



PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

October 11, 2020 – God’s Promise to Abraham (Genesis 15:1-6)

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: FAITH

God tells Abraham not to be afraid. God will be his protector and his provider. But, Abraham questions God by asking, “What can you possibly give me, since I have no children?” But God keeps God’s promises. God tells Abraham to look up at the sky and count the stars, for this is how many children God will give him. This is God’s covenant with Abraham. Covenants between God and God’s people are faithful interactions with God, for God never breaks God’s covenants-even when there is doubt or confusion.

Abraham has questions, but he remains faithful to God. Abraham might have not fully understood what God was doing, but he hoped God would do amazing things. This is a wondrous faith. This is a wonderful example of who we are called to be as a people of faith. Abraham models doubt and questions in the midst of his strong and committed faith. We learn here that there are always questions about God’s desires for our lives, but in this story, we learn that God always keeps God’s promises. Even when they might be different than anything we could have imagined.

Children need to know this important message. They might have big questions and not always understand what it means to follow God. But when they hear that God promises to go with them, they can find comfort in the midst of a wondrous and sometimes complicated faith.

Spiritual Practice for Adults

As you spend time with God this week, go outside in the evening and try to count all the stars. This is likely an impossible task! But doing so is a wonderful reminder of God’s faithfulness. Each night the stars appear without fail, and in this we know that God is always with us. As you take in our miraculous God, do a breath prayer. Point to a star, inhale and say, “God you are faithful!” Exhale and say, “Help me follow you.”

WONDER together

- What helps you have faith in God?
- Are you faithful to God? How?

CONTINUE to Wonder

- Is it hard to have faith? Why or why not?
- How do you know if someone has faith?
- What does your faith look like?

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

- Genesis 15:1-6 (Read from your Bible or see below for the Celebrate Wonder version)
- Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions.

**To make the Wonder Cube that will be used for 13 weeks, print off the Cube template (see below), cut out, and fold on the dotted lines. Tape or glue the flaps together to create a cube.*

WATCH the Bible Story

- <https://youtu.be/H-opLiWdpBw>

SHARE the Faith Word

Faith Word: FAITH – Faith is to believe in God’s presence and hope.

WONDER: Who has faith in the Bible story?

Spiritual Practice

- **Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together** (page 14 & 15). Spend some time talking about the material on the pages. Challenge everyone in the family to participate in the Spiritual Practice activity for this week (on pg. 15).
- **Celebration Chart** – (See below) print one for each child. Display them on your refrigerator. Help your child mark a space each time he/she completes an item on the chart. When the vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

Go in Peace

Blessing: Bless your child by touching them and saying “_____ (child’s name) “God will provide for you a wonderful life and future. Walk in faith.”

Prayer: Dear God, help me have faith in you. Amen.

Additional Activity for each age group

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)

God's Promise to Abraham

Genesis 15:1-6

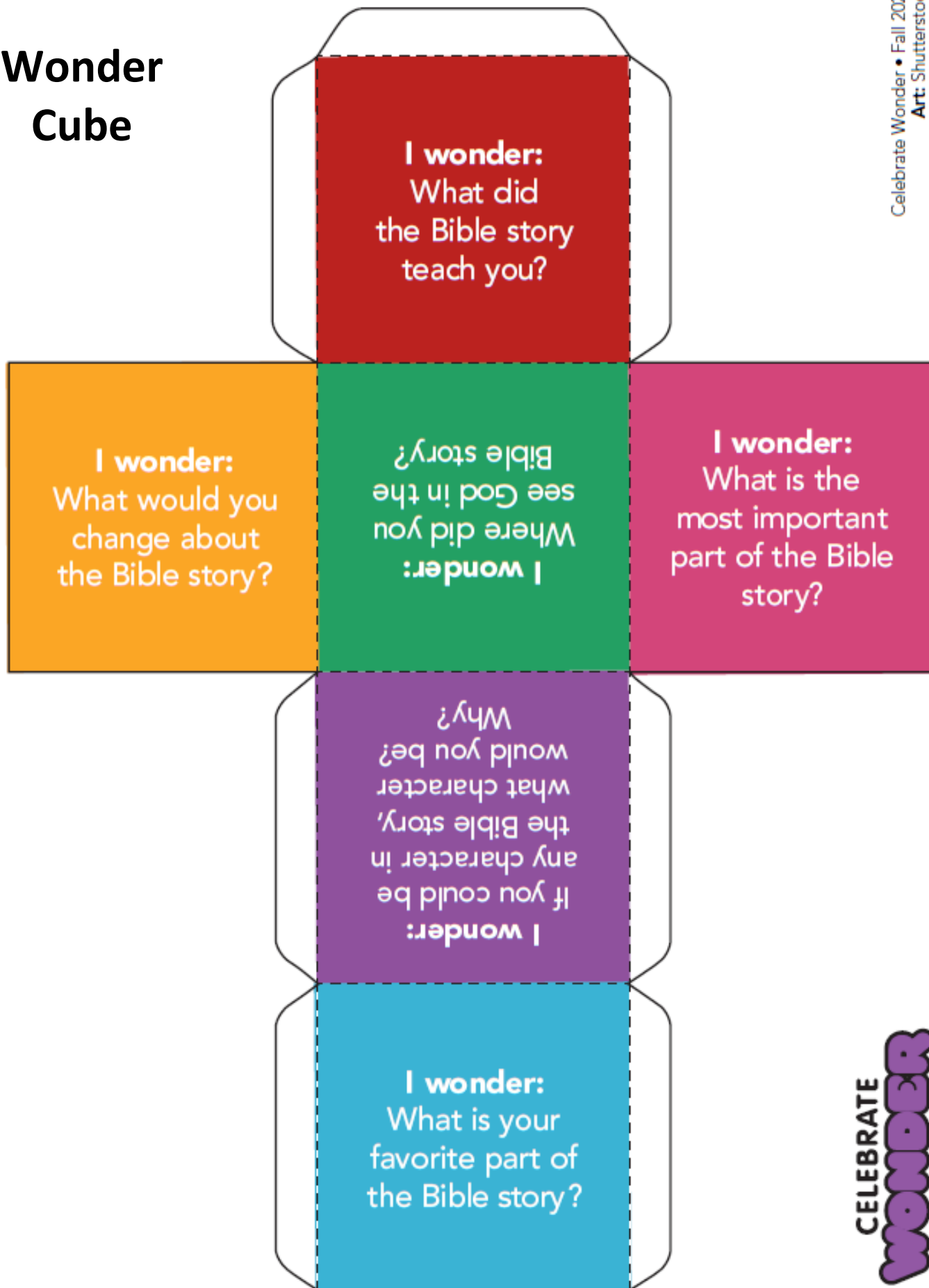
Abraham had a dream about God. In the dream, God said, "Don't be afraid, Abraham. I am with you and will keep you safe. I will give you something wonderful."

Abraham asked God, "What could you give me? I don't have any children and that's what I want the most." God said, "You will have a child. Look up at the night sky. Count all of the stars. This is how many children you will have."

Abraham believed and trusted God.

I wonder: What do you want the most?

Wonder Cube



Place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

CELEBRATE				
Saw beauty in nature	Was kind to animals	Cared for living things	Was kind to a friend	Helped someone
Saw something good	Spent time in nature	Cleaned up trash	Took care of plants	Recycled
Laughed	Made someone laugh	Free Celebration!	Encouraged a friend	Showed hospitality
Said a table blessing	Shared with someone	Prayed for blessings	Prayed for good choices	Blessed someone
Prayed for someone	Prayed for peace	Made peace	Was friendly	Prayed for community



Preschool Activity

“Flashlight Stars”

Supplies: paper cupcake liner, black construction paper, star punch (or tip of a tack or nail if you do not have a star punch), glue, rubber band, and a flashlight

Prepare the “Star template for your child(ren):

1. Trace circles on the black construction paper to match the light end of your flash light. Cut out the circles and then glue them to the bottom of a cupcake liner.



2. Have your child(ren) help you punch holes in the bottom of the paper and liner.



3. Attach liner to the flashlight with a rubber band.

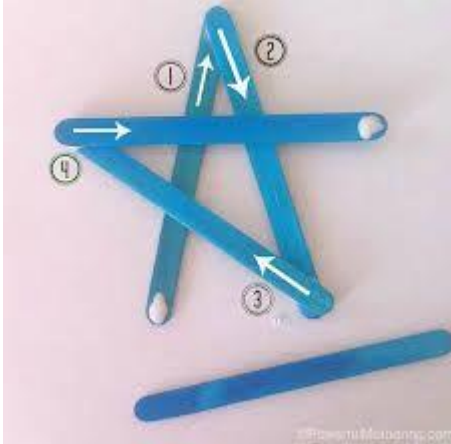


4. Turn out the lights, turn on the flashlight, and view the stars!

Early Elementary Activity

Supplies: craft sticks, glue or glue gun, markers, permanent markers, or glitter pens, stickers, and so forth

- Take 5 craft sticks and glue the ends of the crafts sticks together to form a star.



- Decorate the stars with the coloring supplies.
- Let the stars dry
- **Wonder:** How many stars are in the sky?
Stars remind us that God is always with us.

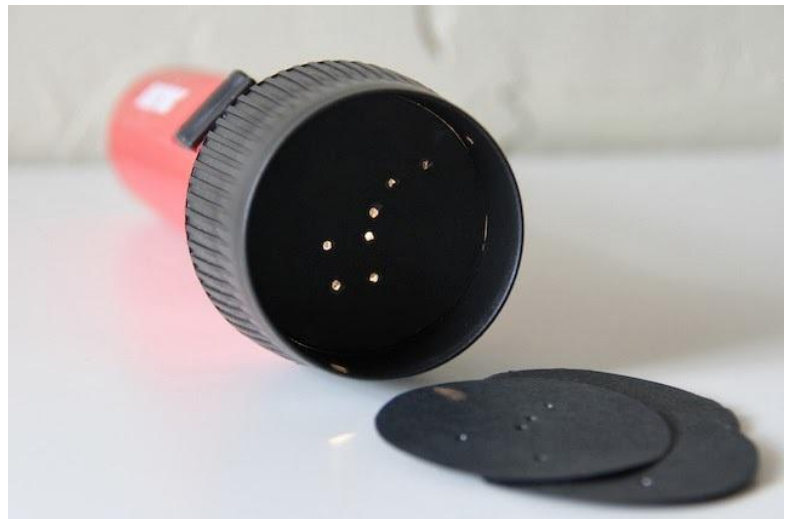
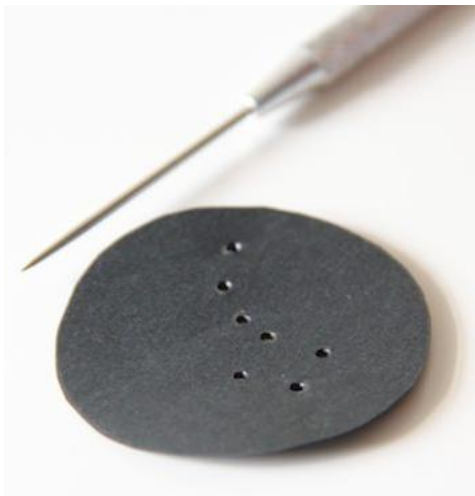
Older Elementary Activity

Supplies: flashlights, black construction paper, pencils, scissors

WONDER: Have you ever heard of a constellation?

A constellation is a formation of stars in the sky that make a picture or particular pattern when connected. Let's make up our own constellations as a reminder of the stars in the Bible story.

- **Take a piece of black construction paper, a pencil (or tack), and scissors.**
- **Using a flashlight, trace on the black construction paper the circle shape at the light end of the flashlight.**
- **Punch holes in the circle using a pencil or tack.** *(For more structured images you can draw dots first on the construction paper in the places where you want to punch the holes.)*
- **Darken the room. Then place the circle over the face of a flashlight and shine the light in the direction of a blank wall. You will see on the wall the shape that was punched out of the paper.**



Extra: There is a free phone app called SkyView Lite. Fun to download and see planets and constellations.



Abraham

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing(Genesis 12,2).



Find the hidden words



O P E U
R T R A D R I
T C A N A A N A N
U O N O Z E I O R U N B I
N H L R V V O G A F A I T H H B B
D F A A O B E G Y D N R H T A A G E
B E G N H H N A P E I S A A C R K T
C D A R A F A I T L L E R N Z A L H
A E R R N D N V I S H M A E L N D E
L P E O M E T S A Q U T S F D O P L
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