



3rd – 5th

September 6 & 7, 2014

DATE

Abraham and Isaac

LESSON TITLE

Genesis 22:1-19, Romans 5:8

WHERE TO FIND IT

God Provided a Substitute

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Today is all about understanding how God promised a substitute for Abraham and for US; prepare for the lesson by thinking of a time that you had to wait for something, but God followed through in the end. (Or maybe you're still waiting and having to trust God!)

check-in/out

Ask kids what their marshmallow sculpture represents-how Jesus takes our place and carries our sins instead of us having to!

large group heads up

The subject matter is kind of heavy; keep the topic relatable by focusing on how God wants us to trust him no matter what, because he ALWAYS keeps his promises.



connect time

Goal: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

Substitute It!

**Break the room into small groups (or keep together if necessary)*

- **Hand out 5 marshmallows and some dry spaghetti noodles to each kid.**
- **Tell kids to build a structure using the marshmallows and spaghetti. They have to try and hold the marshmallows up using the spaghetti!**
- Let kids try to make a structure using the materials. (It will not go well at first!)
- After several minutes of them being frustrated with how the spaghetti does not hold heavy marshmallows well, have them tear down their structures and put the materials away.

Go around your group and ask kids about what it was like trying to build their structures at first with the spaghetti. If you have time, ask them about the best and worst parts of their week.

Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will **(1)** retell the story of Abraham and Isaac, **(2)** see how God always keeps his promises, and **(3)** understand how God kept his promise to us by sending Jesus as a substitute.

Why: We want kids to walk away from today focusing on how Jesus substituted himself for us. Relate the story of Abraham and Isaac back to this central truth.

Tip: Kids might not understand why God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, and that's okay! We don't always have the answers; we just know that God keeps his promises.

small group

Review and Dig Deeper:

***Pass around a bean bag to the person who's speaking. Each group member should be prepared to hold the bean bag and answer questions.**

1. What did God promise that he would give to Abraham and Sarah?
2. Do you think it was hard for them to trust God while they waited for a son for so long?
3. How did Abraham have to trust God when God asked him to give up his son Isaac?
4. In the Bible, Jesus is called "the lamb of God;" why do you think that is?
5. Why do we need Jesus to be a substitute for us?
6. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to die for us to take our punishment?

JESUS TAKES OUR PLACE

- **Hand out 5 marshmallows to each kid.**
- **Explain** that the marshmallows are like our sins-heavy things that can weigh us down. We are like the spaghetti that we tried to build with earlier.
- Jesus, however, is like the stronger tooth picks that hold up the marshmallows way better! He substitutes himself in our place, relieving us of any pressure or guilt!
- **Hand out the tooth picks to each kid** to build with their marshmallows.
- **Have kids make a small sculpture** to take home to remind them that Jesus took our place, just like God promised Abraham that a lamb would take the place of Isaac. Feel free to let kids eat a marshmallow too!

Prayer

Ask God to help us remember that even though we aren't perfect, and we could never be good enough, he will always love us no matter what. Thank God for giving us the best substitute of all, Jesus!

Extra time? Go around the small group and ask kids how they could trust God to take care of them, even when it's hard or we have to wait. Have them write that thing down on some paper to take with them.

special notes

The story of Abraham and his son Isaac is really reflective of God and his son Jesus. We want to focus on how God provided a substitute for us, just like he provided a substitute for Abraham.

presenter tips

Find the Kid Bible Story video here:
<http://vimeo.com/44929843>.

The worship videos can be found here:

Jesus Loves Me:

<http://vimeo.com/74748426>

Come With Me:

<http://vimeo.com/55100351>

script

**Click to play intro music*

Hey everybody! Glad to have you here at Kids' Club! I saw some pretty awesome creations today made out of marshmallows! But it wasn't so easy to build at first was it? Can someone tell me what happened when you tried to build with spaghetti sticks? (Let a kid respond.) Yep, those spaghetti sticks were not so great for building! In fact they were terrible! I wonder if we had something ELSE to use instead of spaghetti sticks...what do you all think would make a better substitute? (Let a few kids respond)

Well today we're going to talk about other kinds of substitutes. Can someone tell me about a substitute you've had before? (Let kids respond with things like substitute teacher, etc. They may need help thinking of other kinds.) Raise your hand if you've ever had a substitute teacher? (Let kids respond.) Okay, how about an understudy, does anyone know what kind of substitute that is? (Let a kid respond, and explain if no one knows.) Yes! If an actor is sick and can't be in a play, an understudy takes their place!

ABRAHAM

Today we're learning about a different kind of substitute! But before we get to that, we're going to talk about a guy named Abraham. Has anyone ever heard of him before? (Let kids respond.) He's a man from the Bible who followed God with all his heart, and he was married to a woman named Sarah. God had huge plans for Abraham and Sarah. Such huge plans, that someday, thousands of years later, God's own son Jesus would be born from Abraham's family! Woah!

We're going to learn more about Abraham in this video; as we watch I want you to pay special attention to what Abraham does when God asks him to do hard things. Does he listen to God, or not? Let's see!

VIDEO: KID BIBLE STORY-ABRAHAM



script continued

Alright, who wants to tell me what Abraham and Sarah wanted more than anything in the world? (Let a kid respond.) That's right, a child! They wanted a big family so badly, but they had to wait a really, really long time. God promised them a son, but he said they had to wait.

Do you remember how old they were when they finally got a son? (Let kids respond.) Yes, 99 years old!! Can you imagine that? Waiting until you're 99 to have a kid?

Let's all stand up for a minute! I want you to think about something that you want really really badly. Maybe it's a video game, or to go to Disney World, something like that. Go ahead and turn to the person next to you and tell them about it. Now let's say that an adult tells you that you are going to get that thing...but you have to wait 99 years!?!? Could you all wait that long?

GOD TESTS ABRAHAM

Abraham and Sarah were patient and trusted God, he kept his promise to them! **SHOW SLIDE OF ABRAHAM AND SARAH.** He gave them a son named Isaac, exactly when he said he would, because God always keeps his promises.

So now Abraham has his long awaited son. God has kept his promise, and given him Isaac. The story takes a really unexpected turn. One day, God asks something of Abraham that's really hard. Something that Abraham never expected. God asked him to take Isaac to a mountain, and sacrifice him.

What do you think went through Abraham's head when God asked him to do that? (Let a few kids respond.) Wow, you're probably right. I bet Abraham felt really sad that God was asking him to give up his own son. The son that God promised Abraham his whole family would come from! But you know what? Abraham did what God told him to do, and he took Isaac to a mountain and prepared to give him up to God.

SACRIFICE

It's pretty hard to understand why God would ask something like this, isn't it? But you know, back in those days, making a sacrifice to God was really common. People needed to pay for their sins, and a sacrifice was the only way to do that.

Let's look at it this way. When you do something wrong, like lie to your parents, or cheat on a test, what happens when your parents find out? You probably get punished. That's because when we do wrong things, we have to pay a price. Because God is perfect, and we can't ever be good enough or give up enough to get close to him on our own, we have to sacrifice something to make it right. It was the same way back then.

ABRAHAM TRUSTS GOD

Well, the moment came when Abraham had to give up his son to God. Why do you think he was ready to do that? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he TRUSTED God completely. He obeyed God because he knew in his heart that God would provide what he needed in the end. Let's read this verse about what happened when Isaac asked about who was going to be sacrificed:



script continued

SLIDE: Genesis 22:7-8: “Isaac spoke up and said to Abraham, ‘Father?’ “Yes, my son?’ Abraham replied. ‘The fire and wood are here,’ Isaac said, ‘but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?’” Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”

Wow! That is some amazing faith that Abraham had. Even though God was asking something really hard, he knew it would be okay in the end. He believed that God would provide the lamb.

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISE

As Abraham prepared to give up Isaac, an angel stopped him at the very last minute! He told Abraham that God knew how much Abraham loved him. He knew that Abraham would do anything for him. So at that very moment, God sent a ram out of some nearby bushes to be sacrificed instead! He sent a SUBSTITUTE! **SHOW SLIDE OF A RAM.**

Alright, let's pause for a minute. I want everyone to lay on your back and close your eyes. Think about a time that you did something wrong...something that deserves a punishment. (pause) Got it in your head? Now I want you to think about how God, instead of making you be punished for your wrong, takes the punishment HIMSELF. Okay, go ahead and sit up and open your eyes.

When God sent that ram to take Isaac's place, he was giving Abraham a substitute. Something that could take the place of his sin. He did this because he loved Abraham, and he had promised Abraham that he would have a big family!

GOD SHOWS US HIS LOVE

The really cool part of this story is that God didn't just stop with that promise. He promised ALL OF US that he would provide us a substitute to take the punishment for our sins. Do you all know who ended up being that substitute? (Let kids respond. Encourage them to yell out Jesus' name as loud as they can!) Yes, that's right! God's own son came down to earth to take our punishment. Even though we sin and do wrong and can never be perfect on our own, Jesus paid the price for us!

Let's read a verse that explains why Jesus took our punishment for us.

SLIDE: Romans 5:8: “But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

So why exactly did Christ die for us? (Let kids respond.) Absolutely! BECAUSE HE LOVES US! We're going to do something special now. As we watch this worship video, I want you to thank Jesus for what he's done for you. Think about how instead of making us pay the price, he paid the price for us. While the video plays, you can come up to the presentation area where we have markers and post it notes set out. On the paper, write a short thank you note to Jesus for doing this incredible thing for us!



script continued

VIDEO: JESUS LOVES ME (PLAY THIS VIDEO WHILE KIDS DO RESPONSE ACTIVITY)
VIDEO: COME WITH ME

PRAYER

Ask a kid to come up and pray that we would always remember that Jesus is the most wonderful substitute we could ever hope for!

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per group: 1 bag of large marshmallows, a set of dry spaghetti

small group supplies

Per kid: 5 large marshmallows, 10- toothpicks, a piece of paper, a marker

large group supplies

Per kid: 1 post-it note and a marker

a/v needs

1. Slide: Intro music
2. Video: Kid Bible Story: Abraham <http://vimeo.com/44929843>
3. Slide: pic of Abraham and Sarah (<http://vimeo.com/44930545>)
4. Slide: Genesis 22:7-8 (NIRV) "Isaac spoke up and said to Abraham, 'Father?' "Yes, my son?' Abraham replied. 'The fire and wood are here,' Isaac said, 'but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son."
5. Slide: <http://bit.ly/1uKLGMQ>
6. Slide: Romans 5:8 (NIRV) "But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
7. Video: Jesus Loves Me <http://vimeo.com/74748426>
8. Video: Come With Me <http://vimeo.com/55100351>

connect questions

We will be working with spaghetti and marshmallows today.

parent page

Daily talk starters – separate doc