





BIG IDEA

God takes care of our families.

THE BIBLE

Abraham Goes to Sacrifice Isaac:

Genesis 1 22:1-18

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Make a Shape
- **ACTIVITY** | Family Hike

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God takes care of our families.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Genesis 22:1-18
- **ACTIVITY** | Do you trust me?
- PRAYER

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Ram Craft
- MEMORY VERSE | Romans 8:28

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Family Charades
- **ACTIVITY** | Family Dinner







BIG IDEA

God takes care of our families.

THE BIBLE

Abraham Goes to Sacrifice Isaac:

Genesis 1 22:1-18

WELCOME TIME

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

ACTIVITY | Make a Shape

- Welcome back to church! In this series, we are learning about families. Let's play a game where we'll work together!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to work together to create the shape you call out. They can lay down, or just form themselves into that shape. Be prepared to give a lot of direction to the younger kids and have them hold hands to get into formation. For older kids, split them into teams and make it a race. Call out shapes such as . . .
 - A circle
 - A square
 - A star
 - A triangle
 - A line.
 - A blob
- What's hard about living with your family? What's fun about living with your family?

ACTIVITY | Family Hike

• Let's pretend we're a family going on a hike together. You can pretend to be a different family member, or you can be yourself. As we're pretending to hike around the room, let's look for different pretend sights and things we might see on a walk.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Gather the kids in a group and go on a pretend hike. As you're going around the room, ask the kids to imagine they're out in the woods or the mountains and looking for different sights. See how many things you can name together, such as deer, stream, sunset, trees, a bear, or flowers.
- We saw a lot of things on our pretend hike! We're going to hear a story about two members of a family who went on a hike and how God took care of them in a special way. God takes care of us too.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Wake Up" by Spring Harvest and, "Big Family of God" by Spring Harvest.

THE BIG IDEA | God takes care of our families.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
 - Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
 - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
 - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
 - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, ask someone to come up and read it.
- This week's Big Idea: God takes care of our families.

BIBLE STORY | Genesis 22:1-18

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- What hard thing did God ask Abraham to do? God asked Abraham to give up his son, Isaac.
 Remember, Isaac was the son God had promised to Abraham and Sarah. God had promised to make many people come from Abraham's family. Isaac was the way for God was going to do that.
- How do you think Abraham felt as he left on the hike up the mountain to obey God? He might
 have felt sad or nervous. But he trusted God and did what God asked him to do. He knew God
 would take care of them.
- Just before Abraham was going to give up his son, Isaac, God did something amazing to take care
 of them. What did God provide? He provided a ram in the bushes and told Abraham to sacrifice
 the ram instead.
- God's instructions didn't make a lot of sense, but Abraham still obeyed. Abraham showed his faith and God showed Abraham His faithfulness. God showed that He takes care of families.
- We may have things happen in our families that make us sad or nervous. We can trust that God is always taking care of our families.

ACTIVITY | Do You Trust Me?

Abraham trusted God even though he didn't fully understand what God was doing.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose a kid to come forward and be blindfolded. Tell them to open their hand because you're going to put something in it. Ask, "Do you trust me? What if I put a worm or something yucky in your hand?" Place a soft fluffy pom-pom or cotton ball in the kid's hand. You can do it with multiple kids at the same time.
- How did it feel to trust me when you had no idea what I was going to put in your hand?
- Abraham trusted God to take care of his family even when he didn't understand God's plan.

PRAYER

- Let's spend time talking with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank You for caring for our families. Help us trust you to take you to take care of our families. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!
- What did God ask Abraham to do? (Take Isaac up the mountain and give him up.)
- Did Abraham trust God to care for his family? (Yes.)
- Why didn't Abraham give up Isaac? (An angel told him to stop, then God provided a ram instead.)
- What promise did God make to Abraham on the mountain? (God would take care of Abraham's family.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids join you in a circle on the floor. Get out a big blanket or sheet. Point to one kid and blindfold them or lead them outside the room for a few seconds. Then choose another kid from the circle and have them hide under the blanket. When the first kid comes back, they will try to guess who is hiding within ten seconds. Play multiple rounds.
- Was it easy or hard to tell who was missing? In our story, Abraham and Isaac went up a mountain, and Abraham was going to come back alone, but something appeared from God so Abraham didn't have to sacrifice his son! God took care of Abraham's family. God can take care of our families.

ACTIVITY | Ram Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the Ram Craft printable onto cardstock. Have the kids color it and glue cotton balls onto their rams.
- In today's story, God took care of Abraham's family by providing a ram to take Isaac's place as a sacrifice. Just as God took care of Abraham's family, God wants to take care of our families too. We have to trust and obey Him like Abraham did when he went up the mountain with Isaac.
- Take your ram home to remind you of God taking care of Abraham's family.

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 8:28

• INSTRUCTIONS: Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on

how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

WE KNOW (point to your head)
THAT IN ALL THINGS (spread arms out in a big circle)
GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD (point to the sky, then give a thumbs up)
OF THOSE (hold your arms out in front of you, palms facing up)
WHO LOVE HIM (cross your arms over your chest in an X).

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them about how God took care of Abraham's family and He will do the same for their families.

ACTIVITY | Family Charades

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids take turns pretending to be different family members. Whisper a family member in the child's ear and have them act it out. Be ready to help the kids act out the roles, or even act out the roles yourself. You can use the following family member ideas: mom, dad, grandmother, grandfather, brother, sister, baby, family pet, cousin, aunt. Remember to include non-traditional family members as well, such as foster parents, step-families, and any other families in your group.
- All of our families might look different, and that's okay! The families in the Bible looked different too.
 Let's thank God for our families.

ACTIVITY | Family Dinner

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get some family figure toys like <u>these</u>, or the multi-ethnic family figures like <u>these</u>. Let the kids use the figures to act out a family having dinner. Encourage them to talk about what family dinner is like at their home. Remind them that all families are different, and that's okay.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.