

Birth of Isaac Announced

Genesis 15:1 - 18:15



The Story

The Lord had blessed Abram with many things. However, there was one blessing that Abram did not have yet. He had no children.

God appeared to Abram while he was asleep and said, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I will protect you. I will be your great reward."

Abram said, "Lord God, you have promised me a son. Sarah and I do not yet have a child. What shall I do?"

The Lord told Abram to go outside and look at the sky. "Try to count the stars. You will have as many people come from your family as there are stars in the sky." God also told Abram that his family would be slaves in a strange land for 400 years. Then his family would return to Canaan and own that land. Abram believed the promises that the Lord had made to him.

Many years went by, but Abram and Sarai still had no son. When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him again. Abram fell down on his face.

God said, "I will make a covenant between you and Me." A covenant is a promise between two people. The Lord again promised to give Abram a son. "Your name will not be Abram anymore. You will be called Abraham, which means 'father of many.' Your wife will not be called Sarai, but Sarah, which means 'princess.'"

The Lord soon appeared to Abraham again. Abraham was sitting in the shade by his tent. He looked up, and saw three men standing by him. These three men were actually the Lord and two angels! Abraham ran to meet the visitors, and bowed down.

"Please stop here, wash your feet and have a meal with me," Abraham said. The three men agreed to stop and rest.

Abraham ran in to Sarah. "Quickly, get some flour and bake some bread," he said. Then Abraham ran out to his herd, chose a calf, and prepared the meat. When everything was ready, Abraham served his guests bread, butter, meat, and milk.

One of the men asked Abraham where his wife was. Abraham replied, "She is in the tent."

The Lord said, "I will come back to you next year. By that time, Sarah will have a son."

Sarah was listening from the tent. She laughed because she thought that she was too old to have a child.

"Why did Sarah laugh?" the Lord said to Abraham. "Is anything too hard for Me to do? I will come back next year, and you will have a son."

The Lord and the two angels got up and started on their way.

God keeps all His promises.

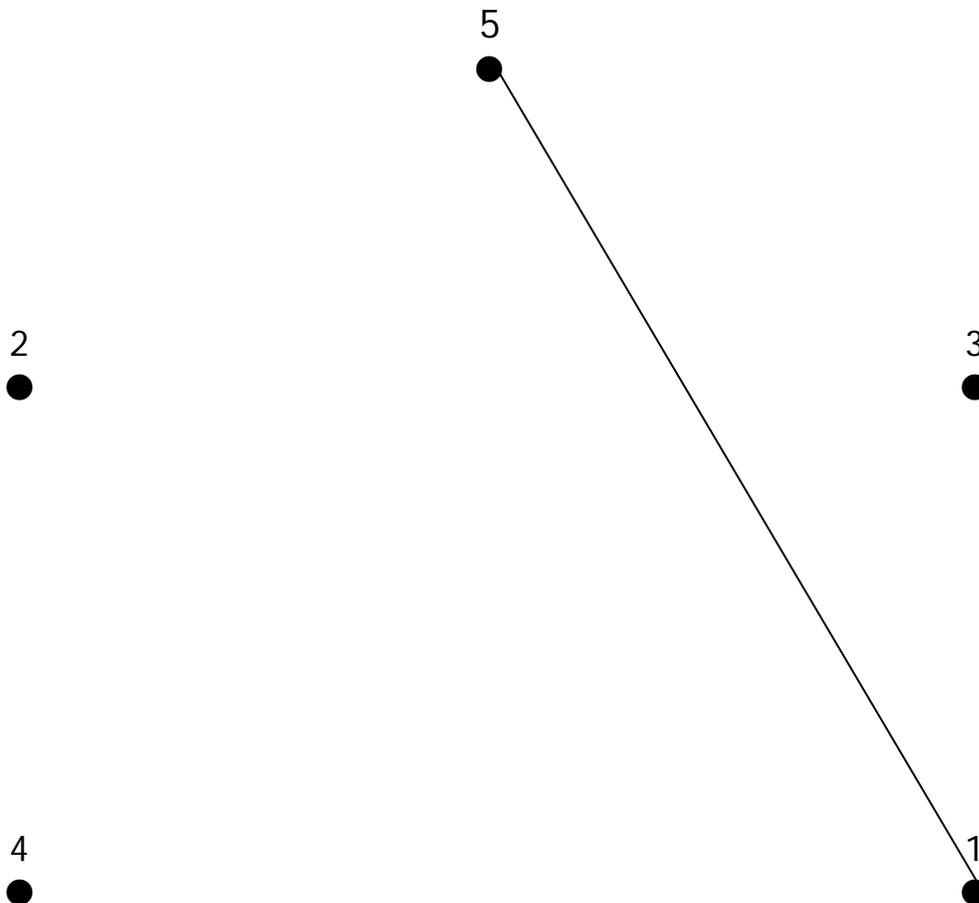
Activity One

- Match the following.

1. Draw a line to Abram's new name ● ● Sarah
2. Draw a line to Sarai's new name ● ● Isaac
3. Draw a line to the baby's name ● ● Abraham

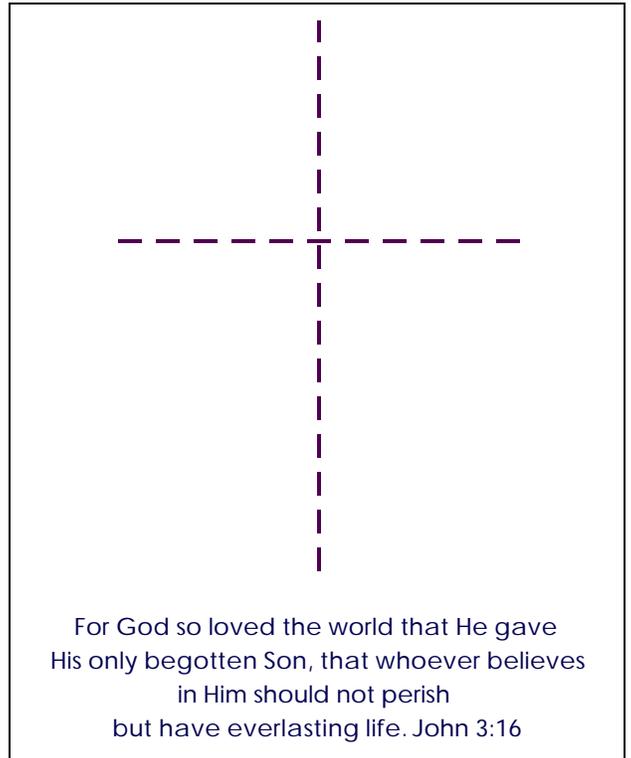
Activity Two

- Follow the dot-to-dot to make something God showed Abraham.



Our faith is strengthened by God's repeated promises in His Word.

Activity Three - The Lord makes many promises to you in His Word. Color the picture that shows what God promised to Abraham and Sarah. Trace the cross to show that God kept His promise to send Jesus to die for our sins.



Passages

I Corinthians 12:3b - "...and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit."

Romans 10:17 - "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Prayer

Dear Holy Spirit,

The devil, the world, and my flesh don't want me to listen to You or follow You. Help me to listen to Your Words in the Bible and keep me in the faith that trusts in Jesus. Remind me of God's promises, and make my faith stronger through His Word. I ask this in the name of Jesus, my Savior. Amen.

Hymn - TLH 373 v. 1

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;

My soul believe and doubt it not.

Why stagger at this word of promise?

Hath Scripture ever falsehood taught?

Nay; then this word must true remain:

By grace thou, too, shalt heav'n obtain.