



**BIBLE READING FOR
REASONING LESSON PLANS**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

~ PSALM 119:105 ~

GENESIS 3

Time: 45 minutes

Student Reading: Genesis 13:1-18

Teacher Reading: Genesis 14:12-24

Review: A divine calling requires the individual to walk by faith and not by sight.

Principle: Without faith, it is impossible to please God.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

faith (n.) 1) In theology, the assent of the mind to the truth of what God has revealed. 2) The virtue of secure belief in God and a trusting acceptance of His will. 3) Belief that does not rest on logical proof or material evidence.

greed (n.) Insatiable desire for more material wealth than one needs.

justify (v.) 1) To prove or show to be just. 2) In theology, to pardon and clear from guilt and punishment and to accept as righteous on account of the merits of the Savior.

righteousness (n.) 1) Purity of heart and rectitude of life; conformity of heart and life to the divine law. 2) being in right standing with God.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. For this lesson, read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Make certain that you understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, the principle, and teacher background information.

Principle: Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Like Noah (whom we studied in our first Genesis unit), Abram is one of the great Old Testament “heroes of faith” who is mentioned in the New Testament letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 11:8-19). He was a man of noble character who trusted that what God had promised He would

STUDENT



Key Word:

faith (n.) The substance of things hope for, the evidence of things not see (Hebrews 11:1).



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Define “faith” in your own words.
2. What does the Scripture mean by “without faith it is impossible to please God”?
3. Explain what one must do in order to please God.
4. Relate what Abram did to please God.
5. How did God reward Abram for his obedience?
6. Describe how you have been challenged to walk with Christ by faith. Explain your response to this challenge.

perform. God credited Abraham's belief in the Lord and obedience to His word to him as righteousness (Genesis 15:6).

Hebrews 11:6, 8: "Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him ...By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going."

2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

Habakkuk 2:4: "The righteous will live by his faith."

- A. Abram had spiritual ears to hear the voice of God. He sought God's counsel and listened for God's guidance. He is one of the great faith heroes because he lived at a time before God had given the Law to Moses and certainly before the day of Pentecost, when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to dwell within the believer. Today we have these two divine gifts to help us in our walk with the Lord—the Spirit of God within and His written Word, the Bible, to read and meditate upon.
- B. Abram heard God's call to leave all that was familiar and journey to an unknown land to live among unknown people. Long before he and Sarai had any children, God told him that he would be the father of a mighty nation. God also told Abram that in him all the nations of the world would be blessed. There was no physical evidence to give substance to what God said to Abram. However, Abram put his trust in God's promise and acted upon it. This is faith in action and is pleasing in the sight of God.

While Abram and Lot sojourned in Egypt, they accumulated great wealth in livestock, gold, and silver (Genesis 13:2). After the famine they returned to Bethel and found that there was not enough land to support all of their livestock. This caused strife between their herdsmen, which Abram did not want. He proved to be most gracious and generous by offering Lot his choice of land upon which to dwell. Abram was Lot's elder, but he insisted that Lot choose first. Lot chose the beautiful, well-watered (irrigated) Jordan River Valley, which left the rocky hill country for Abram. Lot settled in the valley city of Sodom and Abram in the land of Canaan at Hebron (22 miles south of present day Jerusalem). It was near the oaks of Mamre that he built another altar.

- A. This is another powerful principle worthy of reflection. God provided great material wealth to both Abram and Lot. God's provision inspired Abram to be generous and open-hearted with Lot and his family, a liberality God poured back into Abram's life. Lot had the same opportunity but revealed his heart condition through greed rather than generosity and honor toward his elder. We will later learn that Lot lost all that he had in Sodom.

7. Compare the heart attitudes of Abram and his nephew Lot from your reading.
8. Who was Melchizedek? Why do we call him a "type" of Jesus Christ?
9. What did Melchizedek provide Abram?



Notebook Record:

1. Label the following cities on your Land of the Patriarchs map:
 - Hebron
 - Salem
 - Sodom
2. Complete your map study by outlining the bodies of water and land regions with your colored pencils.



Memory Verse:

Without faith it is impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11:6a)



Take Blessing and Prayer Cards home to parents.

Luke 6:38: *“Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you.”*

- B. God reaffirmed His promise to Abram in Hebron, telling him that He was giving all the land that Abram could see to his descendants forever (Genesis 13:15). Abram was the first person to be referred to as a Hebrew (Genesis 14:13). The soon-to-be nation of Israel was birthed in faith by Abram and would be sustained by faith through his descendants. Abram exemplifies the life of faith by which believers appropriate all the benefits of divine grace. He was justified by faith, and it was counted to him as righteousness (Genesis 15:6) in the same way that we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ and are saved.

Romans 10:10: “For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”

Galatians 2:16: “Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified .”

Galatians 3:24: “Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.”

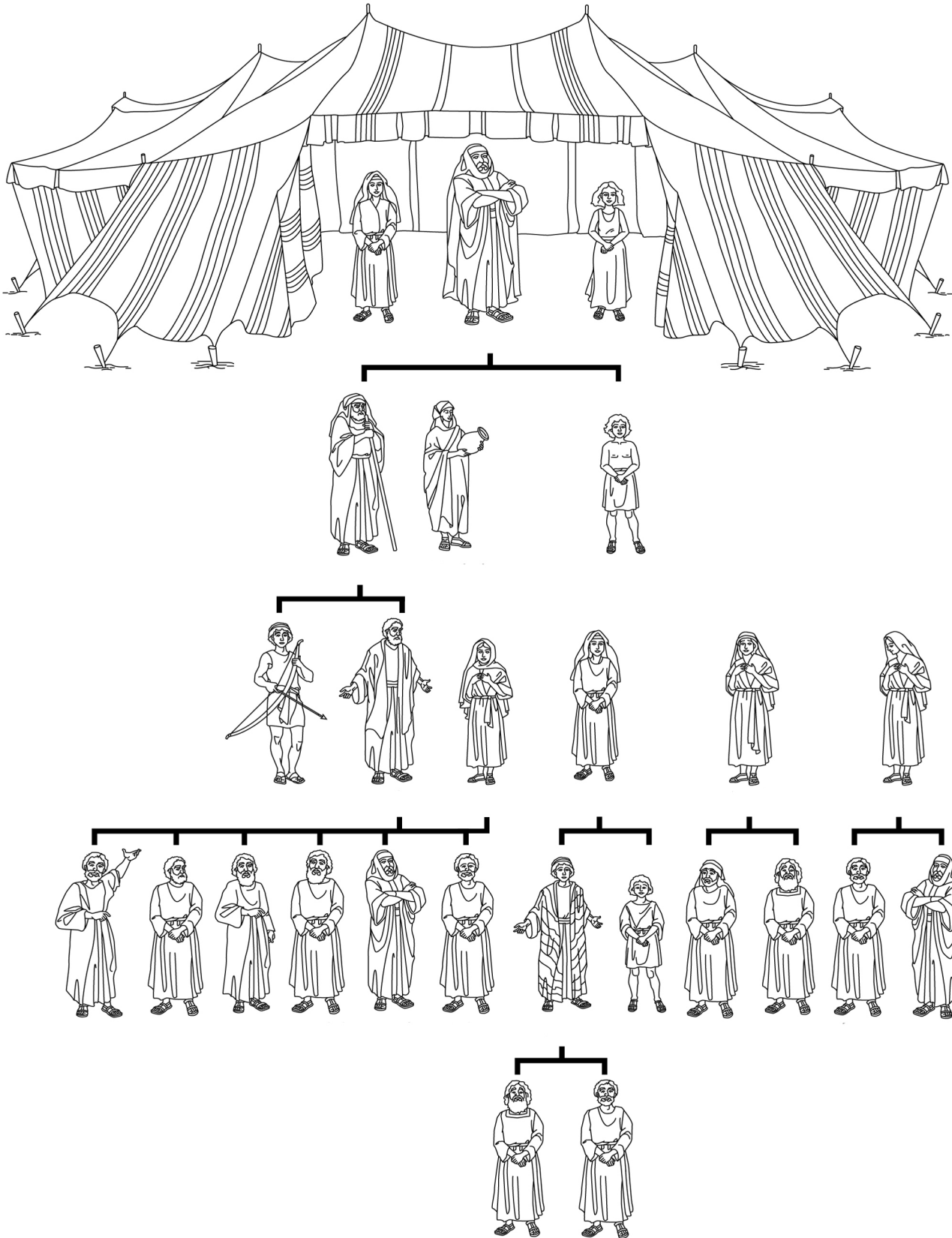
In our second reading Abram meets Melchizedek, the king-priest of Salem, which means “peace.” This is the first mention of either priest or peace in the Bible. Melchizedek’s name means “righteousness,” and he is a type or foreshadowing of Jesus Christ, the King of kings, the high priest of heaven, and the Prince of peace.

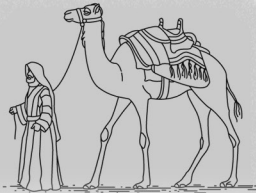
Psalms 110:1-6: “The LORD says to my Lord: ‘Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.’ The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, saying, ‘Rule in the midst of Your enemies.’... The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.’ The LORD is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath. He will judge among the nations.”

- A. Melchizedek was king of a group of people in Salem (later renamed “Jerusalem”), who knew and worshiped the true Creator-God. His priesthood was of an eternal order, unlike the later Levitical priesthood. Melchizedek celebrated Abram’s victory over his enemies by offering him bread and wine and blessing him. Up to this point in Abram’s life God had promised to bless him. Now, through Melchizedek the king-priest, Abram received God’s blessing (Genesis 14:19).

Hebrews 7:1-3: “For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also

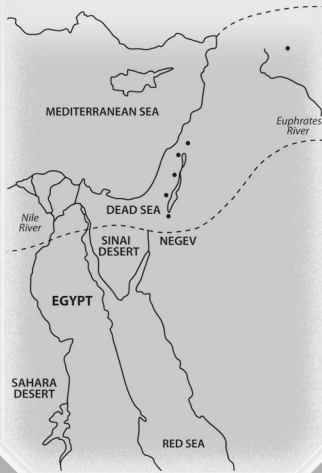
Patriarchs' Family Lineage





ABRAM
BELIEVED
IN THE LORD,
AND HE
COUNTED IT
TO HIM AS
RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Genesis 15:6



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