

God Calls Abram

Bible Story: God Calls Abram • *Genesis 12:1-4, 15:1-7*

Bottom Line: God wants you to know Him.

Memory Verse: “God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.”
2 Peter 1:3a (NirV)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

1. Bible Story Review - Abram’s Crazy Journey

What You Need: “Abram’s Crazy Journey” and “Abram Cutout” Activity Pages

What You Do:

- Give a cutout to each child.
- Give each child an “Abram’s Crazy Journey” Activity Page.
- Point out the symbols/words they find on the Activity Page starting in the center. Each symbol or word represents a different part of Abram’s journey.
- Encourage the children to look at the symbols/words in the four corners of the page and use their pencils to trace over the page in story order starting from the center square.
- Then they can move their Abram cutouts along the game board.
- Order:
 - Center square: 75 – God spoke to Abram and told him to move to a new land when he was 75.
 - Top left hand corner: “Promise” – God made a promise to Abram: *“I will make you into a great nation” (Genesis 12:2 NirV).*
 - Bottom left corner: Star – God would give him more descendants than the stars—more family members than he could count!
 - Bottom right corner: baby – Sara, Abram’s wife, gave birth to a baby boy, Isaac.
 - Top right corner: Jesus – Years and years and years later, after generations and generations, Jesus was born from Abram’s family line.

What You Say:

- “Today, we heard an AMAZING story about a man named Abram.
- God chose him for a pretty crazy journey.
- I’m sure Abram probably wondered why God had chosen him to play such a special and important role.
- But Abram trusted God.
- And we can trust Him too.
- More than anything, God wants to have a relationship with each of us. He wants us to trust Him. **[Bottom Line] God wants you to KNOW Him.**
- You guys can take these pages with you to share the amazing TRUE story of Abram at home.

[Make It Personal] (Share a time when you learned something about God OR you trusted in one of His promises and followed Him even when others didn't. Maybe you gave money to a cause or to someone who needed it. Talk about how this helped you understand who God is in a real way.) ***[Bottom Line]*** “God wants you to know Him.”

2. Live for God - Question Box!

What You Need: “Question Box” Activity Page, pens, paper, scissors, clear tape

What You Do:

- Pass out a “Question Box” Activity Page for kids to cut out.
- Show them how to assemble the box and tape it together.
- Encourage the kids to write their names on the bottom of their boxes.
- As the kids are putting their question boxes together, cut the paper into strips, and pass out four or five to each kid.
- Once boxes are nearly assembled (with just one side left to tape shut), instruct the kids to stop.
- Tell kids to write something they know about God on two or three of their strips of paper.
- Encourage the kids to write down a question or two they have about God on the other strips of paper.
- Ask kids to share one or two of the things they know about God with the rest of the group.
- Guide kids to fold up their strips of paper, put them inside their boxes, and close the lid (but not tape it shut).
- Collect the boxes. You will keep these to use throughout the week. Kids can take them home on the last day of VBS.

What You Say:

- “Make sure you write your name on the bottom of your box. You’ll keep adding things we learn or any questions you have. Then you’ll take them home at the end of the week.
- “Just like you’re learning new things as you grow, you will continue to learn more and more about God.
- As you come to church, as you read your Bible, as you talk about God with your friends, you’ll learn more and more about who He is and what He is like.
- The God of all creation—the One who placed every star in the sky and every single freckle on your nose—loves you and wants to have a friendship with you.
- And you can grow that friendship by spending time with Him.
- So keep asking questions and keep learning so you can know Him more.
- ***[Bottom Line]*** God wants you to know Him.”

SNACK TIME

TALK ABOUT MEMORY VERSE DURING SNACK

3. Memory Verse –

“God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.” *2 Peter 1:3a (NIV)*

What You Need: Bibles, “Memory Verse” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Hold up the “Memory Verse” Activity Page, read the verse aloud together, and then hold it up for reference.
- Encourage the kid on your left to say the first word of the verse and have them point to another child to say the next word.
- Continue having each kid point to a new friend to say the next word until you’ve recited the entire verse and its reference.
- If you have fewer kids than words in the verse, some will need to go twice.
- Repeat as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

- “This verse is so important for us to know and understand.
- God has given us EVERYTHING we need to live a godly life.
- We can be kind and loving and generous and honest with His help.
- As we power up and remember that it’s His power IN us, we can live the kind of life that makes a big difference.
- That’s why it’s important to spend time like we’re doing this week to learn more and more about God and His power in our lives.
- Remember, **[Bottom Line] God wants you to know Him.**”

4. Prayer

What You Do:

- Explain that a great way to know God is to talk to Him in prayer.

What You Say:

- “One of the ways you get to know someone is by spending time with them just talking.
- When we talk to God, it's called prayer.
- And prayer is a GREAT way to know God better.
- Invite the kids to think of two times each day that they will talk to God. It could be while they brush their teeth, while they're traveling from place to place, or right before they fall asleep each night.
- Would anyone like to share the two times they plan to pray this week?

- “Thanks for sharing.
- Whether it's when you brush your teeth in the morning and at night
- Or when you first wake up
- Or before a meal
- Anytime is a great time to talk to God.
- **[Bottom Line] God wants you to know Him**, and prayer is a great place to start.
- Let's pray.

“Heavenly Father, You are a BIG God. But even though You are the biggest, most powerful force ever, You still care about us and want us to know You. Thanks for this week of fun and learning about You and Your power! Thank You for loving us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.”

5. Travel Time

As you travel to the next track, use the following questions to keep the conversation going and to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

- How do you get to know someone?
- How did you meet or get to know your best friend?