



LESSON 2

ISAAC AND REBEKAH

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Faithful

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 24

GOD'S BIG STORY: Abraham's servant travels to find a wife for Abraham's son Isaac. God provides a bride, Rebekah, and proves faithful in keeping His promises.

WORD OF WONDER: So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love. —Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Welcome Question: When did you wait a long time for something, and it turned out to be worth the wait?
- Curiosity Questions
- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Word of Wonder: Deuteronomy 7:9
- Word of Wonder Activity
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: Journey of Faithfulness



[Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Faithful

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 24

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

I often read the Bible and wonder how people could mistrust God. He spoke directly to you! You heard Him with your own ears. How could you not trust that He will do what He said?

But I look back at my own life and realize that even if I heard God's audible voice, I would still struggle to trust. It is who we are. God shows up in smoke and fire and a booming voice, and the next day we wonder if it really happened. The enemy continues trying to persuade us to mistrust—did God really say that?

When have you struggled to trust Him, despite God's past faithfulness to you?

The journey with Jesus isn't a sprint. Abraham had a long road with God—ups and downs, all caused by Abraham's unfaithfulness. But by the end of his life, Abraham seems to have finally realized that God is faithful and knows He will provide a wife for Isaac.

As I ponder this story, my prayer is that it won't take me until the end of my life to consistently put my faith in the Lord. May my trust overflow as I look back and see how God showed up. May I be able to remember that God is faithful.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

The “best servant” in Abraham’s house is likely the same head servant mentioned in Genesis 15:2. His name was Eliezer of Damascus. He oversaw all of Abraham’s possessions. Before Ishmael and Isaac were born, he was considered the heir of Abraham’s fortune and property.

WHAT?

Isaac has grown up. Abraham knows that part of God keeping His promise of having as many descendants as the stars means his son will need to marry. Abraham sends his servant to find a woman from Abraham’s home country for Isaac. His servant finds Rebekah, and she marries Isaac.

WHERE?

Abraham is living in Canaan, which is the land God promised to give him and his children (Genesis 17:8). It’s found in modern-day Lebanon, southern Syria, and Israel. Abraham’s servant travels to Abraham’s home country of Mesopotamia in the Euphrates Valley.

WHEN?

Abraham probably lived between 2100 to 1800 BC. Sarah had just died, and Abraham purchased from the Hittites a place to bury her (Genesis 23). The Hittites were a major power in the nineteenth century BC. Abraham died soon after Isaac was married, and he left everything to Isaac.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

Through Isaac, God’s promise to Abraham grows. Isaac and Rebekah have a son named Jacob, whom God blesses and calls *Israel*. Israel is the nation from whom the Messiah would be born. Israel’s Messiah—Jesus—fulfills the Abrahamic promise through which the blessings of God open to all nations.

Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

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WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

Pre-Service (15–20 min)

RESOURCES: [Coloring Page](#)

Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have play stations with various board games, activities, or use games from the extra Games & Activities Guide to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them!

Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

Allow quieter kids who don't engage with the board games to color. Involve them in the curiosity questions.

While kids are playing in their opening activity groups..

Pose the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

- **What do you think it means to be faithful?**
- **Who has been faithful in your life?**

Leader Tip: Before continuing, make sure kids understand what *faithful* means. God’s faithfulness refers to His never-ending love for us. He is trustworthy and always does what He says He will do. Consider leading kids in a chant before continuing, such as: “God is faithful! He does what He says He will do!”

Small Group Begins: Welcome Question 2–3 min

SUPPLIES: whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper; writing utensils

As kids arrive, invite them to write/draw the answer to the Welcome Question:

“When did you wait a long time for something, and it turned out to be worth the wait?” Set out sheets of paper and colored pencils.

Right at your service time, move into Small Group time by sharing your own answers and allowing kids to talk about their answers.

Small Group Discussion: Younger Kids 5–8 min

Invite kids to grab their Bibles, and help them find Genesis. Remind kids that the large numbers are chapter numbers, and small numbers are verse numbers. Explain to kids that the book of Genesis is in the Old Testament of the Bible. The book of Genesis tells us the true stories about how God made the world and began a relationship with humankind.

Read Genesis 24:1–4, 10–14, 47–51 from an NIV Bible.

- What did God promise to give Abraham?
- God makes and keeps promises. What do you think this shows us about Him?
- What did Abraham ask his servant to do?
- Why do you think Abraham sent his servant with 10 camels loaded with good things?
- What did Abraham's servant do while he was waiting at the well?
- Have you ever had to wait on God? What can you do while you are waiting on God?
- Where did you see God's faithfulness in today's part of God's big story? If needed, help kids recall details of today's story. Remind kids that faithfulness means God always does what He says He will do.
- Imagine you were Abraham's servant journeying across the desert on a camel to a strange land. What kinds of things would you wonder or worry about?

"In God's big story today, God revealed His faithfulness by bringing Abraham's servant to Rebekah and her family's home, where a place was prepared for him and his camels. Let's take some time today to recognize and pray about God's faithfulness in our own lives."

Prayer Time: Younger Kids

Encourage kids to sit together and share their prayers and praises. If possible, ask kids to share one way they have seen God's faithfulness this week. Next, ask kids to share one area where they are waiting on God's faithfulness. It may be difficult for kids to think of an example of faithfulness, so consider sharing an example from your week to help kids get started.

Leader Tip: Abraham's direction to his servant in Genesis 24:2 sounds strange to us. However, the servant put his hand under Abraham's thigh to symbolize the nature of his oath to Abraham (Genesis 24:2, 9). The intimate placement of the servant's hand may signify the oath's concern to ensure descendants for Abraham. Given this concern, the oath was likely understood as binding even if Abraham died.

Small Group Discussion: Older Kids 8–12 min

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Invite kids to grab their Bibles. Remind kids that the large numbers are chapter numbers, and small numbers are verse numbers. Explain to kids that the book of Genesis is in the Old Testament of the Bible. The book of Genesis tells us the true stories about how God made the world and began a relationship with humankind.

Give a brief overview of the history and context using the info on page 3 of this guide.

Select 3 volunteers to read today's Bible passage. Read Genesis 24:1–4, 10–14, 47–51.

- **Why did Abraham send his servant back to his home country?**
- **Why do you think Abraham's servant left on his journey with 10 camels and all kinds of good, expensive gifts?**
- **What did Abraham's servant do while he was waiting at the well?**
- **When you are waiting on God for answers, what do you typically do?**
- **What happened when the servant arrived at Rebekah's house? Do these events surprise you? Why or why not?**
- **Where in this story do you see God's faithfulness? Where in your life do you see God's faithfulness?**
 - **Where did you see God's faithfulness in today's part of God's big story? If needed, help kids recall details of today's story. Remind kids that faithfulness means God always does what He says He will do.**
 - **Imagine you were Abraham's servant journeying across the desert on a camel to a strange**
 - **land. What kinds of things would you wonder or worry about?**

"God is faithful! Yet, it can be difficult to understand just how God will do what He says He will do! Abraham's servant prayed as he waited on God, and God brought him right to Rebekah. Let's talk to God now and ask Him to help us see all the ways that He has been and always will be faithful!"

Prayer Time: Older Kids

Ask kids to think about one area in their lives where they have seen God's faithfulness. Next, ask kids if there is an area in which they are waiting to see God's faithfulness. Allow kids time to pray silently or encourage kids to find a partner and pray together.

Leader Tip: To help kids take their time in prayer, consider giving each kid one piece of hard candy. Challenge them not to chew their candy but to allow their candy to slowly dissolve in their mouths. Encourage them to pray until their candies have melted in their mouths. (Be aware of any food allergies or sensitivities among kids before handing out the candies!)

Older Kids – Notes Page

**Complete the Notes Page with kids. Helping them to fill out all of the spaces. This is an important way for parents to see what their kids are learning each way and have meaningful conversations at home!

WORD OF WONDER

So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love.

—Deuteronomy 7:9 (NirV)

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

"The Word of Wonder for the Faithful series is Deuteronomy 7:9. It reminds us that God is a faithful God who keeps His covenants and promises. In God's big story today, God showed His faithfulness by guiding Abraham's servant on his journey to Rebekah and keeping His promise of a great big family for Abraham. Let's read the Word of Wonder together!"

Have kids open their Bibles to Deuteronomy 7:9. Read the verse aloud once together as a group. Next, have kids close their eyes and imagine someone they personally know or a celebrity who is loud, commanding, and has a big personality. This may be a coach, teacher, or even a government leader. Ask for volunteers who would like to read this verse while impersonating their chosen person.

Gather kids to talk about these questions:

- **What can we learn about God's character from this verse?**
- **What is a covenant? How does it make you feel to know God keeps His covenant for all time to come?**

Leader Tip: If needed, remind kids that a covenant is an unbreakable promise.

Word of Wonder Activity

RESOURCES: [Word of Wonder Sheets NirV](#) (1 set per small group)

Ahead of time, print out the Word of Wonder Sheets NIV or NirV (one set per small group).

Read the verse together several times. Once kids have had a chance to repeat the Word of Wonder several times, remove the Word of Wonder Slide from view. Gather kids in a circle. Mix up and spread out the Word of Wonder Sheets on the floor. Challenge kids to put the verse in the correct order without using their hands. For an additional challenge, kids could put the verse in order without using their hands or communicating verbally.

Leader Tip: For Younger Kids. Number the pages 1–7 as a hint to help kids identify the correct order of the verse.

Know
therefore
that

Wonder Ink LESSON 2 WORD OF WONDER SHEETS NIRV

Large Group!

Responding in Worship: Journey of Faithfulness

SUPPLIES: large box, markers, 5-gallon plastic buckets (2), water, ladles (several), table, dessert-size paper plates (1 per kid), peel-and-stick gift bows (optional), plastic spoons (optional), plastic tarp (optional), tape (optional), real or plastic food (optional), tablecloth (optional)

RESOURCES: [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Make It Inclusive!

Be sensitive to any kids in your group who might be experiencing difficult circumstances over a prolonged period. Acknowledge their pain and assure them they are not alone. Remind kids God is always with them, and while they are waiting for things to change, encourage them to look for glimpses of God's faithfulness on their journey.

Ahead of time or while kids are engaged in their small groups, set up the following stations in your room for kids to engage in during their journey of faithfulness:

1. *Gifts of Gratitude:* Set out a large box, markers, and peel-and-stick gift bows (optional).
2. *Waiting Well:* Place two five-gallon buckets several feet apart from each other. Fill one bucket partially with water. Have ladles or plastic spoons available. Consider setting the buckets on a plastic tarp.
3. *Promise Prepared:* On a table, set out paper plates and markers. Consider making a display out of real or plastic food to serve as a focal point at this station. Cover the table with a tablecloth and place the food in the center.

Allergy Caution: This activity includes possible food allergens!

Kids will move about the room on a journey of God's faithfulness. Take kids to each of the three stations and explain what will happen at each station. Consider playing music from the [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#) during this response time.

"God is faithful! However, just as we saw in today's story, experiencing God's faithfulness can feel like a journey. Abraham loaded up his camels with expensive gifts because he expected God to be faithful. His servant didn't understand how God would provide, so he waited and prayed. God answered the servant's prayer in a big way and had a bride for Isaac all prepared.

Leader Tip: Depending on the number of kids in your space, you may choose to allow kids to pick their stations and move freely about the room, or you may wish to move as a group between stations. Make sure a leader is present at each station to fully explain its purpose and how kids should respond. Print copies of the Responding in Worship activity for each leader.

Lead kids to the first station: Gifts of Gratitude. **Abraham didn't know how God would provide a wife for his beloved son Isaac. What Abraham did know is that God had made a covenant and promised him a great big family. Abraham also knew that God is faithful and will do what He says He will do. Who remembers what Abraham and his servant did with the camels?** Allow time for kids to respond. **Yes! They loaded 10 camels up with gifts for his son's future wife. By sending gifts to someone he had never met, Abraham showed that he trusted God for what He had already promised, even though it hadn't happened yet!** Show kids the large box, markers, and, if you have them, the gift bows. **At this station, we will practice trusting God for promises that haven't been fulfilled yet, just like Abraham did. Let's decorate this box with words, pictures, and bows of gratitude to show God we trust Him with our future because He is faithful!** Allow kids two to three minutes to decorate the box. They can draw pictures of something they are trusting God for or decorate it like a fancy gift. Consider helping kids get started by sharing an example from your own life of something you are trusting God for.

Next, lead kids to the Waiting Well. **Have you ever had to wait on something?** Remind kids about today's Welcome Question. **God is faithful, but everyone, including Abraham and his servant, waits on God's timing. Who remembers what Abraham's servant did while he waited at the well?** Allow kids to respond. **Yes! He prayed! When you are waiting on God, it's important to pray. Take a moment to think about how you are waiting on God for an answer. Where do you need to see God's faithfulness? When you are ready, come up to our well (point to the bucket) and use a ladle to move some water from one bucket to the other. As you do, ask God to strengthen you while you are praying and waiting to see God's faithfulness.**

Instead of ladles, you may want to have kids transfer water with plastic spoons, allowing them multiple opportunities to pray and transfer water from one bucket to the other. If you choose to use the Well Sheet, consider allowing kids to place their hands on the picture of the well as they pray.

Last, lead kids to the Promise Prepared station. Have kids gather at the table. **When Abraham's servant arrived in Abraham's home country, he was amazed to discover that God had a bride planned for Isaac, a house prepared for him, and even a place for the camels. What God had promised Abraham years ago was prepared and waiting for Abraham's servant to receive. God did what He said He would do!** Show kids the paper plates and markers. **Let's take time to remember and thank God for how He has prepared, provided, and revealed His faithfulness to us!** Allow kids time to write or draw on the paper plates specific areas where they have already experienced God's faithfulness. If needed, help kids think through their life's story. What blessing have they experienced from God?

Leader Tip: For Older Kids. Abraham's servant told Laban and his family all the ways God had guided his journey to find Rebekah for his master. Consider providing paper and markers, allowing older kids to journal their own journey of where and how God has shown Himself to be faithful in their lives. Encourage kids to write down as many details as possible!