

## 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 (NIV)

### 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 - Yes!

**What You Need:** “Yes!” Activity Pages, unsharpened pencils, or straws; tape; glue sticks

### **What You Do:**

- Lead kids to make thaumatropes [THAW-muh-trohps]: cards with different pictures on opposite sides, which seem to combine and move when the cards are spun quickly.
- Distribute the speech bubble cards from the “Yes!” Activity Pages and ask kids to identify what the picture shows.
- Invite them to recall some of the things God told Abram.
- Give each kid a pencil, or straw. Guide kids to use the line on the back of the card as a guide for where to tape it.
- Lead kids in a Bible story review. **Use the key points below as a guide.** Direct kids to hold up their speech bubbles whenever God “says” something to Abram.
  - God chose to have a special relationship with a man named Abram. God said to Abram: **“Go to the land I will show you”** (Genesis 12:1 NIV).
  - God’s command came with a promise. He said: **“I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make your name great. . . . All nations on earth will be blessed because of you”** (Genesis 12:2-3 NIV).
  - God also said: **“Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can. . . . That’s how many children will be born into your family”** (Genesis 15:5 NIV).
  - Abram believed God’s promises, and his faith gave him a closer relationship with God.
  - Abram and Sarai had a son named Isaac. Isaac had children, and his children had children, and his children’s children had children,

and so on and so on, until one day, one of Abram's great-great-great-great-great-many-more-great-grandchildren was born in Bethlehem—a baby boy named Jesus!

- Through Jesus, God blessed all nations on earth, just like He promised Abram. God made a way for EVERYONE, through faith, to have a close relationship with Him.
- Briefly talk about God's promises to Abram. **Unpack the truth that God keeps ALL the promises He makes.**
- Next, distribute the "Yes!" cards and invite kids to read the word. Tell kids that whenever God makes a promise, we can count it as a "yes," because God ALWAYS keeps His promises.
- Direct kids to glue the card to the back of the first and press them together.
- Show kids how they can hold the pencils between their palms (with fingers straight!) and rub their hands quickly back and forth. As they do, the images will "merge" and Abram will "dance"!
- Unpack the truth that Jesus was the greatest "Yes!" of all God's promises.

### What You Say:

- "God had a special relationship with Abram.
- What do you think made God's relationship with Abram special?
  - *(God talked with Abram, God made him a promise, God visited Abram, Abram believed God, Abram obeyed God, etc.)*
- "Did you know that God wants to have a special relationship with YOU, too? *(Pause.)*
- He does! **[Bottom Line] God wants you to know Him.**
- In fact, God chose Abram to be the great-great-great-great-great-many-more-great-grandfather of Jesus so that He could have a special relationship with *(make eye contact with each child)* you and you and you and YOU!
- God's promise to bless all nations through Abram's children means that you and I can have a forever relationship with God!
- Wow!

## SNACK TIME- DURING SNACK TIME TALK ABOUT THE MEMORY VERSE:

### 2. Memory Verse - 2 Peter 1:3a (NirV)

#### What You Do:

- Show the kiddos how to look up the verse in the Bible.
- **Read:** “God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.” 2 Peter 1:3a (NirV)
- Unpack the mind-blowing concept that God gives us HIS power—the power that made the world and everything in it—to live godly lives that please Him.

#### What You Say:

- “God is powerful—more powerful than ANYTHING we could ever imagine.
- With His power, God made the world, He made Adam and Eve, and He sent His Son, Jesus, to live on earth and to die for our sins.
- God’s power even raised Jesus from the dead so that we can have a relationship with Him!
- “And you know what’s even more amazing—mind-blowing amazing?
- God gives us HIS power so that we can do the things that please Him.
- Second Peter 1:3 says it this way: **God’s power has given us everything we need to live a godly life** (NirV). Wow!”

### 3. Prayer – YELLOW CARDS (ear, praying hands...)

#### What You Say:

- **[Bottom Line]** “God wants you to know Him, and some of the best ways you can get to know God are to
  - HEAR the Bible
  - to PRAY—or talk—to God
  - to TALK to people who know and love God
  - and to LIVE—or do—what the Bible says.
- “Hearing the Bible, praying, talking to people who love God, and living what the Bible says are great ways to get to know God and how much He loves you.
- And you know what?
- Out of all the people in the world,
- **[Bottom Line]** God wants YOU to know Him.
- You!
- He wants you to know how much He loves you.
- He wants you to know how wonderful and powerful He is.
- And He wants you to be His friend.
- Wow!

“How does it feel knowing that **[Bottom Line]** God wants you to know Him? (Pause.) So never forget: **[Bottom Line]** God wants you to know Him, and He loves you more than you could ever imagine!”

- “Today you learned that **[Bottom Line]** God wants you to know Him.
- In fact, He sent His Son, Jesus, so that you and I can have a forever relationship with Him.
- So what’s one thing you can do this week to know God more? (Pause.)
- Great ideas! Let’s pray.”
  - *As you lead them in prayer thank God that He wants us to know Him.*
  - *Ask Him to help your group hear His Word, pray, talk to others about Him, and do what the Bible says so that you can know Him more.*

### 4. 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!

- What’s something you know a lot about? How did you come to know so much about it?
- If you could know anything about God, what would you want to know?