

God Loves Daddies

Bible Basis: Genesis 21:1-6

Lesson Focus: God loves daddies.

Where Learning Happens



Set up areas for play before children arrive.

Bible Step

Talk Time

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—Photo Poster 3

Bible Story Time

Genesis 21:1-6

Bible Review Step

Bible Story Review Time

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—Story Figures 2, 4, Story Card 3, Story Mat

Music Time

“THE FAMILY SONG”

■ *Toddler/2 Creative Teaching Aids*—CD, CD player

Craft Step



Shaving Cream Prints

■ Shaving cream, dark construction paper, paint shirts, damp paper towels, shower curtain; *optional*: teacher’s craft smock

■ *Starting Steps* for Lesson 3 for Goodbye Time



This symbol appears whenever preparation takes more than five minutes. A list of classroom supplies for the quarter is included on page 5.

Teacher Devotional

We are often faced with situations that might seem impossible. We read about one such situation in Genesis 18:9-14. God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a child. But Abraham was close to 100 and Sarah was about 90. Sarah’s reaction to God was to laugh. God’s reaction, in Genesis 18:14, was a question: “Is anything too hard for the LORD?” God answered the question through the birth of a son to Abraham and Sarah (Gen. 21:1-6). God is all-powerful. He can do anything!

The next time you face something difficult or impossible in your life, trust in God. The God who made 100-year-old Abraham a father will help you through your problem.

Understanding the Bible

In both Genesis 12:2 and 15:5, God promised Abraham He would make him into a great nation. When Abraham was 86, he had a son, Ishmael. Ishmael was born to Hagar, Sarah’s servant, following an ancient custom to ensure the birth of a male heir (Gen. 16:1-16).

God fulfilled His promise to Abraham with the birth of his son, Isaac. God adopted the nation that grew through them as His people.

In the New Testament, Abraham is referred to as the father of both the circumcised and the uncircumcised (Rom. 4:11-12). Through faith, all believers are descendants of Abraham (Rom. 4:16). The God who promised a nation to Abraham, makes a promise of life to all of Abraham’s children (Rom. 4:23-24).



Your children spend all of their time in this lesson moving, exploring, choosing, and playing in the learning environment. The learning environment is simply the books, toys, blocks, music, stories, and activities your children interact with from the moment they arrive until they go home. While children are busy exploring and playing, you can gather together a small group to hear the Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6. You can also walk around the room, visit the children at different activities, and use the story mat to present the Bible Story Review.

This lesson is designed to allow toddlers and two year olds to play independently, freeing you to present the Bible Step, Bible Review Step, and Craft Step either to individuals or to small groups throughout the class time.

Where Learning Happens

Table—

The table can be used for a free-play activity, snack, or the craft. For directions on setting up today's craft activity, see *"Shaving Cream Prints" in the Craft Step, page 20.*

Rug—

This is the place to gather children together for small group activities, depending on the size of your group. Invite them to the rug for the Bible Step, *page 18. Today's story is "God Loves Daddies" from Genesis 21:1-6.*

This is also a good place for sharing stories or movement and the Music Time, *page 19. Sing "THE FAMILY SONG" this week.*

Care Area—

Take time for each child's physical needs, including rest room breaks and diaper changes. Provide water and a snack when appropriate.

Books—

A choice of books to explore pictures and words. *Let children look at books about daddies to help them connect to today's Bible story.*

Blocks—

Blocks of different sizes and shapes for building and creative play. *Draw a simple face on several heavy, resealable plastic bags. Put a small amount of shaving cream in each bag and seal the bag securely. Let children "shave" the faces with blocks. Pretending to shave like daddy will help them relate to the Bible story "God Loves Daddies."*

Toys—

A variety of toys appropriate for two year olds to encourage play.

Home Living—

Several baby dolls, blankets, play food, pots and pans, and utensils for children to imitate what they see in real life. *Have children play with the dolls like daddies play with them. This play will reinforce the Bible story about Abraham becoming a daddy.*

When Teaching the Bible to Toddler/2s...

In today's Bible story, from Genesis 21:1-6, God made Abraham a father. Many young children enjoy the individual attention they get from special adults like daddies. Giving your individual attention to each child sometime during class is important. Welcome each child by name, and express how happy you are he or she is in your class.



Lesson 3 Focus: God loves daddies.

Bible Step

Talk Time

■ Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Photo Poster 3

Toddlers love to look at photographs that show children. Sharing what they know about daddies and children helps them connect to the Bible story “God Loves Daddies” from Genesis 21:1-6. Invite small groups (no more than four children) to the rug for Talk Time. Use this rhyme to help capture their attention.



Photo Poster 3

Clap, clap, clap.

Pat your knee.

Clap, clap, clap.

Look at me.

Show Photo Poster 3. Who can find the little boy in this picture? Have a child point to the child. Who can find the daddy? Have each child point to the daddy. What are some things you do with your daddy? (Children may talk about playing, reading, chasing, hugging, and so forth.) Encourage each child to share about daddies.

Be sure to give opportunities for children with one word answers to participate too. **Today we are going to learn that God loves daddies.**

Bible Story Time

■ Genesis 21:1-6

Toddlers and two year olds recognize daddies as someone who cares for them. Today’s Bible story teaches them that God loves another important family member—a daddy. Have your Bible open to Genesis 21. **Our story today is from God’s special book, the Bible. Abraham’s story is in the Bible. Abraham might tell his story like this:**



Story Questions

Ask the following questions to review the Bible story:

1. Who was a daddy?
(Abraham)

2. Who loves daddies?
(God)

My name is Abraham.

I wanted to be a daddy. But it took a long, long time.

(Open arms wide.)

God promised that I would be a daddy.

(Point up.)

God kept this promise.

God gave me a baby. The baby was Isaac.

(Pretend to rock a baby.)

Now I was a daddy. God loved me.

God loves daddies.

(Stretch out arms and then hug yourselves.)

Repeat the Bible story to help the children learn and remember. You can also read this story from *The Toddler’s Bible* (on the CD in your CTA packet.)



Bible Review Step

Bible Story Review Time

- Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Story Figures 2, 4, Story Card 3, Story Mat

Touching and moving things are good ways for toddlers to learn. Encourage the children to handle the figures of Isaac (Figure 2) and Abraham (Figure 4) as they help you retell the Bible story.

Anytime after you have done the Bible Step, you can do the Bible Review Step. Either stay together with the small group you have already gathered or visit children at different activities and tell the Bible Review story.



Punch out any new figures for the lesson and Story Card 3.

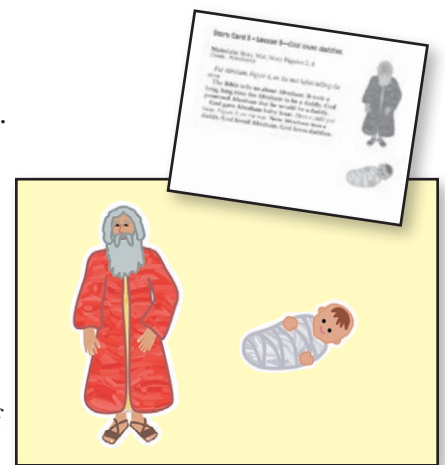
Lay the story card next to the story mat.

Have a child put Abraham (Figure 4) on the mat before telling the story.

The Bible tells us about Abraham. It took a long, long time for Abraham to be a daddy. God promised Abraham that he would be a daddy.

God gave Abraham baby Isaac. Have a child put Isaac (Figure 2) on the mat. Now Abraham was a daddy. God loved Abraham. God loves daddies.

Toddlers and two year olds need to hear and do things more than one time. Be sure to repeat the Bible story with each group of children, no matter how small the groups are, until each child has moved a figure.



Story Mat with Story Figures 2, 4, and Story Card 3

Music Time

- Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—CD, CD player



Music filled with energy and action is perfect for toddlers. They learn the way they like best—using their whole bodies and lots of energy! This song reinforces the Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6 about when God made Abraham a daddy.

“THE FAMILY SONG”

The complete song is on the CD in the Creative Teaching Aids packet. The words and movements can be found on page 71 of this teacher’s guide.

Toddlers and two year olds love to repeat songs over and over. Repeat “THE FAMILY SONG” for the children to learn the song.



Lesson 3 Focus: God loves daddies.

Craft Step

Shaving Cream Prints

The process of doing a craft is one of the ways toddlers and two year olds learn. They discover how shaving cream works by experimenting with it.

Encourage each child to create more than one Shaving Cream Print as time allows. All the things your children create are treasures. You can send them all home.

Materials: Shaving cream

Dark construction paper

Paint shirts

Damp paper towels

Shower curtain

Optional: teacher's craft smock (an oversized man's short-sleeve shirt, a large apron, or a lab coat can work)

Before Class: Set up an area, on or near the table, where children can make their handprints on the paper. You may wish to put a shower curtain under the table to protect the flooring.



Craft Time:

Help each child put on a paint shirt before beginning the activity. You may wish to wear a craft smock to protect your clothes. **God loves daddies. Most daddies need to shave. Some daddies use shaving cream when they shave. We're going to use shaving cream.**

Spray a pile of shaving cream in front of each child. Let the children smear it around the table; spraying more shaving cream if needed. Have each child make a handprint on a piece of construction paper. Encourage them to make more than one print.

As the children work, talk about the Bible story from Genesis 21:1-6. **The Bible tells us about Abraham. God promised Abraham would be a daddy. God loves daddies.**

Let the children make more than one Shaving Cream Print.



Goodbye Time

As they leave, tell all the children, individually, you are glad they came. As you say goodbye, ask, **"Who loves daddies?"** Send each child home with his or her very own *Starting Steps*. One side connects each child's family to today's lesson; the other side includes a devotional, parenting tips, and an amusing anecdote.