel told Hagar that she would have a son and should name him Ishmael, which means "God hears."
- Hagar was amazed and said, "You are the God who sees me." She returned to Abram and Sarai and gave birth to Ishmael.
- Abram was 86 years old when Ishmael was born. Even though Ishmael was not the child of God's promise, God still cared for Hagar and her son.

Key Point: When we feel frustrated or impatient, we can trust that God sees us, cares for us, and is always working things out for our good in His perfect time.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did Sarai come up with her own plan instead of waiting for God?
- 2. How did Hagar feel when she ran away into the wilderness?
- 3. What did the angel of the Lord say to Hagar?
- 4. How can we trust God when things don't happen as quickly as we want?

4. Game: "God Sees You"

Materials Needed: A blindfold and a small object to hide (e.g., a toy or sticker). How to Play:

- Hide the object somewhere in the room.
- Blindfold one child and have the rest of the class guide them by saying "hot" or "cold" to help them find the object.
- When they find the object, remind the children that just as their friends helped guide them when they couldn't see, God sees and guides us, even when we feel lost or unsure.

Lesson Tie-In: Just as God saw Hagar in the wilderness, He sees us when we're feeling scared, lonely, or unsure of what to do.

5. Craft: "God Sees Me Mirror"

Materials Needed: Small paper plates, markers, foil (to represent the mirror), glue, and stickers.

Instructions:

- 1. Cover the center of each paper plate with a piece of foil to create a "mirror."
- 2. Around the edge of the plate, have the children decorate with the phrase "God Sees Me" and drawings or stickers.
- 3. Encourage them to look at their reflection and remember that God knows them and loves them.

Craft Reflection: This craft serves as a reminder that God sees us, knows our struggles, and cares for us every day.

6. Object Lesson: "Waiting vs. Rushing"

Materials Needed: Two bowls—one with instant pudding mix and one with a pre-made pudding cup.

Activity:

- Show the instant pudding mix and explain that if you try to eat it without following the instructions or waiting for it to set, it won't taste right.
- Compare it to the pre-made pudding cup that's ready to eat.
- Explain that waiting for things in God's timing is always better than rushing and making mistakes.

Lesson Connection: Just like it's worth waiting for the pudding to be made correctly, it's worth trusting God's timing instead of rushing ahead with our own plans.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for always seeing and caring for us.
- Ask for patience and trust in God's timing.
- Pray for hearts that follow God's plan and turn to Him when we're unsure or struggling.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that when Abram and Sarai didn't wait for God's promise, things became difficult, but God still showed His love by caring for Hagar and Ishmael. God sees us, hears us, and always wants the best for us.

End with a group declaration:

"God sees me, and I will trust His plan!"

- 1. Why was Sarai worried? Because she didn't have any children.
- 2. What was Sarai's plan for Abram to have a child? For Abram to have a child with her servant, Hagar.
- 3. What happened when Hagar became pregnant? *She began to treat Sarai with disrespect.*
- 4. How did Sarai feel when Hagar disrespected her? *She was very upset.*
- 5. What did Abram tell Sarai to do about Hagar? "Do whatever you think is best."
- 6. What did Sarai do that made Hagar run away? She treated Hagar harshly.
- 7. Where did the angel of the Lord find Hagar? Near a spring of water in the wilderness.
- 8. What did the angel ask Hagar? "Where have you come from, and where are you going?"
- 9. What did the angel tell Hagar to do? To go back to Sarai and submit to her.
- 10. What did the angel promise Hagar about her descendants? *That they would be too many to count.*
- 11. What did the angel say Hagar should name her son? *Ishmael.*
- 12. Why was Hagar told to name her son Ishmael? Because the Lord had heard her misery.
- 13. What did Hagar call God after her encounter with the angel? *"The God who sees me."*
- 14. Who named the baby Ishmael when he was born? *Abram.*
- 15. How old was Abram when Ishmael was born? *86 years old.*
- 16. What lesson can we learn from the birth of Ishmael? To trust God's timing and not try to take matters into our own hands.

The Birth of Ishmael – Genesis 16:1-16

Abram and his wife **Sarai** had been waiting for God to fulfill His promise to give them a child, but many years had passed, and they were still childless. Sarai began to doubt that she could ever have a baby because she was already very old. She decided to come up with her own plan.

Sarai said to Abram, "The Lord has kept me from having *children*. Take my servant *Hagar*. Perhaps I can build a family through her." In those days, it was common for a servant to have children for her



master's family. Abram agreed to Sarai's plan, and Hagar became pregnant.

When Hagar realized she was going to have a baby, she began to treat Sarai with **<u>disrespect</u>**. This made Sarai very upset, and she blamed Abram. "This is your fault!" she said. Abram told Sarai, "Do whatever you think is best." So Sarai treated Hagar **<u>harshly</u>**, and Hagar ran away into the wilderness.

While Hagar was in the *wilderness*, an angel of the Lord found her near a spring of water. The angel said, "Hagar, where have you come from, and where are you going?" Hagar replied, "I am running away from my mistress, Sarai."

The **angel** told her, "Go back to Sarai and **submit** to her. I will give you so many descendants that they will be too **numerous** to count." The angel also said, "You are pregnant and will give birth to a son. You will name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard your misery. He will live a wild life and be at odds with others, but God will watch over him."

Hagar was amazed that God had seen her troubles and cared for her. She said, "You are the God <u>who sees me</u>." She returned to Abram and Sarai and gave birth to a son. Abram named the boy <u>Ishmael</u>, just as the angel had said.

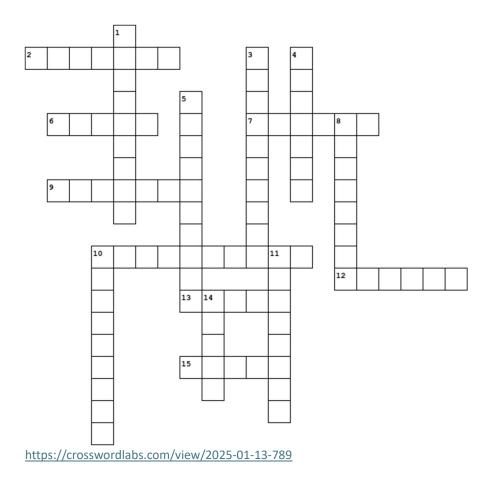
Abram was 86 years old when Ishmael was born. Although Ishmael was not the child of God's *promise*, God still cared for Hagar and her son.

The birth of Ishmael reminds us to trust God's **<u>timing</u>** and not try to take matters into our own hands. Even when we make mistakes, God sees us, cares for us, and can bring good out of **<u>difficult</u>** situations. Trusting God's plan is always the **<u>best choice</u>**!

- 1. Why did Sarai and Abram decide to follow their own plan instead of waiting for God, and what happened as a result?
- 2. What does Hagar's story teach us about how God sees and cares for us, even when things are hard?

<u>Abram</u>	<u>Sarai</u>	<u>Hagar</u>	<u>Ishmael</u>
<u>Children</u>	<u>Disrespect</u>	<u>Harshly</u>	<u>Wilderness</u>
<u>Angel</u>	<u>Submit</u>	<u>Numerous</u>	<u>WhoSeesMe</u>
<u>Promise</u>	<u>Timing</u>	<u>Difficult</u>	<u>BestChoice</u>

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Across

- **2.** In a cruel or rough way
- 6. A messenger from God
- 7. When something happens
- **9.** A commitment or vow
- 10. Not showing honor
- **12.** To obey or accept authority
- 13. Abram's wife, later called Sarah
- **15.** Sarai's servant who had a child with Abram

- 1. Hagar's name for God who watched over her
- 3. The wisest decision
- 4. Hagar's son
- 5. A dry, empty place
- 8. Too many to count
- 10. Hard to do or understand
- 11. Sons and daughters
- **14.** Chosen by God to be the father of many nations

The Birth of Isaac

Bible Story: Genesis 21:1-7

Key Verse: "The Lord kept His word and did for Sarah exactly what He had promised." – Genesis 21:1 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children that God always keeps His promises, even when it seems impossible, and that His perfect timing brings joy.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever waited a long time for something exciting to happen?"
- "How did you feel when it finally happened?"

Explain that today's story is about Abraham and Sarah, who waited for many years for God's promise of a baby to come true. Even though they were very old, God kept His promise, and they experienced great joy!

2. Bible Story: The Birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-7)

Materials Needed: A baby doll (to represent Isaac) and party decorations (to represent joy and celebration).

Story Summary:

- After many years of waiting, God's promise to Abraham and Sarah came true— Sarah became pregnant, just as God had said.
- Abraham was 100 years old, and Sarah was 90 years old when their baby was born.
- They named the baby Isaac, which means "laughter," because Sarah had laughed when God first told her she would have a child in her old age.
- Now, Sarah laughed with joy and said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me."
- Isaac was the child God had promised to Abraham and Sarah—the beginning of the great nation God said would come from Abraham's family.
- Abraham and Sarah were filled with joy and thanked God for keeping His promise.

Key Point: Even when God's promises seem impossible, we can trust that He will keep them in His perfect timing.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. How old were Abraham and Sarah when Isaac was born?
- 2. Why did they name their baby Isaac?
- 3. How did Sarah feel when she held Isaac in her arms?
- 4. What does this story show us about God's promises?
- 5. How can we trust God when we're waiting for something?

4. Game: "Waiting for Joy" Materials Needed: Balloons and music. How to Play:

- Blow up balloons, but don't let the children touch them until you say, "It's time to celebrate!"
- While waiting, play soft music and encourage them to stay patient.

• When you say, "Celebrate!" they can toss the balloons, laugh, and play. Lesson Tie-In: Just like Abraham and Sarah had to wait for the joyful moment when Isaac was born, we can learn to wait patiently for God's promises. The joy is always worth the wait!

5. Craft: "Laughter in My Heart"

Materials Needed: Construction paper, markers, glue, and cut-out heart shapes. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a paper heart and have them decorate it with the word "Joy" or "Laughter."
- 2. Inside the heart, have them draw or write things that bring them joy or reminders of God's promises.
- 3. Encourage them to take their craft home to remind them that trusting in God brings joy.

Craft Reflection: Sarah laughed with joy when Isaac was born, and we can also experience joy by trusting God's promises.

6. Object Lesson: "The Impossible Promise"

Materials Needed: A glass of water, a piece of paper, and a marker. Activity:

- Write "God's Promises" on the paper and place it under the glass of water.
- Ask the children if they think they can see the word clearly under the water.
- Slowly pour the water into the glass and watch how the paper stays visible.
- Explain that even when things seem "covered" or unclear, God's promises remain strong and visible—they will come true!

Lesson Connection: Just as the paper with God's promise stayed visible through the water, God's promises stay true no matter what.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that God kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah, even when it seemed impossible. God always keeps His promises, and His plans bring joy to our lives. Encourage them to trust God, knowing that His timing is always perfect. End with a group declaration:

"God's promises are true, and I will trust Him with joy!"

- 1. What promise did God make to Abraham and Sarah? *That they would have a child.*
- 2. Why was it surprising that Sarah became pregnant? Because she was very old and had not been able to have children.
- 3. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born? One hundred years old.
- 4. How old was Sarah when she gave birth to Isaac? *Ninety years old.*
- 5. What did Abraham and Sarah name their son? *Isaac.*
- 6. What does the name Isaac mean? *Laughter.*
- 7. Why did Sarah laugh when she first heard she would have a child? Because she thought it was impossible for someone her age to have a baby.
- 8. What did Sarah say after Isaac was born? "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me."
- 9. What did the birth of Isaac show about God's promises? That God always keeps His promises.
- 10. Why did Abraham and Sarah thank God? Because God kept His promise and gave them a son.
- 11. What did God promise would come from Abraham's family? *A great nation.*
- 12. Why is Isaac important in God's plan? Because he was the child God promised to bless the world through.
- 13. How did Abraham and Sarah feel when Isaac was born? They were filled with joy.
- 14. What can we learn from the birth of Isaac? That nothing is too hard for God.
- 15. What does this story teach us about waiting on God? That we can trust God, even when His promises take a long time.
- 16. Why does God bring joy to those who trust Him? Because He is faithful and keeps His promises.

The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-7

After many years of waiting, God's promise to **Abraham** and **Sarah** finally came true. Sarah, who had been unable to have **children** and was now very old, became **pregnant** just as God had said. Abraham was **one hundred** years old and Sarah was **ninety** years old when Sarah gave birth to their son!

They named the baby *Isaac*, which means "*laughter*," because Sarah had laughed when



God first told her she would have a child in her old age. Now, Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me. Who would have thought that I would have a child at this age?"

Isaac was the child God had *promised* to Abraham and Sarah—the beginning of the *great nation* God said would come from Abraham's family. Through Isaac, God would continue His plan to bless the *whole world*.

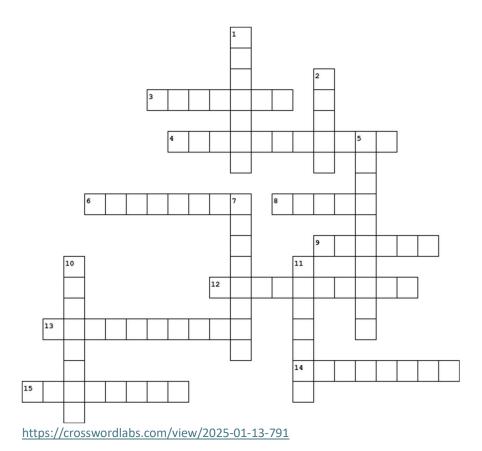
Abraham and Sarah were filled with joy and thanked God for keeping His promise. They had waited a long time, but they learned that God always does what He says, no matter how *impossible* it seems.

The **birth** of Isaac shows us that nothing is **too hard** for God. Even when it seems like His promises are taking a long time, we can trust that He will keep them in His **perfect** timing. God is **faithful**, and He brings joy to those who trust Him!

- 1. Why was Isaac's birth so special, and what does it show us about God's power and promises?
- 2. How can we trust God's timing, even when we have to wait a long time for His promises?

<u>Abraham</u>	<u>Sarah</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Pregnant</u>
<u>OneHundred</u>	<u>Ninety</u>	<u>Promised</u>	<u>Laughter</u>
<u>Promised</u>	<u>Impossible</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>TooHard</u>
<u>GreatNation</u>	<u>WholeWorld</u>	<u>Faithful</u>	<u>Perfect</u>

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Across

- 3. More difficult than expected
- 4. What God said Abraham's descendants would become
- 6. Trustworthy and loyal
- 8. New name given to Sarai
- 9. Sarah's age when she had Isaac
- **12.** Who would be blessed through Abraham
- **13.** Something that cannot happen
- 14. Sons and daughters
- 15. Expecting a baby

- 1. New name given to Abram
- 2. The start of a new life
- 5. Abraham's age when Isaac was born
- 7. What Isaac's name means
- **10.** What God told Abraham He would give
- 11. Without any flaw

Abraham's Test

Bible Story: Genesis 22:1-19

Key Verse: "The Lord will provide." - Genesis 22:14 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children that we can trust God completely, even when we don't understand His plan, and that God always provides.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever had to do something that was really hard but you knew it was the right thing to do?"
- *"How did you feel afterward?"*

Explain that today's story is about a time when Abraham faced a very difficult test of faith. He trusted God even though he didn't understand the plan, and God showed His faithfulness by providing exactly what was needed.

2. Bible Story: Abraham's Test (Genesis 22:1-19)

Materials Needed: A small pile of sticks or craft wood (to represent the altar), a toy lamb or paper cutout of a ram.

Story Summary:

- God called out to Abraham and gave him a very hard command—to take his son Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice on a mountain.
- Even though this was difficult, Abraham trusted God and obeyed. Early the next morning, he and Isaac set out on the journey.
- After three days, they arrived at the mountain. Abraham told the servants to stay while he and Isaac went up to worship.
- As they climbed, Isaac noticed that they didn't have a lamb and asked, "Where is the lamb for the offering?"
- Abraham replied, "God will provide."
- At the top of the mountain, Abraham built the altar and tied Isaac on it. Just as he was about to raise the knife, the angel of the Lord called out and told Abraham to stop.
- Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in a thicket. God had provided a sacrifice! Abraham sacrificed the ram instead of Isaac and named the place "The Lord Will Provide."
- Because Abraham trusted and obeyed, God promised to bless him and his descendants and said they would be as numerous as the stars and sand.

Key Point: Abraham's faith in God teaches us to trust God completely, knowing that He provides exactly what we need in His perfect timing.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God ask Abraham to do?
- 2. How did Abraham show his trust in God?
- 3. What did Isaac ask as they were climbing the mountain?
- 4. How did God provide for Abraham and Isaac?
- 5. How can we trust that God will provide for us?

4. Game: "The Trust Path"

Materials Needed: Blindfolds, chairs or cones to create an obstacle course. How to Play:

- Set up a simple obstacle course in the room.
- Pair up the children—one will wear a blindfold, and the other will guide them with verbal instructions.
- The blindfolded child must trust their partner to guide them safely through the obstacles.

Lesson Tie-In: Just as the blindfolded child had to trust their partner's voice, Abraham trusted God's voice, even though he couldn't see the whole plan.

5. Craft: "The Lord Will Provide Ram"

Materials Needed: Paper plates, cotton balls, markers, glue, and construction paper. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a paper plate and have them draw or glue cotton balls to make a ram's face.
- 2. Cut and glue construction paper horns onto the ram.
- 3. Write the key verse *"The Lord will provide Genesis 22:14"* on the back.

Craft Reflection: The ram is a reminder that God provided a way for Abraham and Isaac, and He provides for us, too.

6. Object Lesson: "The Substitute"

Materials Needed: Two objects (e.g., a small toy lamb and a coin). Activity:

- Hold up the coin and say, "Imagine you had to give this away, but someone said they would give you something even better in its place."
- Replace the coin with the toy lamb and explain that just as the lamb was a substitute in this example, God provided the ram as a substitute for Isaac.

Lesson Connection: This story reminds us of how God provided Jesus as the ultimate substitute for our sins. We can trust God to provide what we need because He loves us deeply.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His faithfulness and love.
- Ask for hearts that trust God, even when we don't understand His plans.
- Pray for God's provision and for courage to follow Him with obedience and faith.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Abraham's test shows us how important it is to trust God, even when we don't know all the answers. God is faithful, and He always provides what we need. This story also points to Jesus, who was the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. We can trust God to guide us, provide for us, and bless us when we follow Him.

End with a group declaration:

"God is faithful, and I will trust Him!"

- 1. Who called out to Abraham at the beginning of the story? *God.*
- 2. What did God tell Abraham to do with his son Isaac? To sacrifice him as a burnt offering on a mountain.
- 3. What was the name of the region where Abraham was to go? *Moriah.*
- 4. How did Abraham respond to God's command? *He trusted and obeyed God.*
- 5. Who went with Abraham on the journey? *Isaac and two servants.*
- 6. What did Abraham and Isaac carry up the mountain? *Wood for the offering.*
- 7. What question did Isaac ask as they walked up the mountain? *"Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"*
- 8. What was Abraham's answer to Isaac's question? *"God Himself will provide the lamb."*
- 9. What did Abraham do when they reached the top of the mountain? *He built an altar, arranged the wood, and tied Isaac on the altar.*
- 10. Who called out to Abraham to stop him? *An angel of the Lord.*
- 11. What did the angel say to Abraham? "Do not lay a hand on the boy. Now I know that you fear God."
- 12. What did Abraham see caught in the thicket? *A ram.*
- 13. What did Abraham do with the ram? He sacrificed it instead of Isaac.
- 14. What name did Abraham give the place where this happened? *"The Lord Will Provide."*
- 15. What did God promise to Abraham after he obeyed? To bless him and make his descendants as numerous as the stars and the sand.
- 16. What does this story teach us about God? That we can trust God because He provides and is always faithful.

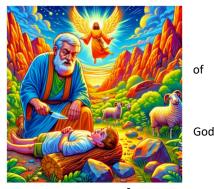
Abraham's Test - Genesis 22:1-19

One day, God tested Abraham's faith. He called out to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," **Abraham** replied.

God said, "Take your son, your only son **Isaac**, whom you love, and go to the region Moriah. **Sacrifice** him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

Even though this command must have been very hard for Abraham to hear, he trusted and obeyed. Early the next morning, Abraham got up, prepared his **donkey**, and took Isaac and two servants with him. They



carried wood for the offering and began their journey to the **mountain**. On the third day, Abraham saw the mountain in the distance. He told the servants, "Stay here with the donkey. Isaac and I will go up and worship, and then we will come back to you."

As they **<u>climbed</u>** the mountain, Isaac noticed something was missing. He asked, "Father, the fire and wood are here, but where is the <u>**lamb**</u> for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "God Himself will provide the lamb for the <u>offering</u>, my son." When they reached the top, Abraham built an <u>**altar**</u> and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac and laid him on the altar. As Abraham reached out his hand to take the <u>**knife**</u>, an angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," Abraham replied.

The *angel* said, "Do not lay a hand on the boy. Now I know that you fear God because you have not withheld your son from Me."

Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in a <u>thicket</u> by its horns. God had provided the sacrifice, just as Abraham had said. Abraham sacrificed the ram instead of Isaac and named the place "The Lord Will Provide."

God spoke to Abraham again and said, "Because you have obeyed Me and not withheld your son, I will bless you. Your **descendants** will be as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Through your offspring, all nations on earth will be blessed."

Abraham and Isaac returned home, their faith in God stronger than ever.

Abraham's test teaches us the importance of trusting God completely, even when His plan doesn't make sense. God is faithful and provides for our needs. This story also points to Jesus, God's Son, who was the **<u>ultimate</u>** sacrifice for our sins. When we trust God, we see His blessings and **faithfulness** in our lives.

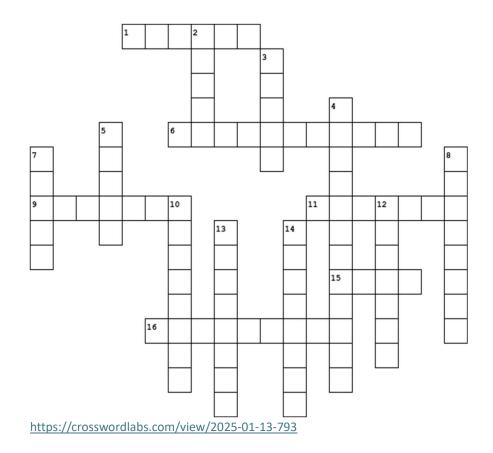
Think about it:

- 1. Why did Abraham trust God enough to obey His difficult command, and what does this teach us about faith?
- 2. How did God provide for Abraham and Isaac, and how can we trust God to provide for us?

<u>Abraham Isaac Sacrifice Donkey</u>

<u>Mountain</u>	<u>Climbed</u>	<u>Lamb</u>	<u>Offering</u>
<u>Altar</u>	<u>Knife</u>	<u>Angel</u>	<u>Thicket</u>
<u>Provided</u>	<u>Descendants</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Faithfulness</u>

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Across

- 1. Animal used for the journey
- 6. Future generations
- 9. Father of many nations
- **11.** A bushy or tangled area
- **15.** Animal often used for sacrifices
- 16. An offering to God

- 2. Tool used for cutting
- 3. A messenger from God
- 4. Loyalty and trust in God
- 5. A place for worship and sacrifice
- 7. Abraham's promised son
- 8. The greatest or final act
- **10.** Where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac
- 12. Went up a slope
- 13. A gift given to God
- 14. Given by God

Birthright and Blessing

Bible Story: Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40

Key Verse: "Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright for a single meal." – Hebrews 12:16 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children to value God's blessings, make wise choices, and trust God's timing instead of using dishonesty or selfishness to get ahead.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever made a decision that you regretted later?"
- "Why do you think it's important to think carefully before making choices?"

Explain that today's story is about two brothers, Jacob and Esau, who made choices that had big consequences. One brother gave up something valuable because he was impatient, and the other used dishonesty to get what he wanted.

2. Bible Story: Birthright and Blessing (Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40)

Materials Needed: A bowl of pretend stew (colored water or craft materials), a robe, and some fake fur or soft fabric.

Story Summary:

- 1. **The Birth of Jacob and Esau:** Isaac and Rebekah had twin boys, Jacob and Esau. Even before they were born, they struggled with each other.
- 2. **The Birthright Trade:** Esau, the older twin, was a hunter, while Jacob stayed at home. One day, Esau came home exhausted and hungry. Jacob was cooking stew and asked Esau to trade his birthright (his inheritance and blessing as the firstborn) for a bowl of stew.
- 3. **Esau's Mistake:** Esau was so focused on his hunger that he traded his birthright, showing he didn't value the blessing God had for him.
- 4. **The Blessing Deception:** Later, when Isaac was old and blind, he wanted to bless Esau. Rebekah helped Jacob trick Isaac by disguising him with goat skins and Esau's clothes. Isaac blessed Jacob instead of Esau, saying, *"May nations serve you and may you rule over your brothers."*
- Esau's Sadness: When Esau returned and realized Jacob had taken his blessing, he was heartbroken and begged for a blessing too. Isaac gave Esau a lesser blessing. Esau was so angry that he vowed to harm Jacob.

6. **Jacob Flees:** To protect Jacob, Rebekah sent him to her brother Laban's house. **Key Point:** This story shows that selfishness and deceit have consequences. God wants us to value His blessings, make wise choices, and trust His timing.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. What did Jacob ask for in exchange for the stew?
- 2. Why was Esau willing to trade his birthright?
- 3. How did Jacob trick Isaac into giving him the blessing?
- 4. How did Esau feel when he found out what Jacob had done?
- 5. What can we learn from the choices Jacob and Esau made?

4. Game: "Quick Decision"

Materials Needed: Small cards with situations where a decision must be made (e.g., "You forgot your homework—do you lie or tell the truth?").

How to Play:

- 1. Divide the children into two teams.
- 2. Read a situation aloud and ask the teams to choose what they would do.
- 3. Give points for wise decisions.

Lesson Tie-In: This game shows how important it is to make thoughtful, godly choices instead of rushing into decisions like Esau did.

5. Craft: "Blessing Bowl"

Materials Needed: Paper bowls, markers, glue, stickers, and paper slips.

Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a paper bowl and have them decorate it with stickers and drawings.
- 2. On the paper slips, have the children write or draw things they are thankful for (e.g., family, friends, God's love).
- 3. Place the slips in the bowl and explain that, unlike Esau, we should treasure the blessings God gives us.

Craft Reflection: The "Blessing Bowl" serves as a reminder to value the good things God provides instead of trading them away for something temporary.

6. Object Lesson: "What's More Valuable?"

Materials Needed: Two mystery boxes—one with a small, exciting prize (like candy) and one with a meaningful but simple note (e.g., "God's promises last forever."). **Activity:**

- Ask a volunteer to choose one of the boxes.
- After they open it, explain that the small candy is like the temporary "bowl of stew" Esau wanted, but the note represents something lasting, like God's blessings.

Lesson Connection: Just like Esau, we can be tempted to choose something quick and easy, but it's important to value what really matters.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for the blessings He gives us.
- Ask for wisdom to make good choices and trust God's timing.
- Pray for hearts that honor God instead of acting out of selfishness or impatience.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Esau traded something valuable for something temporary, and Jacob deceived his family to get ahead. Both choices had consequences. God wants us to value His blessings and make wise choices, trusting that He will provide what we need in His perfect time.

End with a group declaration:

"I will value God's blessings and trust His timing!"

- 1. Who were Isaac and Rebekah's twin sons? Jacob and Esau.
- 2. What did God tell Rebekah about her twins before they were born? "Two nations are in your womb. The older will serve the younger."
- 3. What kind of person was Esau when he grew up? *A hunter.*
- 4. What kind of person was Jacob? *He stayed at home.*
- 5. Which parent loved Esau more? *Isaac.*
- 6. Which parent loved Jacob more? *Rebekah.*
- 7. What did Esau ask Jacob for when he came home hungry? *A bowl of stew.*
- 8. What did Jacob ask Esau to trade for the stew? *His birthright.*
- 9. Why was the birthright important? It was the special blessing and inheritance given to the firstborn.
- 10. What happened when Isaac was old and nearly blind? *He wanted to bless Esau.*
- 11. What plan did Rebekah make when she heard Isaac wanted to bless Esau? *She told Jacob to pretend to be Esau and get the blessing.*
- 12. How did Jacob trick Isaac? He wore Esau's clothes and covered his hands with goat skins to feel like Esau.
- 13. What blessing did Isaac give Jacob?

"May nations serve you, and may you rule over your brothers."

- 14. How did Esau feel when he found out Jacob had taken his blessing? He was very upset and cried, "Bless me too, father!"
- 15. What did Esau plan to do to Jacob? *He planned to kill him.*
- 16. What lesson can we learn from the story of Jacob and Esau? To value God's blessings, avoid deceit, and trust God's plan and timing.

Birthright and Blessing - Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40

Isaac. Abraham's son, married **Rebekah**, and they had twins, Jacob and **Esau**. Even before they were born, the twins struggled in Rebekah's womb. God told her, "Two nations are in your womb. One will be stronger, and the older will serve the younger." Esau grew up to be a *hunter*, while Jacob stayed at home. Isaac loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

One day, Esau came home from hunting, exhausted and



hungry. He saw Jacob *cooking* stew and said, "Let me have some of that stew!" Jacob, always clever, replied, "First, sell me your *birthright*." Esau, more focused on his hunger than on the significance of the birthright, *agreed*, trading his future blessing for a *bowl* of stew. This decision showed Esau's disregard for God's blessings.

Years later, Isaac, old and nearly **blind**, wanted to bless Esau. He asked Esau to hunt and prepare food for him before receiving the blessing. Rebekah overheard and made a plan. She told Jacob to bring her food so he could pretend to be Esau. Jacob wore Esau's clothes and covered his hands with **goat skins** to feel like Esau. Isaac, though unsure, blessed Jacob, saying, "May nations serve you, and may you rule over your brothers."

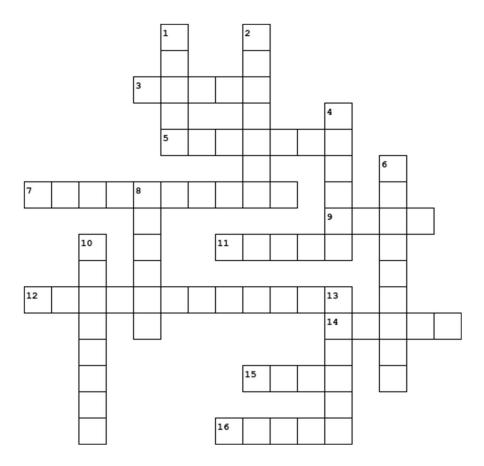
Esau returned too late, realizing Jacob had **stolen** his blessing. He cried, "Bless me too, father!" But Isaac said, "Your brother has taken it." Esau received a lesser blessing and vowed to kill Jacob. Rebekah, hearing this, sent Jacob to her brother **Laban** to keep him safe.

This story shows the **consequences** of deceit, selfishness, and not valuing God's blessings. Though Jacob and Esau made mistakes, God still worked through them to fulfill His plan. Trusting God's timing and **honoring** His blessings is always the right choice.

- 1. Why did Esau trade his birthright for a bowl of stew, and what does this teach us about valuing God's blessings?
- 2. How did Jacob and Rebekah's trick affect their family, and what can we learn about honesty from this story?

<u>Isaac</u>	<u>Rebekah</u>	<u>Jacob</u>	<u>Esau</u>
<u>Twins</u>	<u>Hunter</u>	<u>Cooking</u>	<u>Birthright</u>
<u>Agreed</u>	<u>Bowl</u>	<u>Blind</u>	<u>GoatSkins</u>
<u>Stolen</u>	<u>Laban</u>	<u>Consequences</u>	<u>Honoring</u>

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Across

- 3. Son who received the blessing
- 5. Preparing food
- 7. Special inheritance for the oldest
- **9.** The older twin brother
- 11. Unable to see
- 12. Results of actions
- 14. Two babies born at the same time
- 15. What Esau traded his birthright for
- **16.** Rebekah's brother and Jacob's uncle

- 1. Son of Abraham and Sarah
- 2. Wife of Isaac
- 4. Said "yes" to something
- 6. What Jacob used to trick Isaac
- 8. Someone who catches animals
- **10.** Showing respect and obedience
- 13. Taken without permission

Jacob's Dream at Bethel (Genesis 28:10-22)

Key Verse: "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go." – Genesis 28:15 (NLT) **Objective:** To teach children that God is always with us, even during difficult times, and that we can trust Him to guide and provide for us.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever been away from home and felt scared or alone?"
- "What helped you feel better?"

Explain that today's story is about Jacob, who felt alone and scared after leaving home. But during his journey, God showed Jacob that He was always with him and had a great plan for his life.

2. Bible Story: Jacob's Dream at Bethel (Genesis 28:10-22)

Materials Needed: A pillow or stone (to represent Jacob's pillow), a picture or drawing of a stairway.

Story Summary:

- 1. **Jacob's Journey:** After Jacob tricked Esau and stole his blessing, Esau was furious and planned to harm him. Rebekah sent Jacob away to her brother Laban's house to keep him safe.
- 2. **The Rest Stop:** On the way, Jacob stopped to sleep. He used a stone for a pillow and lay down to rest.
- 3. **The Dream:** Jacob dreamed of a stairway reaching from earth to heaven. Angels were going up and down the stairway, and the Lord stood at the top.
- 4. **God's Promise:** God spoke to Jacob, reminding him of the promise He made to Abraham and Isaac:
 - God promised to give Jacob and his descendants the land.
 - God promised that Jacob's descendants would be as numerous as the dust of the earth and that all nations would be blessed through them.
 - God assured Jacob that He would always be with him, protect him, and bring him back home safely.
- 5. Jacob's Response: Jacob woke up amazed and afraid. He said, "Surely the Lord is in this place!"
- 6. **Bethel:** Jacob named the place Bethel, which means "house of God." He set up the stone as a memorial, poured oil on it, and made a vow to serve God.

Key Point: God was with Jacob during a difficult time in his life and reminded him of His promises. God is with us too, guiding and providing for us wherever we go.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did Jacob leave home?
- 2. What did Jacob see in his dream?
- 3. What did God promise Jacob in the dream?
- 4. How did Jacob respond after the dream?
- 5. How can we remember that God is always with us?

4. Game: "Follow the Path"

Materials Needed: Masking tape to create a "path" on the floor and index cards with simple instructions (e.g., "Take 2 steps forward," "Turn left").

How to Play:

- Create a winding path on the floor.
- Have the children take turns walking along the path by following the instructions on the cards.
- After they finish the path, remind them that just as they followed the path to the end, Jacob followed God's guidance on his journey.

Lesson Tie-In: Just as the children followed the path, Jacob learned to trust God's plan for his journey, even when he didn't know where it would lead.

5. Craft: "Bethel Memorial Stone"

Materials Needed: Small river rocks or paper cutouts of stones, markers, glue, and stickers. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a stone or paper cutout.
- 2. Have them write "God is with me" on the stone and decorate it with drawings or stickers.
- 3. Explain that the stone represents Jacob's memorial at Bethel, where he remembered God's promises.

Craft Reflection: This craft reminds children that God is always with them and that they can trust Him no matter where they are.

6. Object Lesson: "The Invisible Guide"

Materials Needed: A flashlight and a blindfold.

Activity:

- Blindfold a volunteer and turn off the lights.
- Use the flashlight to guide them as they walk through a simple obstacle course.
- Explain that even though they couldn't see where they were going, they could trust the light to lead them.

Lesson Connection: Just like the flashlight guided the volunteer, God guided Jacob and promised to be with him every step of the way. God also guides us and helps us during hard times.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for always being with us, even during difficult times.
- Ask for hearts that trust Him to guide and provide for us.
- Pray that we will remember God's promises when we feel scared or alone.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Jacob's dream at Bethel shows us that God is always with us, no matter where we are or what we're going through. God has a plan for our lives and will guide us every step of the way.

End with a group declaration:

"God is with me, and I will trust His plan!"

- 1. Why did Jacob leave his home and go to Haran? To stay safe from Esau, who was angry and wanted to hurt him.
- 2. Who was Jacob going to stay with in Haran? *His uncle Laban.*

- 3. What did Jacob use as a pillow when he stopped to rest? *A stone.*
- 4. **What did Jacob see in his dream?** *A stairway reaching from earth to heaven with angels going up and down.*
- 5. Who stood at the top of the stairway? *The Lord.*
- 6. What did God promise to give Jacob and his descendants? *The land where Jacob was lying.*
- 7. How many descendants did God say Jacob would have? *As many as the dust of the earth.*
- 8. What did God say would happen to all nations through Jacob's family? *They would be blessed.*
- 9. What did God promise to do for Jacob on his journey? To be with him, watch over him, and bring him back safely.
- 10. How did Jacob feel when he woke up from the dream? *He was amazed and afraid.*
- 11. What did Jacob say about the place where he had the dream? "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I didn't know it!"
- 12. What did Jacob name the place where he had the dream? *Bethel, which means "house of God."*
- 13. What did Jacob do with the stone he used as a pillow? He set it up as a memorial and poured oil on it to honor God.
- 14. What promise did Jacob make to God? That if God provided for him and brought him back safely, he would follow God and give Him a tenth of everything.
- 15. What does Jacob's dream show us about God? That God is always with us and keeps His promises.
- 16. What can we learn from Jacob's story at Bethel?

To trust God, even during difficult times, because He has a plan for our lives.

Jacob's Dream at Bethel - Genesis 28:10-22

After **Jacob** deceived his father and stole Esau's blessing, **Esau** was furious and planned to kill him. To keep Jacob safe, **Rebekah** sent him to her brother **Laban**'s house in Haran. On the way, Jacob stopped to rest for the night. He found a stone to use as a pillow and lay down to **sleep**.

That night, Jacob had an incredible dream. He saw a **stairway** reaching from earth to heaven, with **angels** going up and down. At the top of the stairway stood the Lord,



who said, "I am the Lord, the God of your father <u>Abraham</u> and <u>Isaac</u>. I will give you and your <u>descendants</u> the land where you are lying. Your descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth, and all nations will be blessed through you. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go and bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I promised."

When Jacob woke up, he was amazed and afraid. He said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I didn't know it!" He called the place **<u>Bethel</u>**, which means "<u>house</u> <u>of God</u>."

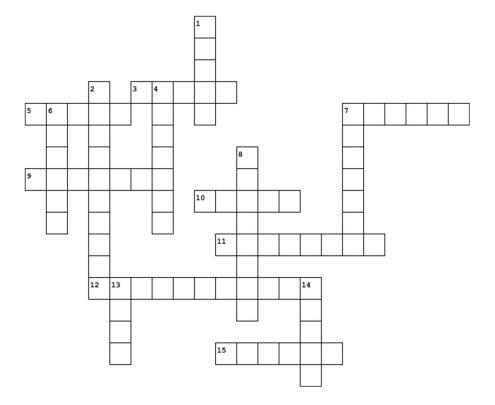
Jacob took the stone he had used as a *pillow*, set it up as a memorial, and poured oil on it to honor God. He made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and provide for me on this journey, and if He brings me back safely, then the Lord will be my God. This stone will be God's house, and I will give Him a tenth of all He gives me."

Jacob's <u>dream</u> at Bethel shows us that God is always with us, even in difficult times. God keeps His <u>promises</u> and has a plan for our lives. Like Jacob, we can trust God to guide and <u>provide</u> for us as we follow Him.

- 1. What did Jacob see in his dream, and how did it show him that God was with him?
- 2. How can we trust God's promises and honor Him, like Jacob did at Bethel?

<u>Jacob</u>	<u>Esau</u>	<u>Rebekah</u>	<u>Laban</u>
<u>Sleep</u>	<u>Stairway</u>	<u>Angels</u>	<u>Abraham</u>
<u>Isaac</u>	<u>Descendants</u>	<u>Bethel</u>	<u>HouseOfGod</u>
<u>Pillow</u>	<u>Dream</u>	<u>Promises</u>	<u>Provide</u>

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Across

- 3. Jacob's uncle
- 5. Son of Isaac who had a dream from God
- 7. What Jacob used for his head
- 9. Jacob and Esau's mother
- 10. Jacob's father
- **11.** God's commitments
- **12.** Future generations
- 15. Place where Jacob saw the dream

- **1.** A vision while sleeping
- 2. Meaning of "Bethel"
- 4. Jacob's grandfather
- 6. God's messengers
- 7. To give what is needed
- 8. What Jacob saw in his dream
- 13. Jacob's twin brother
- 14. Rest at night

Joseph's Coat of Many Colors

Bible Story: Genesis 37:1-11

Key Verse: *"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. – Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)* **Objective:** To teach children that God has a special plan for each of our lives and that jealousy and favoritism can cause hurt, but trusting God brings peace.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever felt left out or jealous of someone else?"
- "How can we be happy for others instead of feeling upset?"

Explain that today's story is about a boy named Joseph who received a special gift from his father, which made his brothers very jealous. Even though Joseph faced challenges, God had a big plan for his life.

2. Bible Story: Joseph's Coat of Many Colors (Genesis 37:1-11)

Materials Needed: A colorful robe or fabric to represent Joseph's coat and toy bundles of "grain" (rolled paper or yarn).

Story Summary:

- 1. Joseph's Special Gift: Jacob (Israel) loved his son Joseph more than his other sons because Joseph was born to him in his old age. Jacob gave Joseph a special coat of many colors to show his love.
- 2. Jealous Brothers: Joseph's brothers were jealous and upset because they saw how much their father favored Joseph. They began to resent him and couldn't even speak kindly to him.
- 3. Joseph's First Dream: Joseph dreamed that he and his brothers were binding bundles of grain in a field. In the dream, Joseph's bundle stood upright while his brothers' bundles bowed down to it. This made the brothers even angrier.
- 4. Joseph's Second Dream: Joseph had another dream where the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to him. He told this dream to his father and brothers. Even Jacob was surprised but kept Joseph's dreams in mind.
- 5. **Key Point:** Joseph's coat and dreams made his brothers jealous, but God had a special plan for Joseph's life. Even when others don't understand God's plan, we can trust that He has a purpose for each of us.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did Jacob give Joseph a special coat?
- 2. How did Joseph's brothers feel when they saw his coat?
- 3. What happened in Joseph's dreams?
- 4. How did Joseph's dreams make his brothers feel?
- 5. What can we learn about trusting God's plan, even when others don't understand?

4. Game: "Color Code Relay"

Materials Needed: Strips of paper in different colors (representing the colors of Joseph's coat).

How to Play:

- 1. Divide the children into teams.
- 2. Place the colored paper strips at one end of the room.

- 3. Each child runs to grab a strip of paper and returns to their team, continuing until they collect all the colors of the "coat."
- 4. The first team to complete their "coat of many colors" wins!

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Joseph's coat was special, God has given each of us unique gifts and a special purpose.

5. Craft: "Coat of Many Colors Collage"

Materials Needed: Printable coat outlines, colored paper scraps, glue, scissors, and markers. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a coat outline.
- 2. Have them glue colorful paper scraps onto the outline to create a "coat of many colors."
- 3. Write the key verse *"For I know the plans I have for you" Jeremiah 29:11* at the bottom of the page.

Craft Reflection: This craft reminds children that, like Joseph's coat, each of our lives is beautifully made by God with a special purpose.

6. Object Lesson: "Comparing Gifts"

Materials Needed: Two wrapped "gifts" (one plain and one brightly decorated). Activity:

- Show the children the two gifts and ask which one they would choose based on appearance.
- Open both gifts to reveal that they contain the same item (e.g., a treat).
- Explain that jealousy can make us think someone else has something better, but God's plans for each of us are equally special.

Lesson Connection: We don't need to be jealous of others—God has wonderful plans for all of us.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His special plans for our lives.
- Ask for hearts that trust His plan, even when things don't make sense.
- Pray for contentment and joy when others receive blessings.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Joseph's story teaches us to trust God's plan, even when it's hard to understand. Jealousy and favoritism can cause hurt, but God's love for each of us is perfect. Encourage them to be thankful for God's blessings and trust His perfect timing. End with a group declaration:

"God has a special plan for my life, and I will trust Him!"

- 1. What was another name for Joseph's father, Jacob? *Israel.*
- 2. How many sons did Jacob have? *Twelve.*
- 3. Why did Jacob love Joseph more than his other sons? *Because Joseph was born to him in his old age.*
- 4. What special gift did Jacob give Joseph? A beautiful coat of many colors.
- 5. How did Joseph's brothers feel when they saw the special coat? *They were jealous and angry.*
- 6. What was Joseph's first dream about? He and his brothers were binding bundles of grain, and his bundle stood upright while theirs bowed down to it.
- 7. What did Joseph's brothers say when he told them his first dream? "Do you really think you will rule over us?"
- 8. What was Joseph's second dream about? The sun, moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to him.
- 9. Who did the sun, moon, and stars in Joseph's second dream represent? The sun represented his father, the moon his mother, and the stars his brothers.
- 10. How did Jacob feel when Joseph told him the second dream? *He was surprised.*
- 11. What did Jacob do after hearing Joseph's dreams? *He kept the dreams in mind.*
- 12. How did Joseph's brothers treat him because of their jealousy? They couldn't speak kindly to him and resented him.
- 13. What caused Joseph's brothers to become more jealous of him? *His special coat and his dreams.*
- 14. What do Joseph's dreams show about God's plans? That God had big plans for Joseph's future.
- 15. What can jealousy cause in families and friendships? It can cause hurt and make people angry with each other.
- 16. What lesson can we learn from Joseph's story? To trust God's plan for our lives, even when others don't understand.

Joseph's Coat of Many Colors - Genesis 37:1-11

Jacob. also called **Israel**, had **twelve** sons. but he loved his son **Joseph** more than the others because Joseph was born to him in his old age. show his love, Jacob gave Joseph a special gift—a beautiful coat of many colors. This made Joseph's brothers jealous because they could see that their father loved Joseph more.

<mark>Joseph</mark> also had **dreams** that made his **brothers**



even <u>angrier</u>. In one dream, Joseph saw himself and his brothers binding bundles of grain in a field. Suddenly, Joseph's bundle stood <u>upright</u>, and his brothers' <u>bundles</u> bowed down to it. When he told them about the dream, they said, "Do you really think you will rule over us?"

In another dream, Joseph saw the sun, moon, and eleven stars **bowing** down to him. He told this dream to his father and brothers. Even Jacob was **surprised** and said, "Will your mother, your brothers, and I bow down to you?" But Jacob kept Joseph's dreams in mind.

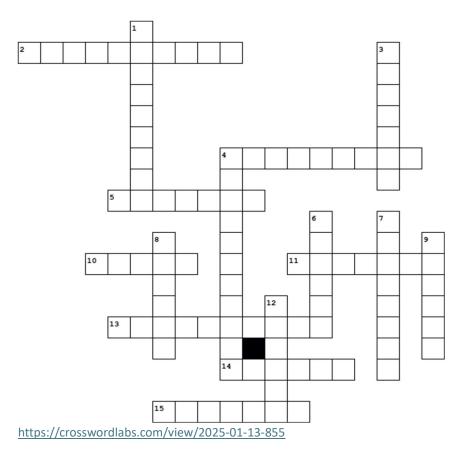
Joseph's dreams and his <u>special coat</u> made his brothers jealous and angry. They couldn't speak kindly to him and began to resent him deeply.

Joseph's story reminds us that God often has big plans for us, even when others don't understand. Jealousy and *favoritism* can cause hurt, but God can work through every *situation* for His purpose. Like Joseph, we should trust God's plan for our lives.

- 1. Why were Joseph's brothers jealous of him, and what can we learn about how jealousy affects relationships?
- 2. What do Joseph's dreams tell us about God's plans, even when others don't understand them?

<u>Jacob</u>	<u>Israel</u>	<u>Twelve</u>	<u>Joseph</u>	
<u>ManyColors</u>	<u>Jealous</u>	<u>Dreams</u>	<u>Angrier</u>	
<u>Surprised</u>	<u>SpecialCoat</u>	<u>Favoritism</u>	<u>Situation</u>	
<u>Bowing</u>	<u>Bundles</u>	<u>Upright</u>	<u>Brothers</u>	

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Across

- 2. Treating one person better than others
- 4. Feeling shocked or amazed
- 5. Becoming more upset
- **10.** Father of the twelve tribes of Israel
- **11.** Feeling upset about someone else's blessing
- **13.** Description of Joseph's special coat
- 14. Number of Jacob's sons
- 15. Standing tall

- 1. A set of circumstances
- 3. Sheaves of grain in Joseph's dream
- **4.** The gift Joseph received from Jacob
- 6. Visions seen while sleeping
- **7.** Siblings in a family
- 8. Lowering yourself to show respect
- 9. New name given to Jacob
- 12. Jacob's favorite son

Joseph Sold by His Brothers

Bible Story: Genesis 37:12-36

Key Verse: "The Lord was with Joseph." – Genesis 39:2 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children that jealousy and hatred can lead to hurtful choices, but God is always at work in our lives, even in difficult times.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- *"Have you ever been treated unfairly?"*
- "How did you feel? Did you wonder why it happened?"

Explain that today's story is about Joseph, who was treated unfairly by his brothers. Even though Joseph went through a very hard time, God had a bigger plan for his life.

2. Bible Story: Joseph Sold by His Brothers (Genesis 37:12-36)

Materials Needed: A colorful coat (or fabric), a small box to represent the pit, and silver coins (toy coins or paper cutouts).

Story Summary:

- 1. Jacob's Instructions: Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers, who were grazing sheep near Shechem.
- 2. **The Brothers' Plan:** When the brothers saw Joseph coming, they said, *"Here comes the dreamer!"* They planned to kill him and throw him into a pit to stop his dreams from coming true.
- 3. **Reuben's Rescue Plan:** Reuben, the oldest brother, didn't want Joseph to die. He convinced the others to throw Joseph into a pit, planning to rescue him later.
- 4. **Thrown into the Pit:** When Joseph arrived, his brothers grabbed him, took off his colorful coat, and threw him into an empty pit.
- 5. **The Ishmaelite Traders:** As they ate, the brothers saw a caravan of traders on their way to Egypt. Judah suggested selling Joseph to the traders instead of killing him.
- 6. **Sold for Silver:** The brothers sold Joseph for 20 pieces of silver. The traders took Joseph to Egypt.
- 7. **Reuben's Grief:** When Reuben returned and saw Joseph was gone, he was devastated.
- 8. **The Deception:** To cover their sin, the brothers dipped Joseph's coat in goat's blood and brought it to Jacob. Jacob believed Joseph was dead and mourned deeply.
- 9. Joseph in Egypt: Although Joseph was betrayed, God was still with him and had a plan for his life.

Key Point: Joseph's brothers let jealousy and hatred lead them to sin. But even when life is unfair, God is always at work and can turn hard times into something good.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did Joseph's brothers plan to harm him?
- 2. What did Reuben suggest to prevent Joseph from being killed?
- 3. How did the brothers deceive their father?
- 4. How did Jacob respond when he saw Joseph's coat?
- 5. How can we trust that God is with us during difficult times?

4. Game: "Out of the Pit"

Materials Needed: A large box or basket to represent the "pit" and small balls or beanbags. How to Play:

- 1. Place the box in the center of the room.
- 2. Divide the children into two teams.
- 3. Each team takes turns tossing a beanbag or ball into the "pit."
- 4. For each successful toss, discuss ways we can respond when life feels difficult (e.g., pray, ask for help, trust God).

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Joseph was lifted out of the pit, we can trust that God will help us through hard times.

5. Craft: "Promise Coins"

Materials Needed: Cardstock, scissors, markers, foil paper, and glue. Instructions:

- 1. Cut out coin shapes from cardstock.
- 2. Write encouraging messages or Bible promises on the coins (e.g., "God is with me" or "Trust in the Lord").
- 3. Cover the front with foil to look like silver coins.
- 4. Encourage the children to keep their "promise coins" as a reminder that God is always working for their good.

Craft Reflection: These "promise coins" remind us that even when life seems unfair, we can trust in God's promises.

6. Object Lesson: "The Puzzle Piece"

Materials Needed: A puzzle with a missing piece.

Activity:

- Show the puzzle and point out that one piece is missing.
- Explain that sometimes life feels like a missing piece—it doesn't make sense right away.
- Add the missing piece to complete the puzzle.

Lesson Connection: Just like the missing piece completes the puzzle, God's plan may take time to make sense, but He is working for our good even when things seem broken.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for being with us during difficult times.
- Ask for hearts that trust Him, even when life feels unfair.
- Pray for strength to respond with kindness instead of jealousy or anger.

9. Conclusion

Remind the children that Joseph's brothers acted out of jealousy, but God stayed with Joseph and used his hard situation for a bigger purpose. Encourage them to respond with kindness and trust God when life feels unfair.

End with a group declaration:

"Even when life is hard, I will trust God's plan!"

- 1. Why did Jacob send Joseph to his brothers? To check on them while they were grazing the sheep.
- 2. What did Joseph's brothers say when they saw him coming? "Here comes the dreamer! Let's kill him and throw him into a pit."
- 3. Which brother didn't want to kill Joseph? *Reuben.*
- 4. What was Reuben's plan? To throw Joseph into a pit without hurting him and rescue him later.
- 5. What did Joseph's brothers do when he arrived? They grabbed him, took off his special coat, and threw him into the pit.
- 6. What were the brothers doing after they threw Joseph into the pit? *They sat down to eat.*
- 7. Who passed by while the brothers were eating? A caravan of Ishmaelite traders on their way to Egypt.
- 8. Which brother suggested selling Joseph instead of harming him? *Judah.*
- 9. How much silver did the brothers get for selling Joseph? *Twenty pieces of silver.*
- 10. What did Reuben do when he returned to the pit and saw Joseph was gone? *He tore his clothes in grief.*
- 11. What did the brothers do to cover up what happened to Joseph? They dipped his coat in goat's blood and took it to their father.
- 12. What did Jacob think had happened to Joseph? *He thought a wild animal had killed him.*
- 13. How did Jacob react when he saw the bloodied coat? *He mourned deeply and refused to be comforted.*
- 14. Where was Joseph taken after he was sold by his brothers? *To Egypt.*
- 15. Who bought Joseph in Egypt? Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh.
- 16. What does this story teach us about God?

That God is always with us and can use even hard times for His greater plan.

Joseph Sold by His Brothers - Genesis 37:12-36

One day, **Joseph**'s **brothers** were grazing their father's sheep near Shechem. **Jacob** sent Joseph to check on them. When Joseph arrived, his brothers saw him coming from a distance. They said to each other, "Here comes the **dreamer**! Let's kill him and throw him into a pit. Then we'll see what becomes of his dreams."

Reuben, the oldest brother, didn't want to harm Joseph. He said, "Let's not kill him. Throw him into this empty pit in the wilderness but don't hurt him."



Reuben planned to **rescue** Joseph later and take him back to their father.

When Joseph arrived, his brothers grabbed him, stripped him of his beautiful coat, and threw him into <u>the pit</u>. As they sat down to eat, they saw a caravan of Ishmaelite traders passing by on their way to <u>Egypt</u>. Judah said, "What will we gain by killing our brother? Let's <u>sell him</u> to these traders instead."

The brothers agreed. They pulled Joseph out of the pit and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. The **traders** took Joseph to Egypt.

When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was gone, he tore his clothes in grief. "The boy is gone! What will I do?" he cried.

To cover up what they had done, the brothers killed a goat and dipped Joseph's coat in its **blood**. They brought the coat to their father and said, "We found this. Is it Joseph's coat?" Jacob recognized it and cried, "It is my son's coat! A **wild animal** must have devoured him!" Jacob mourned deeply for Joseph, refusing to be comforted.

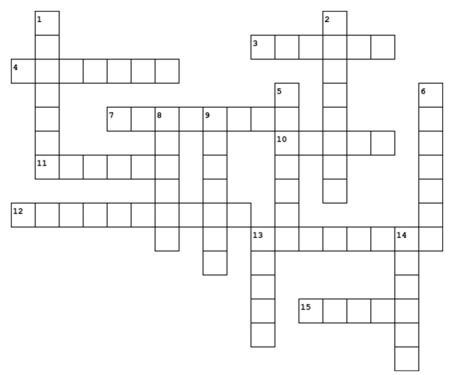
Meanwhile, Joseph was taken to Egypt, where he was sold to <u>**Potiphar**</u>, an officer of <u>**Pharaoh**</u>. Although it seemed like Joseph's dreams were shattered, God was still with him.

Joseph's **<u>betrayal</u>** shows the danger of jealousy and hatred. Even when life seems unfair or others hurt us, God is always at work. Joseph's story reminds us that God can use even the hardest moments for His **greater** plan.

- 1. Why did Joseph's brothers decide to sell him, and how did their actions show the dangers of jealousy and anger?
- **2.** What can we learn about trusting God when things in our lives feel unfair, like Joseph being sold to Egypt?

<u>Joseph</u>	<u>brothers</u>	<u>Jacob</u>	<u>Dreamer</u>
<u>Reuben</u>	<u>Rescue</u>	<u>ThePit</u>	<u>Egypt</u>
<u>SellHim</u>	<u>Traders</u>	<u>Blood</u>	<u>WildAnimal</u>
<u>Potiphar</u>	<u>Pharaoh</u>	<u>Betrayal</u>	<u>Greater</u>

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Across

- 3. Son of Jacob, known for his dreams
- 4. What the brothers decided to do
- 7. The Egyptian who bought Joseph
- 10. The land where Joseph was sold
- **11.** To save from danger
- **12.** What the brothers claimed had killed Joseph
- **13.** Joseph's siblings who betrayed him
- 15. Father of Joseph and his brothers

- 1. Joseph said God's plan was bigger than their betrayal
- 2. A great act of disloyalty
- 5. A person who has dreams
- 6. People who bought Joseph
- 8. Where Joseph was thrown
- **9.** The king of Egypt
- **13.** What they used to fake Joseph's death
- **14.** The brother who tried to save Joseph

Joseph in Egypt (Genesis (39:1-41:57)

Key Verse: *"The Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in everything he did." – Genesis 39:3 (NLT)*

Objective: To teach children that God is always with us in every situation and that He can use even the hardest moments for His greater purpose.

1. Introduction

Ask the children:

- "Have you ever felt like something wasn't fair, but things worked out in the end?"
- "What helped you stay hopeful during that time?"

Explain that today's story is about Joseph, who faced many difficult and unfair situations. But no matter where Joseph was, God was with him, working for a greater purpose.

2. Bible Story: Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 39:1-41:57)

Materials Needed: A robe (to represent Joseph's leadership), small bags of grain (or paper cutouts), and a toy crown (to represent Pharaoh's authority).

Story Summary:

- 1. **Joseph in Potiphar's House:** Joseph was sold to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh. Even though Joseph was a servant, God was with him, and he succeeded in everything he did. Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his household.
- 2. **Unjust Imprisonment:** Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph of wrongdoing after he refused her advances. Joseph was thrown into prison. But even in prison, God was with Joseph, and the prison warden trusted him and put him in charge of the prisoners.
- 3. **Dreams in Prison:** Joseph met Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker, who both had dreams. Joseph told them, *"Interpretations belong to God,"* and explained their dreams. The cupbearer's dream meant he would be restored to his position, while the baker's dream meant he would be executed. Both came true.
- 4. **Forgotten in Prison:** Joseph asked the cupbearer to remember him, but the cupbearer forgot. Joseph stayed in prison for two more years.
- 5. **Pharaoh's Dreams:** Pharaoh had two disturbing dreams—one of seven healthy cows followed by seven thin cows and another of seven full heads of grain followed by seven thin, scorched heads of grain. No one could interpret the dreams.
- 6. Joseph's Wisdom: The cupbearer remembered Joseph, and Joseph was brought before Pharaoh. Joseph explained that the dreams meant there would be seven years of abundance in Egypt followed by seven years of famine. He advised Pharaoh to store grain during the abundant years.
- 7. **Second-in-Command:** Pharaoh was so impressed by Joseph's wisdom and faith that he made Joseph second-in-command of Egypt, in charge of storing food.
- 8. **God's Plan Unfolds:** During the famine, people from all over the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph. God used Joseph's faithfulness to save countless lives.

Key Point: No matter where we are or what we're going through, God is always with us. When we remain faithful, God can use us to accomplish great things.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. How did God help Joseph while he was in Potiphar's house?
- 2. Why was Joseph sent to prison, and how did he act while he was there?
- 3. What did Joseph say about interpreting dreams?
- 4. What was Pharaoh's dream about, and how did Joseph interpret it?

4. Game: "Grain Gatherer"

Materials Needed: Small bags of "grain" (beanbags or paper cutouts) and baskets. How to Play:

- 1. Divide the children into teams.
- 2. Scatter the "grain" around the room.
- 3. Each team has a basket and must gather as much "grain" as possible within a time limit.
- 4. After the game, explain that just as Joseph collected grain to prepare for the famine, we can prepare our hearts by trusting God.

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Joseph gathered grain to save lives, God gathers our talents and faithfulness to use for His purpose.

5. Craft: "God Is With Me Bookmark"

Materials Needed: Cardstock, markers, stickers, and ribbon. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a strip of cardstock to create a bookmark.
- 2. Write the key verse "The Lord was with Joseph" on the bookmark.
- 3. Encourage the children to decorate their bookmarks with drawings and stickers.
- 4. Attach a ribbon to the top.

Craft Reflection: The bookmark serves as a reminder that, just like Joseph, we can trust that God is always with us.

6. Object Lesson: "The Delayed Plan"

Materials Needed: A timer and a small wrapped gift.

Activity:

- Show the children the wrapped gift but tell them they need to wait until the timer goes off to open it.
- After the timer finishes, let a volunteer open the gift.
- Explain that waiting can be hard, but the reward is worth it—just like Joseph's time in Egypt eventually led to something amazing.

Lesson Connection: Joseph had to wait in difficult places before God's plan was revealed. Sometimes, we need to be patient and trust that God is working for our good.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for being with us during hard times.
- Ask for hearts that remain faithful and trust in His plans.
- Pray that we will have courage and patience, knowing that God can use all things for good.

9. Conclusion

End with a group declaration: "God is always with me, and I will trust His plan!"

- 1. Who bought Joseph when he was taken to Egypt? *Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh.*
- 2. Why did Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his household? Because God was with Joseph, and everything Joseph did was successful.
- 3. What did Potiphar's wife do to Joseph? She falsely accused him of wrongdoing.
- 4. What happened to Joseph after Potiphar's wife lied about him? *He was thrown into prison.*
- 5. Even in prison, who was still with Joseph? *God.*
- 6. Who put Joseph in charge of the other prisoners? *The prison warden.*
- 7. Who were the two important prisoners that Joseph met in prison? *Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker.*
- 8. What did Joseph say about interpreting dreams? *"Interpretations belong to God."*
- 9. What did the cupbearer's dream mean? That he would be restored to his position.
- 10. What did the baker's dream mean? *That he would be executed.*
- 11. How long did Joseph stay in prison after the cupbearer forgot about him? *Two more years.*
- 12. What were Pharaoh's dreams about? Seven healthy cows followed by seven thin cows, and seven full heads of grain followed by seven thin, scorched heads of arain.
- 13. What did Joseph say Pharaoh's dreams meant? That there would be seven years of abundance followed by seven years of famine.
- 14. What did Joseph suggest Pharaoh do during the years of abundance? To store up grain to prepare for the famine.
- 15. What position did Pharaoh give Joseph after hearing his advice? Second-in-command over all of Egypt.
- 16. What can we learn from Joseph's story?

That God is always with us and can use difficult times for His greater purpose.

Joseph in Egypt - Genesis 39:1-41:57

After being sold by his **brothers**, **Joseph** was taken to **Egypt** and sold to **Potiphar**, an officer of **Pharaoh** and captain of the guard. Even in this difficult situation, God was with Joseph, and he succeeded in everything he did. Potiphar noticed and put Joseph in charge of his entire household.

But trouble soon came. Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph of wrongdoing after he **refused** her advances. Joseph was thrown into **prison**, but God was still with him. In prison, Joseph **gained** the trust of the prison warden, who put him in charge of the other prisoners.



While in prison, Joseph met Pharaoh's *cupbearer* and *baker*, who had been imprisoned. Both men had troubling dreams and asked Joseph for help. Joseph explained, "Interpretations belong to God," and then told them the meaning of their dreams. The cupbearer's dream meant he would be restored to his position, while the baker's *dream* meant he would be executed. Both interpretations came true.

Joseph asked the cupbearer to **remember** him and mention him to Pharaoh, but the cupbearer forgot. Joseph remained in prison for two more years until Pharaoh himself had disturbing dreams that no one could interpret. Then the cupbearer remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

Joseph was brought before Pharaoh. Pharaoh explained his dreams of seven healthy cows followed by seven thin cows, and seven full heads of grain followed by seven thin, scorched heads of grain. Joseph told Pharaoh, "God is revealing what He is about to do. There will be seven years of **abundance** in Egypt, followed by seven years of **famine**."

Joseph advised Pharaoh to store up grain during the years of abundance to prepare for the famine. Pharaoh was so impressed by Joseph's wisdom and faith that he appointed him second-in-command over Egypt, putting him in charge of storing food.

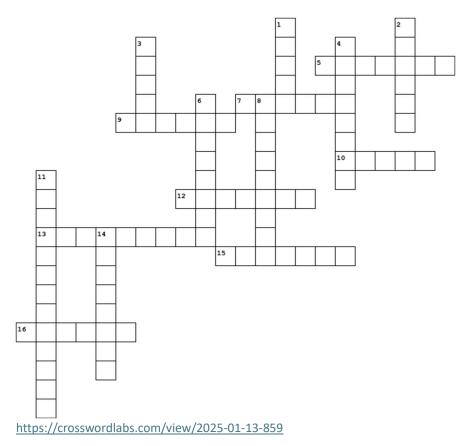
For seven years, Joseph *oversaw* the collection of grain, storing more than anyone could count. When the famine came, Egypt had plenty of food, and people from all over the world came to buy grain from Joseph. Through his faithfulness, God used Joseph to save countless lives.

Joseph's time in Egypt teaches us that God is always with us, even in difficult and unfair *circumstances*. When we remain faithful, God can use us for great purposes. Joseph's story reminds us to trust God's plan, knowing that He works all things for good.

- 1. How did Joseph trust God and stay faithful, when he faced unfair situations in Egypt?
- 2. What can we learn from Joseph's wisdom and faith in helping Egypt prepare for the famine?

<u>Brothers</u>	<u>Joseph</u>	<u>Egypt</u>	<u>Potiphar</u>
<u>Pharaoh</u>	<u>Refused</u>	<u>Gained</u>	<u>Cupbearer</u>
<u>Baker</u>	<u>Prison</u>	<u>Dream</u>	<u>Remember</u>
<u>Abundance</u>	<u>Famine</u>	<u>Oversaw</u>	<u>Circumstances</u>

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Across

- 5. Said "no" to temptation
- 7. A time of no food
- 9. Where Joseph was held
- **10.** The land where Joseph became powerful
- 12. King of Egypt
- **13.** Servant who served Pharaoh his drinks
- 15. Supervised or managed
- 16. Received something good

- 1. A vision seen while asleep
- 2. The dreamer who became a leader in Egypt
- **3.** Pharaoh's servant who was imprisoned
- 4. To bring something back to mind
- 6. Egyptian official who bought Joseph
- 8. A time of great plenty
- **11.** Events or situations around a person
- 14. Joseph's siblings who sold him

Joseph's Reunion

Bible Story: Genesis 42:1-45:28

Key Verse: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good." – Genesis 50:20 (NLT)

Objective: To teach children the importance of forgiveness and trusting that God can bring good out of hard situations.

1. Introduction

Begin by asking:

- "Have you ever had to forgive someone who hurt you?"
- "Why do you think it can be hard to forgive?"

Explain that today's story is about Joseph, who had every reason to stay angry at his brothers, but he chose to forgive because he trusted that God had a bigger plan.

2. Bible Story: Joseph's Reunion (Genesis 42:1-45:28)

Materials Needed: A small sack to represent grain, a silver cup (real or toy), and a coat or robe (to represent Joseph's position).

Story Summary:

- 1. **The Brothers' First Trip to Egypt:** The famine reached Canaan, and Jacob sent ten of his sons to Egypt to buy food. He kept Benjamin, the youngest, at home.
- 2. Joseph's Test: The brothers bowed before Joseph, fulfilling Joseph's dream. Joseph recognized them but kept his identity secret. He accused them of being spies and demanded they bring Benjamin, holding Simeon in prison.
- 3. **Guilt and Second Trip:** The brothers returned home and told Jacob what happened. When their food ran out, Jacob reluctantly allowed Benjamin to go.
- 4. Joseph's Second Test: When the brothers returned, Joseph was moved when he saw Benjamin. He secretly placed his silver cup in Benjamin's sack and accused him of stealing it.
- 5. Judah's Plea: Judah offered to take Benjamin's place as a slave, showing how much he had changed.
- 6. **The Reveal:** Overcome with emotion, Joseph revealed his identity. He reassured his brothers, *"Don't be afraid. God sent me here to save lives."*
- 7. **Forgiveness and Reunion:** Joseph forgave his brothers and sent them home with food and gifts, urging them to bring Jacob and their families to Egypt. When Jacob heard the news, he rejoiced, saying, *"My son Joseph is alive!"*

Key Point: Joseph's story shows the power of forgiveness and how God can turn bad situations into good.

3. Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did Joseph's brothers go to Egypt?
- 2. Why didn't the brothers recognize Joseph?
- 3. How did Joseph test his brothers?
- 4. How did Judah show that he had changed?
- 5. What can we learn from how Joseph forgave his brothers?

4. Game: "Grain Sack Relay"

Materials Needed: Small bags or sacks (filled with paper or lightweight material). **How to Play:**

- 1. Divide the children into teams.
- 2. Each team must carry their "grain sack" to a designated point and back.
- 3. The team that completes the relay first wins!

Lesson Tie-In: Just as Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt to get grain, this game reminds us that God can provide for us in amazing ways, even during hard times.

5. Craft: "Forgiveness Cup"

Materials Needed: Plastic or paper cups, markers, stickers, and decorative paper. Instructions:

- 1. Give each child a cup to decorate.
- 2. Write the key verse "God intended it all for good" on the cup.
- 3. Encourage them to decorate the cup with hearts and words that remind them of forgiveness and God's love.

Craft Reflection: The cup represents the silver cup Joseph placed in Benjamin's sack and serves as a reminder that we should choose forgiveness and trust in God's plans.

6. Object Lesson: "Bitterness vs. Forgiveness"

Materials Needed: Two bowls—one with lemons and one with honey or sweet candy. **Activity:**

- Have the children taste a small piece of lemon and describe how sour it is.
- Then, have them taste a small piece of candy or honey and describe how sweet it is.
- Explain that holding onto anger and bitterness is like tasting the lemon—it leaves a bad feeling. Forgiveness is like tasting something sweet—it brings peace and joy.

Lesson Connection: Just as Joseph chose forgiveness over bitterness, we can choose to let go of anger and trust that God can bring good out of bad situations.

7. Prayer

Lead the children in prayer:

- Thank God for His forgiveness and love.
- Ask for hearts that are willing to forgive others.
- Pray for the strength to trust God's plan, even when things seem unfair.

9. Conclusion

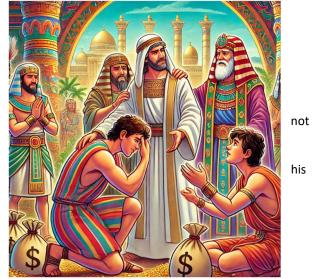
Remind the children that Joseph's story teaches us that God can use even the hardest times for good. Joseph forgave his brothers because he trusted God's plan. When we choose forgiveness, we let go of bitterness and make room for God's blessings. End with a group declaration:

"I will choose forgiveness and trust God's plan!"

- 1. Why did Jacob send his sons to Egypt? To buy food because of the famine.
- 2. Which brother did Jacob keep at home? *Benjamin.*
- 3. What did the brothers do when they arrived in Egypt? *They bowed before Joseph.*
- 4. Did the brothers recognize Joseph? No, they didn't know it was him.
- 5. What did Joseph accuse his brothers of being? *Spies.*
- 6. Which brother did Joseph keep in prison while the others returned home? *Simeon.*
- 7. What did Joseph demand the brothers do to prove their honesty? Bring Benjamin to Egypt.
- 8. Why did Jacob not want to send Benjamin at first? Because he was afraid something bad would happen to him.
- 9. What happened when Joseph saw Benjamin? He was very emotional and moved to tears.
- 10. What did Joseph hide in Benjamin's sack as a test? *A silver cup.*
- 11. What did Joseph say when the cup was found in Benjamin's sack? That Benjamin would stay as his slave.
- 12. Which brother offered to take Benjamin's place as a slave? *Judah.*
- 13. What did Joseph do after hearing Judah's plea? He revealed his identity and told them he was their brother Joseph.
- 14. What reason did Joseph give for being in Egypt? He said, "God sent me here to save lives."
- 15. What did Joseph send with his brothers when they returned home? Food, gifts, and instructions to bring Jacob and their families to Egypt.
- 16. What did Jacob say when he heard that Joseph was alive? *"My son Joseph is alive! I will go and see him."*

Joseph's Reunion - Genesis 42:1-45:28

The *famine* spread to Canaan, and Jacob sent ten of his sons to **Eqvpt** to buy food, keeping **Benjamin** at home. When the **brothers** arrived, they bowed before **Joseph**, recognizing him. Joseph, now a ruler in Egypt, recognized them but kept *identity* secret. Testing them, he accused them of being spies and held Simeon in prison. demanding they bring Benjamin to prove their honesty.



The brothers, feeling **guilty** for what they had done to Joseph, returned home and told Jacob everything. At first, Jacob **refused** to send Benjamin, but when their food ran out, he relented. Back in Egypt, Joseph was moved when he saw Benjamin. He tested them again by hiding his **silver cup** in Benjamin's sack. When the cup was found, Joseph declared Benjamin would stay as his **slave**.

Judah pleaded, "Let me take his place. Our father will die of grief without him." Moved by Judah's sincerity, Joseph revealed his identity, saying, "I am Joseph, your brother! Don't be afraid. God sent me here to save lives."

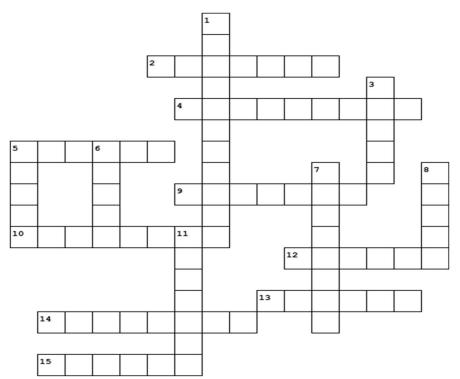
Joseph <u>forgave</u> his brothers and sent them home with food and gifts, urging them to bring Jacob and their families to Egypt. When Jacob heard the news, he rejoiced, saying, "My son Joseph is alive! I will go and see him."

Joseph's **reunion** with his brothers shows the power of **forgiveness** and God's sovereignty. Despite suffering, Joseph trusted God's plan and forgave his brothers, reminding us to do the same.

- 1. How did Joseph show forgiveness to his brothers, and what can we learn about forgiving others who have hurt us?
- 2. What does Joseph's story teach us about how God can use hard situations for good?

<u>Famine</u>	<u>Canaan</u>	<u>Jacob</u>	<u>Egypt</u>
<u>Benjamin</u>	<u>Brothers</u>	<u>Joseph</u>	<u>Identity</u>
<u>Guilty</u>	<u>Refused</u>	<u>SilverCup</u>	<u>Slave</u>
<u>Judah</u>	<u>Forgave</u>	<u>Reunion</u>	<u>Forgiveness</u>

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- 2. Stopped being angry and showed mercy
- 4. What was placed in Benjamin's sack
- 5. The brother who revealed his true identity
- 9. Said "no"
- **10.** The siblings who visited Egypt for food
- 12. A time when food was scarce
- **13.** Feeling bad for doing something wrong
- 14. Who someone really is
- **15.** The land where Jacob and his family lived

- 1. Letting go of anger and granting mercy
- **3.** The brother who pleaded for Benjamin
- 5. Father of Joseph and his brothers
- 6. The place where Joseph ruled
- 7. Joseph's youngest brother
- 8. Someone forced to serve others
- **11.** When family or friends come back together

20 Bible Lessons

Creation of the World (Genesis 1:1-31)4
Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:7-25)8
The Fall of Man (Genesis 3:1-24)12
Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)16
Enoch and Methuselah (Genesis 5:21-27) 20
Noah Builds the Ark (Genesis 6:9-22)
The Great Flood (Genesis 7:1-24)
Rainbow Covenant – Genesis 8:1–9:17
The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)
The Call of Abram (Abraham) – Genesis 12:1-9
God's Promise to Abram – Genesis 15:1-21
The Birth of Ishmael – Genesis 16:1-16 48
The Birth of Ishmael – Genesis 16:1-1648The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-752
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-7 52
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-7 52 Abraham's Test – Genesis 22:1-19 56
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-7 52 Abraham's Test – Genesis 22:1-19 56 Birthright and Blessing - Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40 60
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-752Abraham's Test – Genesis 22:1-1956Birthright and Blessing - Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-4060Jacob's Dream at Bethel - Genesis 28:10-2264
The Birth of Isaac - Genesis 21:1-752Abraham's Test - Genesis 22:1-1956Birthright and Blessing - Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-4060Jacob's Dream at Bethel - Genesis 28:10-2264Joseph's Coat of Many Colors - Genesis 37:1-1168

The design allows you to print two pages one for lesson front and back to be used by leaders for guides and second with word search and crossword as take home for the kids. Both would include middle page with story and, artwork, and questions.

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