

TEACHER BACKGROUND & PREPARATION SHEET For Teacher Study Only – Not Read Aloud

LESSON IDENTIFICATION Week #: 9 Date: March 1, 2026 Lesson Title: God Keeps His Promises to Abraham
Primary Scripture Passage(s): Genesis 15; Genesis 21:1–7 Bible Timeline Placement: Patriarchs – God's covenant with Abraham (after the call of Abram, before Isaac's testing)

PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON Children will learn that God always keeps His promises, even when they take a long time. They will see that God's Word is trustworthy, that nothing is too hard for Him, and that His promise to Abraham points forward to Jesus, the Savior.

BOOK & PASSAGE BACKGROUND Book Name: Genesis Traditional Author: Moses Approximate Date Written: Around 1400 BC Original Audience: The people of Israel, delivered from Egypt Purpose of the Book: To show that God is the Creator, promise-maker, and faithful covenant-keeper who is working out His plan of salvation.

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL CONTEXT In Genesis 15, Abram is childless and growing older. In ancient cultures, having an heir was essential for family survival and inheritance. God promises Abram descendants as numerous as the stars, something humanly impossible at that time. Genesis 21 records the fulfillment of that promise years later, when Sarah gives birth to Isaac in her old age. This highlights God's power over time, age, and human limitations.

IMMEDIATE BIBLICAL CONTEXT What happens before: God calls Abram, promises land and blessing, and Abram follows God in faith (Genesis 12–14). What happens after: God tests Abraham's faith through Isaac (Genesis 22). Why this moment matters: Genesis 15 establishes God's covenant promise, and Genesis 21 shows God's faithfulness in fulfilling it exactly as spoken.

KEY THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS — APPLIED TO THIS WEEK'S LESSON

CORE TRUTH #1: What this lesson teaches about God God is faithful and keeps every promise He makes. God says, "I am the Lord" and confirms His promise to Abram (Genesis 15:7). In Genesis 21:1, Scripture clearly states, "The Lord did for Sarah what he had promised."

CORE TRUTH #2: What this lesson teaches about people People often struggle with waiting and trusting God's timing. Abram believed God, and "it was credited to him as righteousness" (Genesis 15:6), showing that God values faith, not perfection.

CORE TRUTH #3: What this lesson teaches about salvation God's promise to Abraham includes blessing for all nations (Genesis 12:3). This promise ultimately points to Jesus, a descendant of Abraham, through whom salvation comes to the world (Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:16).

CORE TRUTH #4: Trusting God's Word God's Word is true and reliable. What God promises, He fulfills, even when fulfillment seems impossible (Numbers 23:19; Genesis 21:1–2).

CORE TRUTH #5: God as Trinity God the Father makes and keeps promises. God the Son fulfills God's plan of salvation through Abraham's family line. God the Holy Spirit strengthens faith, as seen when Abram believes God's promise (Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:20–21).

RELIABILITY OF SCRIPTURE The covenant promises to Abraham are referenced consistently throughout Scripture, showing theological unity across centuries (Exodus 2:24; Luke 1:72–73). The fulfillment of Isaac's birth demonstrates fulfilled prophecy within the Bible itself.

APOLOGETICS FOUNDATION This account is believable because it is presented as historical narrative, includes specific names, places, and ages, and is affirmed repeatedly throughout Scripture. God's power over nature and human limitations is consistent with His role as Creator (Genesis 18:14).

ANTICIPATED CHILD QUESTIONS Did God really give Abraham a baby when he was very old? Answer: Yes. God tells us clearly that Sarah gave birth just as God promised (Genesis 21:1–2).

Why did God make Abraham wait so long? Answer: God was teaching Abraham to trust Him, and God's timing is always perfect (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS Children may think God forgets promises when they take a long time. Clarify that waiting does not mean forgetting; God always remembers and acts at the right time (Psalm 105:8).

GOSPEL CONNECTION God's promise to Abraham leads directly to Jesus, the promised Savior. Just as God kept His promise about Isaac, He kept His promise to send Jesus to save us from sin (Luke 2:10–11).

TEACHER HEART PREPARATION Encouragement: Trust God's faithfulness in your own waiting seasons. Prayer Focus: Ask God to strengthen your faith and help you teach with confidence and peace, knowing His Word is true.