Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School: Lessons for Preschool — Kindergarten

Lesson 2.03: GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM — Gen. 12:1-9, Gen. 13:14-18, Gen. 15:1-6

TEACHER PREPARATION

Read over Genesis 12:1-9, 13:14-18, 15:1-6.

WORSHIP CIRCLE

STORY AND DISCUSSION

Long ago there lived a man named Abram, who lived with his family in a place called Haran. One day the Lord told Abram to leave the country that he was living in and go to a new land, which the Lord would give to him. The Lord promised that Abram and his family would become a very great nation in the new land, and that He would take care of them.

Abram was a good man, and wanted to do what the Lord said. So he packed up all of his things, and took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and his servants, and started out on his journey. Whenever they stopped to camp for a while, they set up an altar and worshipped the Lord.

After many days they came to the land that the Lord would give to Abram. The land was called Canaan. The Lord told Abram to look all around him, and said: "All the land which you see I give to you and your descendants". Do you know what descendants are? "Descendants" means children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Now, Abram didn't have any children yet, but the Lord said to Abram that someday he would have many, many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren — as many as there are pieces of dust on the earth! How many pieces of dust so you think there are on the earth? More than we could ever count! That sure is a lot!

So Abram set up his tents in Canaan, and lived there. But, as time went on, Abram and his wife Sarai still had no children. Abram began to wonder if it was really true that he would have many, many descendants.

Then one day the Lord came and spoke to Abram, saying that He would always take care of him. Abram asked the Lord, How can it be that I will have many descendants, when I don't even have a child yet?

Then the Lord said his promise to Abram again. He took Abram outside and said: "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them... So shall your descendants be". The Lord *promised* that Abram would have as many children, grandchildren, and great—grandchildren as there are stars in the sky. How many stars are in the sky? LOTS! And Abram believed the Lord's promise.

The Lord promises us many things, like if we follow Him we can be happy forever in heaven. And whatever the Lord tells us, we can believe, because *everything* that the Lord says is *true*!

RECITATION

Now let's say something from this story in the Lord's Word. Repeat after me:

Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

PROJECT

Give each child the picture of Abram looking up at the night sky. Explain what scene the picture is about. Remind them of the Lord's promises about the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.

Have them stick many stars in the sky. Have them take a brown crayon and "dot" many dots on the ground to represent the dust of the earth. They can also color Abram.

EXTRA ACTIVITY (if there is time left)

Bring a blanket (or two) and drape it over chairs to make a tent. Explain that in those days people lived in tents, so when they needed to move to a new land, they could pack up their tent and take it with them.

Now have everyone imagine that they are Abram and his family. The Lord appears to Abram! What does He tell Abram to do? (To move to a new land.) Have the children all together pack up the "tent" by taking the blanket off the chairs. Have them "travel" to the "new land" (another set of chairs) and set up the tent. Let them sit in the tent if they would like. Have them pretend to set up an altar and worship the Lord, because that is what Abram did when he got to the new land.

Say to them "Now Abram and his family are in the land of Canaan. What does the Lord promise to Abram?"

- That this land would be given to him and his descendants.
- ◆ That he would have many, many descendants, as many as the stars of the sky and the dust of the earth.)

God's Covenant with Abram

