

2

Through the Covenant

OVERVIEW

Preparing the Teacher

When God established His covenant with Abraham, He promised that all people groups throughout the earth would be blessed in Abraham (**Gen. 12:3**). Thousands of years later, it was through Abraham's line—the people of Israel—that God sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world. This was a foundational promise of blessing because it is through Christ that Jews and Gentiles may become heirs to “all spiritual blessings” (**Eph. 1:3**). Though Abraham failed God numerous times, he ultimately became the father of the faithful by having faith, trusting God, and acting in unquestioning loyalty to God. Abraham’s faith passed some rigorous tests—he followed when the final destination was unknown; he believed promises when there was no visible evidence to confirm them; he sacrificed the greatest earthly joys for the will of God. As you prepare your heart to teach this unit, meditate on **Galatians 3:6–14** and **Hebrews 11:8–19**. Thank God for His faithfulness to His covenant down through the ages. Pray that you and your students will believe God’s Word, praise Him throughout the day, rest in His promises, and obey His commands.

Preparing the Materials

- 22—Handful of sand (or salt or sugar) [O]
- 23—Map of Pakistan [O]
- 25—Bible concordance
- 35—Bible dictionaries and baby name books [O]

Unit 2 Through the Covenant

Theme, Memory Verse, and Principle	Lesson Number	TE Page	Worktext Page(s)	Lesson Title	Scripture or Focus	Connections
Unit 2a Friend of God Hebrews 11:8 <i>Faith obeys God.</i>	21	46	30–33	Disobedience Brings Dishonor	Genesis 12	
	22	49	34–35	At Peace with God's Promise	Genesis 13	
	23	51	36–37	Faithful Follower: Henry Holland	Biography	
	24	53	38–39	Plans and Promises	Application Story	
	25	55		Unit 2a Activity		
Unit 2b Father of the Faithful Hebrews 11:9–10 <i>By faith in God's promises Christians live in the light of eternity.</i>	26	56	286, 40–41	To God Be the Glory	Genesis 14	Geography
	27	58	42, 300	Hero of the Faith: Polycarp	Biography	Timeline: Polycarp
	28	60	43–44	All on the Altar	Genesis 22:1–18	Timeline: Abraham and Isaac
	29	63	45–46	The Sacrifice of Obedience	Application Story	
	30	65		Unit 2b Activity	Review	
Unit 2c Family of Promise Hebrews 11:11–12 <i>God keeps His promises and wants His children to trust Him.</i>	31	66	47–48	God's Guidelines and Guidance	Genesis 24	English
	32	69	49	Faithful Followers: Dick and Margaret Hillis	Biography	
	33	70	50–51	Bible Study: The Life of Jacob	Genesis 25–32	Timeline: Jacob
	34	71	52–53	God Provides	Application Story	Math
	35	75		Unit 2c Activity		
Unit 2d God's Framework Hebrews 11:13–14 <i>Those who place their faith in God seek eternal things.</i>	36	76	54	Faithful Follower: J. C. Penney	Biography	
	37	78	55–56	Despised but Faithful	Genesis 37, 39–40	Timeline: Joseph
	38	80	57–58	God's Plan Unfolded	Genesis 41–43:18	
	39	83	59–60	True Love	Genesis 43:19–50:26	Old Testament
	40	85		Unit 2d Activity	Review	

Bible Doctrines	Skills/Applications
<p>The Doctrine of God</p> <p><i>Attributes of God</i></p> <p>God is everywhere (omnipresent) (Ps. 139:7–10).</p> <p>God is all-knowing (omniscient) (Job 42:2).</p> <p>God is all-powerful (omnipotent) (Jer. 32:27).</p> <p>God is unchanging (immutable) (James 1:17).</p> <p>God is faithful (1 Cor. 1:9).</p> <p>God is righteous (Ps. 116:5).</p> <p>God is merciful (Ps. 86:15).</p>	<p>Foundational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realize that God can and will keep His promises • Realize that each Christian should live in the light of eternity • Realize that Christians should live for God and seek heavenly joy, not earthly happiness • Know that God is faithful
<p>The Doctrine of Man</p> <p><i>Original State of Man</i></p> <p>God created humans for His glory (Isa. 43:7).</p> <p><i>Fall of Man</i></p> <p>Obedience to God was the principle violated in the Fall (Gen. 3:2–5).</p>	<p>Practical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a concordance • Sequence events • Recall facts and details • Read a map • Read a timeline • Locate information in the Bible • Interpret the meaning of Scripture • Identify godly characteristics • Complete a Bible study • Identify similes • Develop an appreciation of art <p>Personal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obey God completely and willingly • Develop God's view of happiness • Develop God's view of jealousy • Develop God's view of honesty • Be content with the material things that God has given • Focus on pleasing God, not other people • Choose to tell the whole truth • Develop the Bible reading habit • Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

Friend of God

Unit 2a

PREVIEW

Doctrines

- 21: God is faithful (1 Cor. 1:9).
- 22: God is unchanging (immutable) (James 1:17).

Skills and Applications

- Learn Hebrews 11:8
- Develop the Bible reading habit
- Obey God completely and willingly
- Locate information in the Bible
- Develop God's view of happiness
- Realize that God keeps His promises
- Read a map
- Sequence events
- Interpret the meaning of Scripture
- Be content with what God has given
- Use a concordance
- Recall facts and details
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON 21 Disobedience Brings Dishonor

Materials

- Charts 1 and 28 ("The Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T." and "The Ancient World")

Music

Choose a unit song. Some songs that correlate with this unit's theme include "Be Strong in the Lord," "I Just Keep Trusting My Lord," "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus," "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus," and "Be Still, My Soul."

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:8

Principle: Faith obeys God. Read aloud Hebrews 11:8 as the students read silently. Direct the students to mark the location with their Unit 2 bookmarks and to highlight the verse in their Bibles (optional).

Engage the students in a discussion about what this verse means.

- **What was the timing of God's command?** God started dealing with Abram while he was still living in Ur near the Euphrates River.
- **How was God's command for Abram to leave Ur preparation for God's overarching plan?** God was going to give Abram the land of Canaan, where he would have a child, Isaac. It would be through Isaac that Abram would become the father of the nation of Israel.
- **Why might it have been difficult for Abram to obey God?** Possible answers: He might not have had enough provisions; it was a long, hard trip; it was dangerous to travel across the desert; he might not have wanted to leave his family and friends; and he lacked any guarantee of fulfillment apart from the character and word of God.
- **Does God allow us to know every detail before we obey Him?** no

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Name Changes

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, God changed his name to Abraham, which means “father of many nations” (**Gen. 17:5**). At the same time God changed Sarai’s name to Sarah meaning “princess” (**Gen. 17:16**). It was then that God promised Abraham that Sarah would have a son.

Abram and Sarai’s Relationship

Abram and Sarai were related before marriage; they both had the same father but different mothers. Their marriage relationship was acceptable in that time because marrying a close relative was not forbidden until the Mosaic law (**Lev. 20:17**). Due to fear of death, Abram asked Sarai to claim their previous relationship above their present marital relationship. Wherever they went, Sarai was to say that she was Abram’s sister (**Gen. 20:12–13**). This was only part of the truth and was an attempt to deceive.

Marriage Customs

As a brother, Abram would have been the one to make a marriage agreement for Sarai. Pharaoh would have wanted to please Abram with gifts before proposing any possible marriage arrangement.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss the meaning of *covenant*.

- **What is a covenant? a solemn promise or agreement between two or more persons in which duties and promises are established with an oath**

Explain that a divine covenant is an agreement between God and an individual or group. God sets the terms, and He always lives up to them.

- ❖ **Do people always live up to their agreements with God?**
Why? No. We often go our own way instead of God’s way.

Remind the students that God established a covenant with Abraham (Abram)—the man He chose to be the father of His people. God kept His part of the covenant by blessing Abraham and preserving his descendants and land. Abraham kept his part of the covenant by obeying God. In **Genesis 17:8** God states the most important aspect of the covenant, “I will be their God.”

Teach for Understanding

Read **Genesis 12** or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **How would you describe Abram? obedient and disobedient, diligent, fearful, dishonest** Display Chart 28 (“The Ancient World”), pointing out the location of the italicized places as you read the account (optional).

Disobedience Brings Dishonor

God told Abram to leave his land, his relatives, and his father’s house. He made a covenant with Abram, promising to make of him a great nation and to make his name great. God told Abram that he would be a blessing because God would bless the families of the whole earth through

him. God gave another promise of blessing: He would bless those who blessed Abram and curse those who cursed him.

Abram obeyed God and left *Haran* when he was seventy-five years old. He traveled through *Canaan* as far as *Shechem* with his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his possessions. The Lord appeared to Abram and promised to give the land to Abram’s descendants. Abram built an altar to the Lord and traveled on to a mountain to the east of *Bethel* to set up his tent. Abram built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord.

Because there was a famine in Canaan, Abram traveled south to *Egypt*. Abram knew that his wife was beautiful and thought that the Egyptians would kill him so that one of them could marry his wife. Therefore, he told Sarai to tell the Egyptians that she was his sister instead of his wife.

Share the background information about Abram and Sarai’s relationship.

Abram and Sarai, along with all their servants and belongings, entered Egypt. The Egyptians saw that Sarai was beautiful, and the rulers who served Pharaoh told him about Abram’s “sister.” Pharaoh took Sarai into his palace and treated Abram royally. He gave Abram gifts of many animals and servants.

Share the background information about marriage customs.

But the Lord sent terrible plagues on Pharaoh and the people in his house because of this lie. Pharaoh went to Abram and asked, “Why didn’t you tell me that she was your wife?” Pharaoh commanded his men to send Abram and Sarai and all their belongings out of Egypt.



- ❖ **What two evidences are there that Abram was not trusting God’s promise of future blessings? He left the Promised Land to go to Egypt because of the famine, and he told the lie that Sarai was his sister because he was afraid of death.**
- ❖ **Why do you think it was easier for Abram to move his whole household to a land God was going to show him than it was for him to trust God for safety when he went to Egypt? Answers will vary.** Encourage the students to trust God in every stage of obedience. God is God all the time in every place.
- **How would you describe Abram? obedient and disobedient, diligent, fearful, dishonest**
- ❖ **What can we learn from the timeline of Abram’s past victory and then his failure? We cannot count on past victories for repeated victory because we are always prone to sin. We must depend on God every minute.**
- ❖ **If you had been with Abram in Canaan during that famine, what would you have encouraged Abram to do?**
- ❖ **What Bible verse or principle could you have encouraged him with?**

Get the Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T.

Name _____



Have a special time set aside each day to read your Bible. If possible, make it the same time every day.

As God to teach you from His Word. Remember to thank Him for helping you to understand and apply it.

Be still and pay attention to what you are reading.

Investigate the Scripture by asking yourself questions about it.

Take time to look up words and ideas you do not understand.

After you read the Scripture for each day, write the date in the box.

Abraham was justified by his faith, not his works.	Abraham is the father of all who believe.	Abraham believed God's promises, which are based on grace.	Abraham's faith in God's promises never wavered but grew stronger.	People are counted righteous if they have faith in Christ.
Romans 4:1–10	Romans 4:11–12	Romans 4:13–18	Romans 4:19–21	Romans 4:22–25
Those who are justified by faith are Abraham's spiritual descendants.	Those who are justified by faith are God's children.	Melchizedek, as a type of Christ, has many companions with Christ.	Christ learned obedience by suffering, and God exalted Him.	Abraham offered Isaac, believing God could raise him from the dead.
Galatians 3:6–9	Galatians 3:26–29	Hebrews 7:1–3	Hebrews 5:5–10	Hebrews 11:17–19
Christians should diligently serve each other in love.	God's promises are sure; He cannot lie.	The hope Christians have in Christ is a sure promise to anchor their souls.	God chose Jacob over Esau because of His mercy.	Don't let bitterness rob you of God's blessing.
Hebrews 6:10–12	Hebrews 6:13–18	Hebrews 6:19–20	Romans 9:10–16	Hebrews 12:14–17
God is faithful to deliver humble Christians from temptation.	Christians glorify God when they suffer patiently for doing right.	Christ is our example of patient suffering for the good of others.	Joseph prospered in Egypt because God was with him.	Christians must not be bitter, but kind and forgiving to others.
1 Corinthians 10:12–13	1 Peter 2:18–20	1 Peter 2:21–25	Acts 7:9–10	Ephesians 4:30–32

30 Lesson 21

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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Bible Study Methods

Synthetic

Name _____



The *synthetic* (put together) or survey method of Bible study provides a "bird's eye view" of Scripture much like an aerial view. Specific books or passages are considered in light of the overall teaching of the Bible. For example, the Bible as a whole teaches

that God has always worked to bring people into right fellowship with Himself. This type of Bible study points to the consistency and timelessness of God's Word. Some useful tools for synthetic study are cross-references, commentaries, and parallel-passage Bibles.

Complete each sentence with a word from the word bank.

come nation riches Savior captivity rule slavery king salvation fail

1. The sin of the first people pointed to the need of a **Savior**.

2. God chose Abraham to establish a **nation** that would demonstrate His love and power.

3. God established His people in a land flowing with milk and honey after He delivered them out of **slavery**.

4. Because of their sin, God caused His people to go into periods of **captivity**.

5. God established a **king** from whose line the Savior would come.

6. God allowed His people to suffer captivity under foreign **rule** so that they would see their need of Him.

7. The Old Testament ended with the promise that a Savior would **come**.

8. God sent the promised Messiah. Trusting in Him is the only way to **salvation**.



Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 21 31

- If you had been with Abram when he was thinking about telling Pharaoh that Sarai was his sister, how would you have advised him?
- Is there a Bible verse or principle you would have encouraged him with?
- If you had a friend who was thinking about telling a lie, what Scripture would you help him with? **Prov. 3:3; 12:19; Col. 3:9**
- What do you think Abram's lie caused Pharaoh to think about God? **that God was not very powerful or important**
- Do you ever trust your own plan instead of God's plan?
- What is one thing Christians should always consider when choosing their actions? **Trusting God is the right choice all the time. There is never a time when disobedience is the right thing.**
- What do the consequences of Abram's lie show about God's view of honesty? **God is displeased with and punishes dishonesty (Prov. 18:6–7).**
- What does Proverbs 3:5–6 tell Christians they should do? **Christians should rely on God's wisdom instead of their own.**
- Read Proverbs 3:1–3. How do we know what God's wisdom is? **We find it in His Word.**
- Read Proverbs 3:4. What is the result of obeying God's wisdom? **God and others will look favorably on us.**

Worktext page 30

Develop the Bible reading habit. Encourage each student to develop the habit of reading his Bible. Display Chart 1 ("The Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T.") as a reminder to the students as they do their Bible reading (optional). (Note: You may choose to have students do their reading in the morning before class begins, during class, or at a time of their own choosing.)

Worktext page 31

Discuss Bible study methods. Explain to the students that throughout the year they will do Worktext pages to help them with methods of Bible study. Read the information about the synthetic (survey) method of Bible study. It is called synthetic (put together) because it looks at the whole picture (the result of being put together). Explain that the goal of the *BIBLE 6* curriculum is to teach them that redemption through Jesus Christ was God's grand design—not an afterthought by God to correct the judgment and destruction Adam brought down on the human race when he sinned. Throughout the year, students should be able to recognize this emphasis.

Worktext page 32

Recall details from the Bible account and learn about altars.

Broken Communication

Genesis 12

Name _____

A strong relationship takes truthful and constructive communication. Abram had to communicate with God on the basis of truth to stay in proper fellowship with Him.

Make an X in the box of each event that occurred at each place. You may use your Bible for help.

Locations	God spoke to Abram.	Abram built an altar to God.	Abram called on God.
Haran (Gen. 12:4)	X		
Shechem (Gen. 12:6-7)	X	X	
Bethel (Gen. 12:8)		X	X
Egypt (Gen. 12:10-13)			

Refer to the chart as you answer the questions.

- How did God communicate with Abram?
He spoke with him.
- What did Abram build as part of his communication with God?
altars
- Does it seem that Abram communicated with God as he traveled into Egypt?
no



Abram deceived Pharaoh about Sarai's being his wife. The Scriptures do not record Abram communicating with God until after he left Egypt.

Do you desire to read your Bible and pray when you are in sin?



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How is broken communication with God restored?

Answers may vary but should include asking forgiveness.



The word *altar*, from the Hebrew *mizbeah*, means "place of sacrifice." Though the sacrifice was often a slaughtered animal, our praise is also a sacrifice to God (Heb. 13:15). There are several reasons altars were used in worship to God. Noah built an altar to thank and praise God for bringing his family safely through the Flood. God established

the use of altars in the tabernacle and temple for atonement from sin. Isaac built an altar to show his trust in the promise that God had given to Abraham. Elijah used an altar to demonstrate God's power to the prophets of Baal. Altar sacrifices were no longer needed after Christ's crucifixion because His death and resurrection provided the final sacrifice for the sins of all people.

32 Lesson 21

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Famine, Lies, and Plagues

Genesis 12

Name _____

Number the events in order. The first one is done for you.

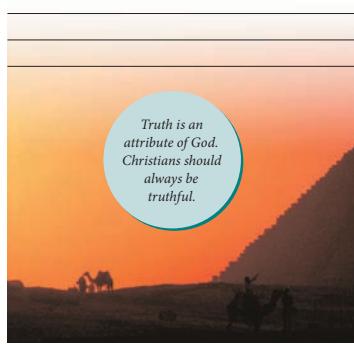
- 2** 1. Abram took his family into Egypt because there was a famine in the land.
5 2. God plagued Pharaoh and his family with troubles because of Abram's lie.
1 3. Abram was in Haran when God told him to move his family. God led Abram to Canaan.
7 4. Pharaoh commanded Abram to leave Egypt.
3 5. Abram told Sarai to say that she was his sister rather than his wife.
6 6. Pharaoh confronted Abram with his lie.
4 7. Pharaoh took Sarai into his household.

Write the letter of the reference that matches each statement. One statement does not have a match.

- B** 8. The most important aspect of wisdom is telling the truth.
B 9. Others should be able to learn truth about God by watching the lives of believers.
D 10. Something you get by lying does not bring much joy.
C 11. A liar can become snared or trapped in his lies.
A 12. Christ is the example of grace and truth to Christians.

- A. John 1:14
B. 1 Peter 2:12
C. Proverbs 12:13
D. Proverbs 20:17

Have you been caught in a lie? How were you able to work through the situation? Did you ask God for forgiveness and help? If not, trust Him to do it now.



Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 21 33

Worktext page 33

Sequence the events of the Bible account and interpret the meaning of Scripture.

LESSON 22 At Peace with God's Promise

Materials

- A handful of sand, salt, or sugar in a clear container [O]

Music

Review the song you have chosen for this unit and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:8

Practice the memory verse. Select a volunteer to read aloud Hebrews 11:8.

- What did Abram know about the land that God had chosen? **It was the land God had promised that he and his descendants would inherit.**
- What assurance did Abraham have that he would inherit that land? **God had promised it.**
- Did Abraham know what he would have to do to inherit the land? **no**
- If you had been Abraham, what do you think you would have done? **Answers will vary.**

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

The Negev

The Negev or Negeb (from the Hebrew word meaning "dry") is an arid section of southern Palestine between Debir and the Arabian Desert. The word *negev* also came to be used to designate the direction to the south in Israel (**Gen. 13:1**).

Perizzites

Apparently, the Perizzite people group was ethnically distinct from the Canaanites. The mention of them signifies how populated the land that God gave to Abram was.

Mamre

This was the name of an Amorite man and also the name of the grove of trees he owned in Hebron, about twenty-two miles south of Jerusalem.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss the number of Abraham's descendants. Show the sand, salt, or sugar.

- Have you ever tried to count the grains in a handful of sand, salt, or sugar?

Explain that counting a handful is nearly impossible, yet God promised Abraham that he would have as many descendants as there is sand on the seashore (**Gen. 22:17**)! There are about 20,000 to 160,000,000 grains in just one cup, depending on how coarse or fine the sand is. But the point is not the size of the

number but the theological truth that nothing could stand in the way of God's promise to give Abraham a land and descendants. Nothing can keep God from fulfilling His promises to you (except your own disobedience)!

Review Abram's route. Direct the students to look at the map on Worktext page 34. Using a red pencil, marker, or pen, they should draw in the route Abram may have taken from Haran to Shechem to Ai. The red line should then continue down into Egypt, where Abram took his family when the famine began.

Teach for Understanding

Read Genesis 13 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **What did Abram build? an altar** Direct the students to the map on Worktext page 34 and invite them to draw in Abram's route from Egypt back to Canaan as you read the account.

At Peace with God's Promise

As Abram and his family left Egypt, they traveled north to the Negev in the southern part of Palestine. They went as far as the place between Bethel and Ai where Abram had built an altar before, and there he called on the name of the Lord.

Share the background information about the Negev.

Abram was now very rich. He had many animals and lots of silver and gold. Lot also had many animals and tents. In addition to that, there were other people (such as the Canaanites and the Perizzites) who were already living in the land. This meant that there was not enough land for both men and their families to live together. As a result Abram's servants and Lot's servants often quarreled.

Abram, who was Lot's uncle, knew that relatives should live in harmony and that there shouldn't be any tension between them or between their herdsmen. Abram reminded Lot that there was plenty of land beyond where they were presently living and offered to let Lot choose where he wanted to settle. Whichever direction Lot chose, Abram would be content to live in the opposite region. Lot saw the entire area of the Jordan Valley, a rich, fertile land like the "garden of the Lord." Lot chose the land that looked best, and he and all his people and all his animals traveled toward the east. They settled near Sodom, a city of wicked, sinful people.

Abram stayed in Canaan, and the Lord told him to look in all directions—north, south, east, and west. He promised to give Abram and his descendants the entire land as far as Abram could see. God promised to give him many descendants. He told Abram that if anyone could count the number of dust particles on the earth, then Abram's seed could also be numbered.

Then God told Abram to get up and walk all around the land—its length and width—and promised to give it all to Abram and his descendants. Abram packed up his tent, traveled to the plain of Mamre in Hebron, and built another altar to the Lord.

Following God

Name _____

Complete each sentence about Abram's following God's leading. You may use your Bible for help.

1. In obedience to God's command, Abram left Haran (Gen. 12:4).
2. Abram, Sarai, and Lot traveled to the land of Canaan (Gen. 12:5).
3. At Shechem (Sichem), God promised the land to Abram and his descendants (Gen. 12:6–7).
4. Abram then went to a mountain between Bethel and Ai (Hai) (Gen. 12:8).
5. Though not directed by God, Abram continued traveling south and came to the land of Egypt (Gen. 12:10).
6. Abram, Sarai, and Lot returned to the place between Bethel and Ai (Hai) (Gen. 13:3).
7. Lot chose land in the plain of the Jordan River near Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 13:11–12).
8. Abram moved his tents to the plain of Mamre in Hebron (Gen. 13:18).



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There was not enough land for Abram and Lot to share to feed their flocks and herds. To avoid further strife between their herdsmen, Abram suggested that Lot choose the part of the land he wanted to live in.

Conflicts can not always be avoided. What can you learn from the example of Abram to help you avoid a continuing conflict with a friend or family member? (See Gen. 12:7.)

Answers may include believing God's word and acting accordingly.

34 Lesson 22

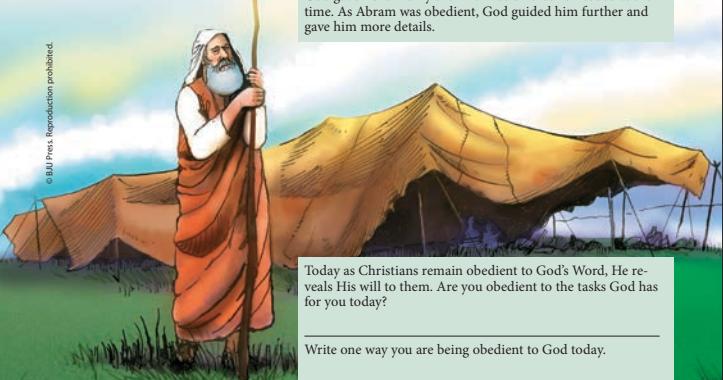
Redemption: God's Grand Design

- The land God promised Abram was already so populated that he and his relatives and their livestock could not live together. If you had been Abram, how would you have felt about God's promise of that land becoming yours? **Answers may vary, but emphasize that our emotions should be anchored to what God says. In Genesis 12:7, God promised that He was giving this land to Abram.**
- What does Abram's action of giving Lot his choice of any land indicate about Abram's faith in God? **Abram was content to trust God because He believed that God always fulfills His promises no matter how bleak the present situation looks (Prov. 14:11).**
- Why did Lot not choose the land he was currently living in? **It was not as good as the other land, and unlike Abram, he had no promise from God about his descendants' continued existence. His choice was selfish.**
- Why do you think Abram treated Lot in a kind, generous, and loving way? **Abram believed God's promise that the land would belong to his descendants.**
- What did Abram build? **an altar**
- Why do you think he built an altar? **to worship God**
- Read aloud Philippians 2:2–4. How did Abram treat Lot as this passage describes? **He gave Lot the first choice of land, and he seems to have had a righteous heart in doing it.**
- How consistently do you treat other Christians the way Philippians 2:2–4 says we should?

A Divine Covenant
Genesis 13:14–18
Choose words from this list to complete the sentences.
Name _____

cattle	land	see	
clouds	north		east
west	dust	more	

God promised that Abram would have . . .
all the land he could see to the north, south,
east, and west and more descendants than the
dust of the earth.


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Think About It
In Genesis 12, God told Abram to follow Him, and He would make of him a great nation. In Genesis 13, after Abram followed God's leading, God promised that Abram would have land and more descendants than could be numbered. God gave Abram only the information that he needed at the time. As Abram was obedient, God guided him further and gave him more details.

Today as Christians remain obedient to God's Word, He reveals His will to them. Are you obedient to the tasks God has for you today?

Write one way you are being obedient to God today.

Redemption: God's Grand Design
Lesson 22 35

- What promise has God given in Philippians 4:19 concerning provision for our needs? **God will supply all our needs.** Discuss the difference between needs and wants.

Worktext page 34

Direct the students to complete page 34. They should have already traced Abram's journeys on the map; now they can fill in the blanks about his actions. They should also answer the application question at the bottom of the page.

Worktext page 35

Review the covenant that God made with Abram.

LESSON 23

Faithful Follower: Henry Holland

Materials

- Chart 27 ("World Map")
- Map of Pakistan [O]

Music

Review the unit song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:8

Practice the memory verse. Select a volunteer to read the verse aloud. Ask for volunteers to recite the verse.

- What does this verse teach us about God's timing for giving a reward for obedience? **There is always an immediate result of our obedience (at least internally), but we may not realize a significant result for a long time.**
- What does this teach us about the reason for obedience? **We should not obey primarily because of what we get out of it but because God is the Lord.**
- Who are some of the people who encourage you the most to obey God?
- Who are some of the people who discourage you the most from obeying God?
- Read Proverbs 13:20. What effect do the people we spend time with have on us? **We become like them.**
- How have you encouraged others to obey God today?

Biographical Account

Introduce the Account

Discuss **Pakistan**. Display Chart 27 ("World Map") pointing out England and Pakistan. Tell the students that it is approximately four thousand miles (6,400 kilometers) from England to Pakistan.

- What countries border Pakistan? **Iran, Afghanistan, China, and India**
- What do you think people of Afghanistan are called? **Afghans**

Explain that Hinduism is the main religion in India, and it has spread throughout the world. Pakistan and Afghanistan are both Muslim countries that have Hindu minorities. There are different forms of Hinduism, but most Hindus believe in reincarnation and worship many gods. Henry Holland was a missionary in Pakistan. He served mainly in the city of Quetta (kwēt'ə) and the Hindu city of Shikarpur (shī kär'pūr). Point out these cities on a map of Pakistan (optional).

Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following account based on the life of Henry Holland. Listening question: **What can the world not give? the joy of serving the Lord**

What the World Cannot Give

Henry Holland was born in 1875 in a small village in England. Henry's father was the pastor of a church there and wanted his son to follow in his footsteps, but that was the last thing Henry wanted to do.

"I've seen too much of a pastor's life. . . . It's all giving and no getting," he said. Henry wanted to study medicine, so when he was old enough, his father arranged for him to attend the University of Edinburgh.

Many of Henry's classmates were studying to be missionary doctors. One of his friends invited him to go to a

meeting of a group of men who were planning to be medical missionaries.

"This world of ours has a terrible need for healing and for Christ," his friend told him.

One day Henry visited a friend's room and noticed a motto above the mantel: "Not for ours only."

"What does that mean?" Holland asked.

His friend answered, "It's from **1 John 2:2**, 'He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.'"

God used that verse to break Henry's stubborn will, and he committed himself to serving the Lord in medical missions. After he graduated from college, he applied to be assigned to a mission field. He was sent to the city of Quetta, near the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan. It was a barren region where dangerous, cruel tribesmen lived.

At first, he struggled with discouragement. He found Afghans lying in the streets, dying so fast that they could not be buried quickly enough. And he had only a small ramshackle building to use as a hospital. But the Afghans were also dying spiritually. "I don't understand," he said to his guide. "Why don't the people listen to the gospel?"

The guide replied, "No Afghan who has turned from Hinduism to Christianity has ever returned to his native country and lived. These people believe that killing a Christian assures them of eternal life."

Many missionaries and their converts were slaughtered in surrounding areas, but Henry Holland continued his work. His daily prayer was, "Lord, may I scorn the way of safety so that your will might be done."

Henry managed to build on to his dilapidated hospital, but one night an earthquake destroyed it. The earthquake killed twenty-four thousand of the sixty thousand people in Quetta. He traveled to England and told the people there about the need for a new hospital in Pakistan.

"If I am to minister to these dying people, I must have a suitable hospital to care for their needs."

People in England gave generously. Within a couple of months, Holland had enough money to go back to Quetta and build a well-equipped hospital with two hundred beds.

One of Henry's greatest medical skills was restoring sight to people who were blinded by cataracts. One day a wealthy banker told him, "I would like you to come to my city, Shikarpur, and perform surgeries."

"But Shikarpur is a Hindu city. It is not open to Christians," Henry protested.

"I promise that you will not be harmed. Please, will you come?"

Holland answered, "All right, but understand that I will also preach the gospel to the people."

Henry set up his practice on the banker's large property. He stayed for three weeks and performed four hundred operations.

When it was time for Holland to leave, his host said, "There are many in my city who need you. Will you come back next year—perhaps every year?"

"If you will build a hospital," Henry said. "But, remember, I will preach the gospel also."

What Does God Say About How to Be Happy?

Name _____



Everyone wants to be happy. People seek happiness in a variety of ways. Some people look for happiness in money, sports, or friendships. What about you?

List several things that make YOU happy.

Answers will vary.

Are you satisfied that God has given you everything you need? Are you thankful for what He has given you? If you are not, you may be falling for the false belief that getting more things will make you happy. This is called **materialism**. When you choose to have this attitude, you start focusing on trying to get more and more things to please yourself. However, it is always impossible to find happiness when you try to please yourself and not God. Most likely, you will become discouraged and depressed. God's Word warns you against believing that more things will make you happy.

Read the verses. Match the warning and key to happiness with the correct reference.

WARNINGS

A. Do not love money.

B. Say no to sin and ungodly choices.

C. Guard against becoming covetous or greedy.

D. Do not desire to be rich.

Verses

Luke 12:15

F

1 Timothy 6:8-9

G

1 Timothy 6:10-11

H

E

Titus 2:11-12

I

KEYS TO HAPPINESS

- E. Live a godly and righteous life while waiting for Christ's return.
- F. Be content with God's gracious provisions.
- G. Seek to develop godly characteristics in your life.
- H. Realize that a person's value does not come from what he owns.

Read Matthew 6:25, 28-33. Using these verses, complete the sentences to give advice to a friend who thinks that to be happy he must have the latest style of clothes or electronic devices.

Answers will vary.

1. Your life is more important than your belongings.
2. Do not worry about the clothes you wear or your body's needs.
3. God takes care of the grass and lilies, which do not last very long.
4. You are worth more than the grass or lilies.
5. Seek first God's kingdom.

36 Lesson 23

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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The next year, Shikarpur had a hospital. Dr. Holland returned and stayed for six weeks. How many surgeries do you think were performed? He oversaw twenty-five hundred operations, and the gospel was explained to *all* of the patients.

News of Holland's skill spread quickly. He began to receive offers from almost everywhere, including one from a doctor in the United States.

"Would you join my staff, Henry? It's the largest eye, ear, nose, and throat hospital in the USA."

"It's out of the question," Dr. Holland said.

"But I will pay you a very large salary," the doctor said.

"Your offer is beyond my highest expectations, but you can't put a price on a man's calling or his love for his people."

One of the happiest days in Henry's ministry was the day his hospital in Pakistan was administered completely by people from Pakistan. Whenever anyone asked Henry Holland why he chose to spend his life on a foreign mission field, he would respond, "I've received wages that the world could never give. I've seen souls changed for eternity, the sick healed, and the blind made to see. I am rich beyond degree."

Holland served the Lord faithfully for many years as a medical missionary. He turned his back on earthly riches, but he allowed God to use him to tell the gospel to others so they could receive the riches of Christ.

Something to Think About
How to Be Happy

Name _____

In their quest to be happy, many people make the wrong choices. Every time you make a decision, you have only two choices. It is simple. Either please God, or please your flesh.

Pleasing Your Flesh

Study the cycles and think about the cause and effect of each attitude. Use the cycles to complete the chart.

Situation	Attitude in the cycle	CAUSE of attitude	EFFECT of attitude	Choice pleases the flesh?	Choice pleases God?
Parker is not thankful for the allowance he receives.	Ungrateful	Pleasing the flesh	Discontent	✓	
Keiko shares her candy with her younger brother and sister.	Generous	Content	Happy		✓
Mai wants to impress her friends by having lots of shoes.	Greedy	Discontent	Depressed	✓	
J.R. appreciates his new soccer ball given to him although it was not the one he had wanted.	Grateful	Pleasing God	Content		✓

What About Me?

Take time at home to think about your attitude toward material things. Carefully consider the following questions.

Am I grateful for what God has provided for me?
Am I fully satisfied and content with what I have?
Am I generous to those around me?
Do I believe that my worth does not come from what I own?
Do I encourage my friends to be content with what they have?
Do I express my gratitude to my parents for what they do for me?

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 23

37

- Why did Henry not want to serve God when he first went to the university? **He was very selfish. He thought the ministry was all giving and no getting.**
- What four words in the Bible did the Holy Spirit use to get Henry's attention? **"Not for ours only."**
- What do those four words mean? **Christ's payment for sin was for the sins of every person in the whole world.**
- What did Henry tell the rich man he would do each time he came to do medical work? **He said he would preach the gospel too.**
- How are Henry Holland and Abraham similar? **Answers include that both men submitted to the Lord and followed His leading. They went where God led them without knowing the consequences. They served the Lord faithfully.**
- What did Holland reject in order to serve God? **He rejected an easier, more comfortable life, a safe environment, and a well-paying job.**
- What can the world not give? **the joy of serving the Lord**
- What did Holland gain by serving the people of Pakistan? **He gained eternal treasures—souls saved and God's blessing and reward for faithfulness.**
- How could a seemingly dangerous country be considered safe? **God can keep a person safe no matter what the circumstances are.**

- How would you describe Dr. Holland's thoughts about having served God as a missionary? **Answers could include satisfied, fulfilled, thrilled, and grateful.**
- When Henry was younger, he thought that serving God meant not getting anything, but his thinking changed. What one thing would you say he got from serving God? **Answers may include joy, satisfaction, or purpose.**

Worktext pages 36–37

(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 25 to allow time for in-depth discussion.)

Develop a biblical view of happiness. Read page 36 and discuss what God says about happiness and materialism. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

Evaluate reasons for personal happiness. Read and discuss the cycles on page 37. Evaluate the situations together. Challenge the students to name things that the world says will make people happy. List these things as they are mentioned; then discuss why each brings only temporary happiness, citing Scripture to support each idea. **Hebrews 13:5** identifies the primary source of satisfaction—Jesus Christ Himself (**John 14:6; 10:10; Neh. 8:10; Pss. 16:11; 63:3; 84**). Remind the students that materialism is tied to the sin of idolatry since it focuses on getting what you think will make you happy rather than being content with God's provisions (**Eph. 5:5; Col. 3:5**). Encourage each student to read the "What About Me?" section at home and think about his attitude. Suggest that the students write down their answers on a separate sheet of paper or in a personal journal.

LESSON

24

Plans and Promises

Music

Review the song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:8

Practice the memory verse. Locate **Hebrews 11:8** and select a student to read the verse aloud. Ask for volunteers to recite the verse.

- How would you restate this verse in your own words?
- Are there any changes you need to make in the way you act or in your relationships based on God's Word even though you may not know all the details involved?

Application Story

Introduce the Application Story

Discuss God's promises. Invite the students to tell how God has fulfilled His promises in their lives.

Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following story. Listening question: How did God provide what Ben needed? Ben needed the storm to help him remember God's goodness in leading them to the city.

Plans and Promises

"Son, I don't think we should go hiking. It's pouring out there."

Ben looked out the window and then up at his dad. "But we've been planning this for so long," Ben said. "You won't have another weekend off for months!"

His father frowned and nodded.

"We could hike in the rain," Ben said, "just to get out of the city!"

"Hmm. I don't think that would be safe. I heard that there will be flooding, and that lightning looks pretty close to the mountains," Ben's father said.

Ben looked through the clouded windowpanes. "Why today of all days?" In just a few minutes a streak of lightning split the sky, producing a loud thunderclap that shook the windows.

"There go the lights. That one must've been very close," his dad said. "I'll get a flashlight."

The only light in the house came in quick, bright flashes through the windows. Ben sighed and moped around. Then he noticed his dad had picked up the guitar.

"How about some music?" Dad asked.

Ben shrugged his shoulders and stared at the pouring rain.

"Standing on the promises that cannot fail." Ben's father sang and strummed the usually uplifting tune. "When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail," he sang and then stopped abruptly. "What about disappointment, Ben—storms of disappointment?"

"What do you mean?" Ben asked. He stayed near the window, staring out in self-pity and unbelief.

"Can you believe in God's promises even when you're disappointed?"

Ben sighed. "I guess so," he said.

"What about a few months ago when God brought us here to minister in the city?" Father asked.

"We didn't want to leave our cabin in the quiet woods," Ben said.

"Remember what God showed us soon after the move?" Dad asked.

Ben nodded. He had met a boy about his age who had invited him to play. Ben and Marat had a great time, and Ben invited Marat to go with him to Sunday school. That Sunday, after Marat heard that Jesus Christ paid the penalty for his sins, he trusted Christ to save him. And the next weekend, Marat's entire family came to church.

"Remember the Bible studies we had with Marat's family, Dad?" asked Ben.

His dad nodded. "They were so glad to hear God's Word," he said.

Promises Kept

Name _____

God's covenant with Abraham was also with his descendants. By faith Abraham followed God's leading to the land of promise. Throughout the Bible, the people of God remembered Abraham's obedience and God's promise to him.

Write the letter of the reference that correctly matches the statement about God and His covenant with Abraham.

A. Exodus 33:1

B. Numbers 32:10–12

C. Deuteronomy 1:1–8

D. 1 Chronicles 16:1–2, 7–18

E. 2 Chronicles 20:1–9

F. Acts 6:9; 7:1–5

1. God reminded the Israelites of His promise to Abraham when He told them that only Caleb, Joshua, and those under twenty years old before the forty years in the wilderness would enter the Promised Land. **(B)**

2. When the ark of the covenant was brought into Jerusalem, David reminded the Israelites how God had kept His promise to Abraham. **(D)**

3. Jehoshaphat claimed God's promise to Abraham as he prayed for God's deliverance against the enemy. **(E)**

4. As Stephen answered the high priest's questions, he reminded the high priest that God kept His promise to Abraham. **(F)**

5. Moses reminded the Israelites about God's promise as they prepared to cross the Jordan River and enter the land promised to Abraham. **(C)**

In Hebrews 6:9–18, believers are reminded of God's faithfulness to Abraham. God does not lie. God is faithful to give Christians hope of eternal salvation. Later, in Hebrews 11, the example of Abraham's faith in following God's leading is used to illustrate the meaning of faith.

6. God reminded Moses about His promise to Abraham. **(A)**

Have you accepted God's promise of salvation?

7. Name two other promises of God that Christians can trust in.

Possible answers include that God will never leave me, He will give me strength, guidance, and forgiveness, and He provides a home for me in heaven.

38 Lesson 24

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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During those few weeks, each member of Marat's family trusted Jesus Christ. A few weeks later, they returned to their own country.

"What if we had stayed in our peaceful woods, Ben?" Dad asked. "What if Marat's family had gone back home without ever having heard the gospel? If we had delayed our move, we would've been too late to explain the gospel to them."

Ben turned his back toward the window and looked at his father. He saw his dad smile. "God kept His promise to you today," he said.

"How's that?" Ben asked.

"He promised that He would give us what we needed. And we didn't need a hike: we needed this storm to remind us of God's leading and His promises."

Ben nodded and smiled. He looked at the rain pouring down. "What was that song you were singing?"



- **What changed Ben's attitude?** He chose to stop focusing on the disappointment and remember how God had used him.
- **What had Ben and his family left behind, and what reward had they found?** They left behind a nice quiet cabin in the woods. God used them to help a whole family have a right relationship with God.

Destination Unknown

Hebrews 11:8

Name _____



Have you ever helped plan a vacation or trip? There are many preparations to make. Before the trip begins, decisions are made about destinations, transportation, lodging, and time schedules. In today's society, people like to know the details as soon as possible.

Imagine how it was for Abraham. God told Abraham to take his family and go to the promised inheritance. Abraham did not know where God was sending him. He did not know how long the trip would take. All

he knew was that God wanted him to go. Through faith, Abraham willingly obeyed God's command to follow Him. We can *know* for certain everything the Bible tells us about God and the Christian life. A concordance is a useful help in finding verses with the word *know*. A concordance is an alphabetical list of key words and some references where they may be found. Many Bibles have a small concordance included. More complete concordances are available in separate volumes or computer programs.



Each entry word is followed by a list of references where the word may be found. A portion of the verse is included to show the word in context. In these portions, the entry word is abbreviated with its first letter.

The title of a Bible book is usually written once, followed by all the references in that book.

The references under each entry word are listed in the same order in which they are found in the Bible.

KNOCK

Mt 7: 7 k and it shall be opened
Rev 3:20 stand at the door and k
KNEW (KNWEST)

Ge 3:13 then they k were naked
4:1 Adam k Eve his wife
Mt 7:23 I never k you: depart ye
Jn 4:10 if thou k the gift of God

KNOW

Job 19:27 that my Redeemer liveth
Ps. 46:10 be still; and k that I am God
139:23 search me O God and k my heart
Jer 24:1 I will give them a heart to k
Mt 7:11 k now not in thine hand k what
7:11 k how to give good gifts
Jn 10:14 and k my sheep
13:18 I k whom I have chosen
At 1:7 not for you to k the times
1Co 13:12 now k in part; but then
Phi 1:12 I k both how to be abased
2Ti 1:12 I k whom I have believed

KNOWETH (KNOWN)

Ps 107:1 Lord k every of the righteous
103:14 k our frame; that we
Mt 6:8 Father k things ye have need of
1Co 13:12 even as I am also k
Gal 4:9 k God, or rather are k
2Ti 2:19 Lord k them that are his

KNOWLEDGE

Gr 2:17 the tree of the k of good and evil
Ps 19:2 night unto night sheweth k
139:17 such k is too small for me
Hos 4:6 k of knowledge lack of k
Hab 2:14 earth shall be filled with the k
Ro 3:20 by the law is the k of sin
1Co 8:8 I have k K puffeth up
Eph 3:19 love of Christ which passeth k
Col 3:10 renewed in k after the image
2Pe 3:18 grow in grace and in the k of

Answer the questions for the entry word for *know*.

- Which verse from Psalms tells you that you can know who God is?

Psalm 46:10

- Which Old Testament verse tells you that the Redeemer (Christ) lives?

Job 19:25

- What New Testament verse shows Paul's confidence in the gospel of Jesus?

2 Timothy 1:12

- How many entries are in the book of John?

two**LESSON****25****Unit 2a Activity****Materials**

- Bible concordance

Guide a word study. Direct the students to look up the words *promise*, *promised*, and *promises* in a concordance. Tell them to notice the number of references listed. Explain that many of these passages refer to God's promises. Write the following references for display. Instruct the students to look up and read these Scriptures. Allow volunteers to tell what each verse or passage teaches about the nature and content of God's promises. (The Teacher's Toolkit CD contains a copy of this chart under TE Tables if you want to project it or use it as a handout.)

References	God's Promises
1 Kings 8:56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God keeps every aspect of His promises. • God gave rest to His people. • Not one of God's words failed in all the promises that He gave to Israel through Moses.
Psalm 105:41–45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God remembered His promise to Abraham and provided the needs of His people from the wilderness to the Promised Land.
Acts 13:32–33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have evidences of God's promises recorded in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament. • God fulfilled His promise recorded in Psalm 2 by raising Jesus from the dead.
Romans 4:18–25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God is perfectly able to keep His promises in spite of human limitations. • Abraham believed that God could fulfill His promise even though it seemed humanly impossible. • Abraham was considered righteous by God because of his faith; we can be righteous also if we trust God, who raised Jesus from the dead so that we could be justified.
Hebrews 6:13–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The greatest security that any promise will be fulfilled is God Himself. • God backed up His promise with the security of Himself because there is no greater security. Abraham saw God's promise fulfilled after he had waited patiently.
2 Peter 3:10–13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians can look forward to a new heaven and earth because God has promised it.
1 John 2:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God has promised eternal life to His children.

Remind the students that God has promised many things that He does every day. He daily loads us with His blessings! Select volunteers to read aloud **Psalms 68:19, 103:2, and 116:12**.

Worktext page 38

Match Scriptures with God's covenant with Abraham.

Worktext page 39

Practice using a concordance.

Father of the Faithful

Unit 2b

PREVIEW

Doctrines

- **26:** God is all-powerful (omnipotent) (Jer. 32:27).
- **26:** God created humans for His glory (Isa. 43:7).
- **26–27:** God is faithful (1 Cor. 1:9).
- **28:** Obedience to God was the principle violated in the Fall (Gen. 3:2–5).

Skills and Applications

- Learn Hebrews 11:9–10
- Read a map
- Recall facts and details
- Read a timeline
- Strive to honor parents
- Know that God is faithful
- Locate information in the Bible
- Realize that children show obedience to God when they obey their parents
- Develop an attitude and behavior of complete, immediate obedience to parents
- Realize that each Christian should live in the light of eternity
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON

26

To God Be the Glory

Materials

- Chart 28 (“The Ancient World”)

Music

Review the song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Hebrews 11:9–10

Principle: By faith in God’s promises Christians live in the light of eternity. Locate and read aloud Hebrews 11:8–10 as the students read silently.

What do you think “the promised land” or “the land of promise” in Hebrews 11:9 refers to? **the land God promised to give to Abraham; Canaan or Palestine**

Read aloud **Revelation 21:1–2**. Point out that even though Abraham journeyed and lived in many places, the holy city (the new Jerusalem) was to be the ultimate fulfillment of his expectations. Direct each student to highlight the verses in his Bible and mark their location with his Unit 2 bookmark (optional).

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Sodom

This city was one of the five cities located in the Valley of Siddim at the southern end of the Dead Sea (**Gen. 14:3**). Its exact location is unknown, but some Bible scholars believe that the once-fertile region is now covered with water.

Types of Christ

In the same way a portrait resembles a person, a type of Christ

displays similarities to Christ because of common experiences or purposes.

Melchizedek

This priest of God, who is a type of Christ, is also mentioned again in **Hebrews 7**, where he is called *king of righteousness* and *king of Salem*, meaning “king of peace.” There is no record of his parentage or genealogy, and he has no beginning of days nor end of life recorded. He appears to us in history as someone like the Son of God, and he remains a priest continually (**Heb. 7:3**).

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss Sodom. Display Chart 28 (“The Ancient World”), pointing out where Bible scholars believe Sodom was. Explain the background information about Sodom.

Teach for Understanding

Read **Genesis 14** or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **What did Abram do to be sure God got the glory?** **He refused to take any goods from anybody.** Direct the students to look at the map on Worktext page 286 as you read the account. Display Chart 28 (“The Ancient World”) pointing out the italicized places in the account.

To God Be the Glory

The king of *Sodom* and four other nearby kings served Chedorlaomer, king of *Elam* (north of the Persian Gulf) for twelve years. But the following year these kings rebelled. Then the year after that, three other kings joined King Chedorlaomer to attack these five rebellious kings and conquer many other regions on the way to the battleground.

The two armies met in the Siddim Valley near the *Dead Sea*. During the battle, the kings of *Sodom* and *Gomorrah* ran away and fell into a pit. The enemy took everything from their cities—their food, possessions, and people. Lot (Abram’s nephew) along with everything he owned was taken captive as well.

One person escaped and told Abram about Lot. Abram took his 318 trained servants and left immediately. They traveled as far north as Dan. During the night, Abram divided his servants into groups, and they attacked the enemy, chasing them all the way to a town west of *Damascus*.

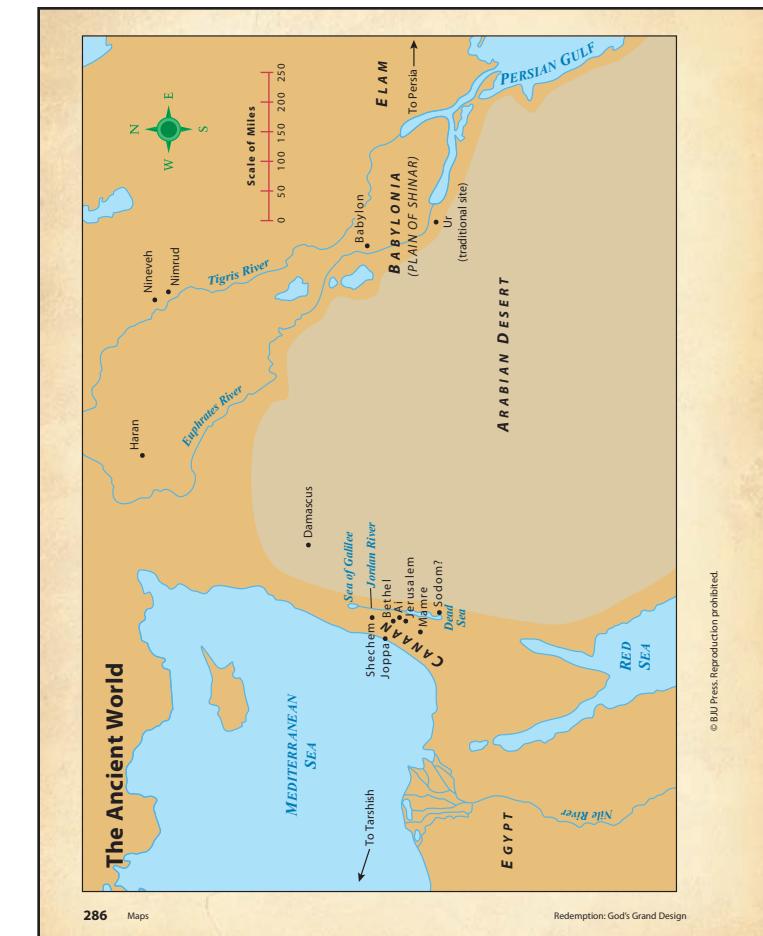
Abram brought back all the people taken captive and all the belongings the enemy had taken from the five kings.

The king of *Sodom* and the other four kings welcomed Abram when he returned from defeating King Chedorlaomer. Melchizedek, the priest of the most high God, brought Abram food and drink and blessed him.

Discuss background information about types of Christ and Melchizedek.

Melchizedek pronounced a blessing on Abram and on the most high God, who owns heaven and earth, and who delivered Abram’s enemies into his hand.

Abram gave Melchizedek a tithe, or tenth, of everything. The king of *Sodom* said for Abram to give him the people



under his reign but for Abram to keep all the possessions for himself. But Abram refused to take any payment because he had promised God that he wouldn’t take even the smallest thread or a shoelace. Abram did not want the king of *Sodom* to be able to say that he had made Abram rich.

Abram took only what his men ate and what was rightfully theirs. He did not want any human to receive credit for God’s powerful work. Abram chose to give glory to the most high God!

- ➊ Based on the map scale on page 286 or Chart 28, about how far away was Elam from Sodom? **approximately eight hundred miles**
- ➋ Why do you think Abram went to rescue Lot? **Answers may include that Lot was his nephew, he loved him, and he might have considered him his heir since Abram had no children at this time.**
- ➌ How many armed servants did Abram take to battle the four kings? **318**
- ➍ How were Abram and his men able to win the battle? **We are not told, but we do know that he had trained his men for battle, so they were ready. We know that he gave God the glory for the victory, which indicates he was trusting God. In summary, he prepared, did what he could, and trusted God to bless his efforts.**

- ▶ Why did Abram refuse the king of Sodom's offer to give him the goods as payment? Abram did not want the king of Sodom to claim that he had made Abram rich. Abram wanted God to receive the praise. Explain that rewards are not wrong—unless they would damage God's name, the Christian's relationship with God or others, or his testimony.
- ▶ Read Proverbs 14:11–12. How do these two verses relate to the lives of Abram and Lot?

Explain that Lot chose to settle in the Jordan Valley near wicked towns because he thought the agricultural aspect of the land would establish him. Later he lived in the city in a house (Gen. 13:12; 19:1–6). This seemed right to him, but because he was living there, he was taken captive and later his wife was killed. On the other hand, because Abram trusted God and stayed in the place the Lord chose for him, living in tents (Gen. 13:18; Heb. 11:9), his descendants flourished.

Worktext pages 40–41

Recall facts from the Bible account. (Note: You may want to complete page 40 with the students.)

Geography Connection (optional)

Explain changing names of places.

- ▶ Have you ever heard of giving a street a new name?

Explain that sometimes a street or road in the hometown of a famous person has its name changed to honor that famous person. Throughout history, some cities and even countries have changed names after battles and conquests. From the time Abraham lived in Canaan to the time Moses wrote Genesis (about four hundred years), the names of some of the places were changed. Moses gave both the old and the new names of the places as he wrote the account in Genesis. Invite students to read the verses and complete the following chart. (Copies may be printed out from the Teacher's Toolkit CD under TE Tables.)

Reference	Name in Abraham's Time	Name in Moses' Time
Genesis 14:2	Bela	Zoar
Genesis 14:3	Valley of Siddim	the Dead Sea or Salt Sea
Genesis 14:7	En-mishpat	Kadesh
Genesis 14:17	Valley of Shaveh	the king's dale or the King's Valley

LESSON

27

Hero of the Faith: Polycarp

Materials

- Timeline and picture of Polycarp

Music

Review the song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

To the Rescue

Genesis 14:5–24

Name _____

○	In the following report, there are a number of errors to be corrected. • Put a — on each word that does not belong. • Insert the missing words in the blanks: <i>goods, gift, battle, Chedorlaomer</i> • Write the correct word above the underlined words: <i>king, Abram, Melchizedek, rich, 318</i>
○	The kings near Abram and Lot, and Abram , joined in battle against the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah. They plundered and took the residents captive—including Lot and his family. God gave 318 Abram's 3,300 men victory over Chedorlaomer and the other kings. Abram returned with the captives and their belongings. The king of Sodom and Melchizedek, a priest of God, Abram brought food and drink and money for Lot and his men. Melchizedek blessed Abram for serving God and recognized that God had delivered the enemy into the hand of Abram. In thankfulness to Melchizedek , God, Abram gave the king of Sodom a tithe of all the goods from the battle . The king of Sodom wanted to honor Abram; he did not recognize that God had made Abram victorious. The king queen of Sodom wanted Abram to keep the goods for himself. All that Abram would take was what the soldiers had eaten and what was rightfully theirs. Abram believed that if he took a gift , the king of Sodom might someday say that he had made Abram poor .
○	

Write the letter of the correct king to complete each statement.

- A** 1. recognized God's leading in the victory.
B 2. wanted to reward Abram with the goods from battle.
A 3. received Abram's tithe offering to God.
A 4. blessed Abram as a servant of God.
B 5. did not understand God's working through Abram.



A. Melchizedek
B. King of Sodom

40 Lesson 26

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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Memory Verses: Hebrews 11:9–10

Practice the memory verses. Locate Hebrews 11:9–10 and select a student to read the verses aloud.

- What was “the promised land” or “the land of promise” in 11:9? **the land God promised to give to Abraham; Canaan or Palestine**

- Read Hebrews 11:10, 16; 12:22–24; 13:14. What was the permanent city that Abraham was looking for? **the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven (Rev. 21:1–3, 5)**

Point out that the major component of the biblical idea of a city is that it is a society of people. The Lord Jesus Christ and all those who are born again (12:22–24) will live there.

- How do we know that Abram knew that the land he was living in under those conditions was not the fulfillment of what God promised him? **He was looking forward to the permanent city; he was a sojourner (traveler); he lived in tents and not a building.**

- In what way should Abram's perspective on life be a Christian's perspective on life? **Answers should include that our lives here are only temporary (Phil. 1:21–23; 1 Pet. 2:11).**

The Right Choice

Name _____

Abram glorified God in the way he battled the enemy. The book of Deuteronomy was not written by Moses until hundreds of years after Abram went to battle. But Abram followed the principles of war laid out by God in Deuteronomy 20.

Mark an X next to the principles that Abram followed in war.

- 1. Do not be afraid of the size of the enemy army (20:1–3).
- 2. Trust that God will fight for you (20:4).
- 3. If the enemy wants peace, they should surrender and become your servants (20:10–11).
- 4. All the males of a defeated city should be killed (20:12–13).
- 5. Your army may take the spoils of the defeated city (20:14–15).

Answer the questions.

6. What did Abram do in response to the news about Lot's capture? (Gen. 14:14)

He gathered men of his own household to rescue Lot.

7. How many men did Abram take to battle the enemy kings? (Gen. 14:14) **318**

8. Who else was victorious when he took only 300 men into battle? (Judg. 7:7) **Gideon**

Abram loved God, and this love showed in his relationship with Lot. Abram's generosity and kindness toward Lot benefited many. Abram could have used events in Lot's life as reasons not to come to his rescue.

Color the circles next to two things Abram could have held against Lot.

- Lot was Abram's nephew.
- Lot took the best land for his own herds.
- Lot chose to move into the wicked city of Sodom.
- Lot traveled with Abram to the land of Canaan.



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Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 26

41

Biographical Account

Introduce the Account

Discuss martyrs.

- ➊ What is a Christian martyr? **a person who has given his life for his faith**
- ➋ Can you name some martyrs? **Answers may include Stephen, John and Betty Stam, and the five martyred missionaries to the Auca Indians—Jim Elliot, Nate Saint, Peter Fleming, Ed McCully, and Roger Youderian.**

Introduce Polycarp. Write the name *Polycarp* for display. Explain that Polycarp's birth is not recorded, but he was more than eighty-six years old when he was martyred. Most people place his death about AD 147. Polycarp appears to have been reared as a slave, and his owner made him her heir. Polycarp is said to have been taught by the apostle John.

Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following account based on the life of Polycarp. Listening question: What did Polycarp thank God for? **for allowing him to have a part with the martyrs and the cup of Christ**

The Strongest Man in the Arena

The Romans were angry and wanted Polycarp to be punished for his beliefs. His friends wanted to protect him

and persuaded him to go to a little village not far from the city of Smyrna. He heard that the Romans were searching for him, but he did not flee.

Before long his pursuers found him. Polycarp invited them in and offered them food and drink. He asked for permission to pray for an hour without interruption. They granted his wish, and he prayed for many of the people he had known over the course of his life. After hearing Polycarp's prayer, some of the soldiers repented of what they were intending to do to this man of God.

But the other persecutors took Polycarp to the city. There he met some men who tried to persuade him to change his beliefs. "What harm is there in saying, 'Lord Caesar,' and in offering sacrifice?" they asked. He said nothing, and they pushed him to the ground, injuring his leg, but he still said nothing.

The persecutors then took Polycarp to the arena, where a crowd was waiting. They repeatedly tried to persuade Polycarp to deny his faith, but he refused. "Four score and six years, have I continued serving Him," he said, "and He hath never wronged me at all; how then can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"

"We have wild beasts ready," his executioners said. "To those we will cast thee, unless thou repent."

"Call for them," Polycarp said. "For repentance with us is . . . a good thing if it is to be a change from evil to good."

Then they threatened him with fire. Polycarp responded, "You threaten me with fire, which burns for an hour, and is soon extinguished; but the fire of the future judgment, and of eternal punishment, reserved for the ungodly, you are ignorant of. But why do you delay? Do whatever you please."

A man in the crowd yelled three times, "Polycarp hath confessed himself to be a Christian." The people begged for a lion to be let loose. But that type of spectacle was over for the day, so it was decided to burn Polycarp alive.

His executioners quickly gathered the supplies, and Polycarp calmly removed his shirt and sandals. In front of everyone, Polycarp praised and thanked God for allowing him to have a part with the martyrs and the cup of Christ. As soon as Polycarp finished praying, the men lit the fire. Eye-witnesses said that Polycarp did not look like a body being burned; instead he looked like gold in a furnace.

Polycarp willingly stood firm in his faith and gave his life for the Christ who had given His life for him.

[Quotations taken from *Foxe's Book of Martyrs* by John Foxe]



- ▶ What did Polycarp do when his persecutors captured him? **He gave them food and drink and asked for permission to pray for an hour.**
- ➋ Why do you think Polycarp chose to remain silent when his persecutors questioned him? **Answers may include that he responded as Christ did when on trial; he was careful to not sin with his mouth; he trusted God to take care of him.**
- ➋ How did God meet Polycarp's needs through the persecution? **God gave him grace and determination to have peace and confidence in God's wisdom, control, and care.**

Hero of the Faith

Polycarp ca. AD 61–147

Name _____



A martyr
is a person who
has given his life
for his faith; a martyr
dies rather than re-
nouncing what
he believes.

Polycarp was a student of the apostle John. Polycarp himself became a teacher, and he told about his conversations with the apostle John and with others who had seen Christ.

Polycarp could not teach openly. Religious leaders of his day persecuted him and tried to persuade him to deny his faith in Christ. He had determined to please his Lord. Polycarp would sacrifice everything—even his life—for God.

When Polycarp's enemies found him hidden in a little village, he invited the soldiers in for something to eat and drink. Before they took him away, he asked if he could pray without interruption. Permission was granted, and he prayed for many of his acquaintances. Hearing him pray, some of the soldiers repented of the evil they were planning on doing to Polycarp, a true man of God.

Describe what you think would happen if every Christian had to wear a label that said he believed in Christ. What would you do?



Polycarp did not hesitate to claim Christ even when his persecutors threatened to throw him to the wild beasts or to burn him at the stake.

Polycarp never shied away from being called a Christian. Because he refused to deny Christ, he was burned at the stake. Before he was to be burned, he asked permission to pray. After he prayed, his tormentors prepared to fasten him to a stake. He asked that they leave him to stand without being secured. He knew that God would give him the strength to remain there while he suffered.

Polycarp was a martyr, but Christians today have the same responsibility he did. In most countries, God's people have His Word in their language.

They have a greater responsibility because they have all of His teaching available. Polycarp left Christians an example that can help them obey Christ faithfully even if it costs them their lives!

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300 Lesson 27

Redemption: God's Grand Design

How do you think God used the persecution and death of Polycarp for His good? Perhaps some people trusted Christ through his martyrdom. Many Christians have been encouraged to be faithful to death for Christ.

Point out that God knows what is best and glorifies Himself even when we do not understand the circumstances that come our way.

- What did Polycarp thank God for? for allowing him to have a part with the martyrs and the cup of Christ
- ❖ How would you describe Polycarp? Answers may include that he loved God and was dedicated, fearless, patient, and rational.
- ❖ What did Polycarp think of Christ? Answers may include that he considered Christ worthy of dying for because Christ was faithful and had never done any wrong to Polycarp.
- ❖ Do you respond to those who mock your faith in a way that glorifies God?

Timeline

Add Polycarp to the timeline. Choose a student to attach the picture of Polycarp (ca. AD 61–147) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the Polycarp card to his individual timeline.

Worktext page 300 (optional)

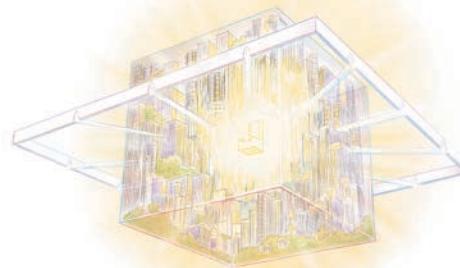
Review the life of Polycarp.

Stranger in the Land

Name _____

Read Hebrews 11:9–10. Answer the questions.

1. What are some problems that Abraham faced after leaving his home in Haran?
Possible answers include famine, enemies, and danger.
2. What word or phrase describes Abraham once he arrived at the place he received as an inheritance?
Possible answers include sojourner, temporary resident, alien, or stranger.
3. Abraham was living in the land of promise, but he did not act like a permanent resident. He was looking forward to living somewhere else. How is this place described in verse 10?
a city with foundations, designed and built by God
4. What is the name of the city referred to in verse 10 that Abraham was looking forward to living in? (If you need help, read Heb. 11:16; 12:22, and Rev. 3:12.)
heavenly or new Jerusalem



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5. Are Christians today permanent residents on earth? **no**

6. What types of problems do Christians today face while living on earth?

Possible answers include danger, health problems, persecution, and famine.

Read Psalm 37:4–6. How does this Scripture help you as you deal with day-to-day problems in your walk with God?

42 Lesson 27

Redemption: God's Grand Design



What problems or difficulties are you experiencing in your life at this time? Remember, no matter how difficult they seem now, these problems are temporary.

Worktext page 42

Develop further understanding of the memory verses.

LESSON

28

All on the Altar

Materials

- Timeline and picture of Abraham and Isaac

Music

Review the song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Hebrews 11:9–10

Practice the memory verses. Locate Hebrews 11:9–10 and select a student to read the verses aloud. Remind the students that Christians are pilgrims on earth at this time.

- ❖ Read Colossians 3:1–2. What should Christians be concerned about? righteous living; living for things above; things Christ is concerned about as King
- ❖ Does living for things above relieve us of any of our responsibilities? How should we live? **No. We should obey our authorities and fulfill all of our responsibilities for God's glory (1 Cor. 10:31).**

Ask volunteers to recite the verses.

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Abrahamic Covenant

When Abram was ninety years old, God made a promise to be his God and to give him the land of Canaan. When Abram was ninety-nine years old, God promised to give Abram a son, Isaac, from whom many descendants would come (**Gen. 17:1–5**). God changed his name from *Abram*, which meant “exalted father,” to *Abraham*, meaning “father of a multitude” or “father of many nations.”

Abraham’s Faith

Abraham trusted God to raise Isaac from the dead to fulfill the promise of descendants (**Heb. 11:17–19**). This is true faith—belief in the unseen—because at that point in history no one had ever been raised from the dead.

Isaac as a Type of Christ

Both Jesus and Isaac were sons of promise, were sacrificed on Mount Moriah, and were obedient to their fathers to the point of death.

Introduce the Bible Account

Review God’s covenant with Abraham. Share the background information about the Abrahamic Covenant.

Teach for Understanding

Read Genesis 22:1–18 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: Who would be blessed because Abraham obeyed God? **Abraham, his descendants, and all the nations of the earth**

All on the Altar

“Abraham,” God called.

“Here I am,” Abraham answered immediately.

“Take your son,” God said, “your only son Isaac, the one you love so much.” Then God told Abraham to go to the land of Moriah and to offer his son as a burnt offering. God would tell Abraham which mountain he was to sacrifice Isaac on.

Abraham woke up early the next morning and prepared to leave. He saddled his donkey, chopped the wood, and took Isaac and two of his men along with him.

They traveled for three days until Abraham saw the place at a distance. Abraham told his servants to stay with the animals. He said, “I and the lad will go . . . and worship, and come again to you” (**Gen. 22:5**).

Abraham gave the wood to Isaac to carry, and Abraham carried the fire and the knife. But Isaac noticed that something was missing. “My father,” Isaac said, “where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

With faith in his heart Abraham answered, “My son, God will provide himself a lamb” (**Gen. 22:8**). Then they continued walking until they reached the place God had chosen.

Abraham built an altar and laid the wood on it. He then tied Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham took the knife to kill his son.

“Abraham, Abraham,” said a voice. The Angel of the Lord kept Abraham from harming Isaac. Abraham had demonstrated that he feared God and was willing to give up his only son because God told him to.

Discuss background information about Hebrews 11:17–19.

Abraham looked up, and saw a ram that was caught by its horns in the thicket. He killed the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of Isaac. Abraham called the place Jehovah-jireh, which means “the Lord will provide.”

The Angel of the Lord called out from heaven again. He told Abraham that God promised to bless him and multiply his descendants because Abraham did not withhold his son. God would bless all the nations of the earth because Abraham had obeyed God.



- What did Abraham say that revealed his faith in God’s promise before he and Isaac walked up the mountain? **He told the two servants that both he and Isaac would return.**
- How did God’s command for Abraham to sacrifice Isaac seem to conflict with His previous promise? **God had promised to give Abraham many descendants through Isaac. How could He do that if Isaac were dead?**
- Who would be blessed because Abraham obeyed God? **Abraham, his descendants, and all the nations of the earth**
- How does this account fit into God’s big picture? **God promised to bless Abraham through his sons of promise (Isaac and Jesus Christ). Therefore, God could not let Isaac die and remain dead. This shows that what God says must happen, and He makes sure that it does happen (Gal. 3:18, 22, 26–29).**
- How can Christians today be involved in the continuation of God’s blessing the nations through Abraham? **Christians are commanded to take the gospel message to each unbeliever, so he may have the opportunity to become a child of God (Gal. 3:26) and Abraham’s descendant (Gal. 3:29).**
- How can sin in a believer’s life hinder God’s plan? **A believer will not be living in God’s grace for victory if he has unconfessed sin in his life (James 4:6–8).**
- What does the title of this account (“All on the Altar”) mean? **Abraham offered everything, even his most loved and treasured relationship, to God.**
- Is every relationship (love and pursuit of any person, purpose, or possession) in your life on the altar? Are you on the altar?

Renewed Covenant

Genesis 17

Name _____

Answer the questions. You may use your Bible for help.

Abram was faithful to follow God's Word. God was faithful to keep His Word and fulfill His covenant with Abram. When God renewed and explained His covenant to Abram, He changed Abram's name.



1. What did Abram's new name, Abraham, mean? (Gen. 17:5)

father of many (or a multitude of) nations

2. How did this new name describe Abraham better?

Possible answers include that God had promised him that his descendants would be more numerous than the stars or the sand.

3. God also changed Sarai's name. What was her new name? ***Sarah***

4. God promised that Abraham and Sarah would have a son.

What were Abraham and Sarah to name their son? (Gen. 17:19) ***Isaac***

5. Abraham was impatient and tried to help God fulfill His promise by having a child with Sarai's servant, Hagar. The son born to Hagar was named Ishmael.

Which son did God promise to establish His covenant with? (Gen. 17:20–21)

Isaac



Vol. 12

CANAAN TIMES

There is a reason everything has a name.

In Bible times, the names of people and places were important. Many places were named for a special event that happened at that spot. Names of some people had prophetic meanings, such as those of Abraham and Sarah.

In John 13:35, Christ called those who followed Him ***disciples***. After the death and resurrection of Christ, Acts 11:25–26 records another name, ***Christians***, given to identify those who trusted in Christ and followed His teachings.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 28 **43**

A Willing Sacrifice

Genesis 22:1–18

Name _____

Abraham and Sarah desired a child for many years. God seemed to have closed that door until they were far past the years when people can have children. Late in their lives God providentially gave Abraham and Sarah a son as part of the fulfillment of the promised covenant.

Years later, God called Abraham and instructed him to offer Isaac as a sacrifice. Abraham obediently followed God's command.



Answer the questions in your own words.

1. How did Abraham respond to God's command? ***obediently***

2. What did Isaac ask that makes you think he had probably helped his father offer sacrifices before? ***He asked where the lamb was.***

3. What was Abraham's response? ***He said God would provide.***

4. What was Isaac's attitude about carrying the wood? ***He obeyed without complaining.***

5. How did Isaac demonstrate that he also trusted God?

He allowed himself to be placed on the altar.

God had given Abraham several promises since he left Haran and kept them all.

6. What is one of those promises? ***Possible answers include that God led Abraham to the land of promise. God gave him a son, Isaac.***

7. God promised that Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the sand and the stars. God said this promise would be fulfilled through Isaac. With this in mind, why do you think Abraham was willing to offer Isaac?

Explain your answer. _____



God does not ask more of a person than He is able to bear. Do you have a problem that seems too great to handle? At such a time, read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and claim God's promise of help.



Redemption: God's Grand Design

44 Lesson 28

Timeline

Add Abraham and Isaac to the timeline. Choose a student to attach the card for Abraham and Isaac (ca. 2165 BC) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the Abraham and Isaac picture to his individual timeline.

Worktext page 43

Locate information in the Bible.

Worktext page 44

Recall facts from the Bible account.

The Sacrifice of Obedience

Music

Review the song and develop higher-level thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Hebrews 11:9–10

Practice the memory verses. Ask for volunteers to recite verses 9–10 and then 8–10.

- What have you learned from these verses?
- What are at least two specific changes you need to make in your daily life?

Application Story

Introduce the Application Story

Discuss obedience.

- Does obeying God ever mean that Christians have to give up things? **yes**
- Read Hebrews 12:1. Will sinful things be the only things Christians give up? **No. Sometimes they will give up perfectly good things or activities that are not beneficial or advantageous (1 Cor 6:12; 10:23, 31).**
- What might God ask Christians to give up in order to obey Him? **Answers will vary.**

Remind the students that sometimes Christians must be willing to give up things they love in order to truly obey God.

Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following story. Listening question: What did Lana hand over to God? **her desire for friendship with Holly**

Lana's Choice

Lana heard one final burst of rage, and then all was quiet. "Good-bye, Holly," she whispered. As she set her phone on the table, she lowered her head into her hands.

Lana had been there for only a few minutes when Mom came into the kitchen. "How did it go, Lana?" she asked.

"Holly was mad," Lana answered. She wiped away tears and lifted her face. "She called me names because I won't go to the concert with her." Lana took a deep breath, and her words came out in a rush. "Mom, Holly has changed so much. We don't like the same things anymore. She never wants to talk about God now. All she wants to do is talk about boys and clothes and rock music and movies and websites that aren't good." Lana took a breath and wiped away some more tears. "She told me that I don't fit in with her and her friends. And then she hung up."

Mom handed Lana the box of tissues and then rested her hand on Lana's shoulder. Lana wiped her tears between sobs. Finally, Mom said softly, "I'm sorry, Honey. Holly has

made some bad choices, and you've had to make some choices in response."

Lana looked up at Mom and frowned.

Mom sat down in a chair and looked at Lana. "You and Holly have been friends since kindergarten," she said. "And I know it's hard to pull away from someone who's been such a big part of your life. But Lana—" Mom paused and looked out the window, searching for words. "Holly is choosing to go the wrong direction—not getting closer to the Lord, but turning away from Him. It's beginning to look like you have to make a choice—staying close friends with Holly or obeying Christ. Which is more important to you?"

"But I like Holly," said Lana.

Mom placed her hand on Lana's. "I know you do," she said. "But what you need to ask yourself is whether you love Christ more."

Lana took a deep breath but didn't answer.

Mom got up and poured water into the kettle on the stove. "Lana, I have an idea," she said. "What would you think of inviting Kari Silos over on the day the other girls are going to the concert? Maybe we could take her out for pizza and then come home and play some games."

Lana thought for a few minutes. She didn't really know Kari very well, but it would be nice to have someone to do something with.

Mom poured hot chocolate mix into two mugs. "I've been thinking that it might be good for you to reach out to Kari," she said. "She's only a year younger than you, and with her parents being missionaries, it's probably kind of hard for her to make friends while her family is back in the country for a while." She glanced over her shoulder and smiled.

"What do you think?"

Lana took the steaming mug that Mom handed her. And at the same time, she handed something in her heart to God. She smiled at Mom. "Yeah," she said. "That's a good idea."



- Why did Lana not fit in with Holly and her friends anymore? **because Holly was turning away from the Lord**
- Read Ephesians 5:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; and Proverbs 13:20. How do these verses put the story into context? **Lana had to choose between being close friends with Holly or obeying Christ.**
- What did Lana choose to do? **She obeyed God and handed over to God her desire for friendship with Holly.**
- How was Lana showing love for Christ and others and being a good example (Matt. 22:37–40; 1 Tim. 4:12)? **by refusing to be involved in things that do not glorify God though it meant breaking off a significant relationship and by showing kindness to someone who needed a friend**
- Is there anything you believe you should give up to please and obey God? **Will you obey Him?**

What Does God Say About My Parents?

Honor and Obey Name _____



A very important responsibility your parents have is to prepare you to live a life that is pleasing to God. Other responsibilities include providing food for you to eat, a place to live, clothes to wear, protection from harm, and medicine when you are sick. Have you ever thought about the commands that God gives to your parents?

Read the verses. In your own words, write the commands God gives to your parents. *Answers will vary.*

Proverbs 22:6 *Train your children to live a righteous life.*

Proverbs 19:18 *Discipline your children.*

You have probably been told at one time or another that you should honor and obey your parents. Obedience is simply doing what you are told.

Read Exodus 20:12, Colossians 3:20, or Ephesians 6:1–3.
In your own words, write the commands God gives to you.
Answers should include honoring or obeying parents.

Obedience to your parents is not the only command given to you. God also commands you to honor your parents. If you want to have God's blessing on your life, it is important that you follow both commands.

Using the glossary, define the verb form of honor. *to treat with love, admiration, and respect*

Use the words in the box to complete the phrases to show six ways you can honor your parents.

authorities	decisions	good	gratefulness
responsibility	badly	softly	respectfully

1. obey my authorities
 2. take responsibility for my work
 3. show gratefulness to my parents
 4. choose good friends
 5. make wise decisions
 6. always talk respectfully about my parents or to my parents



Redemption: God's Grand Design Lesson 29 45

Something to Think About

Honoring and Obeying My Parents Name _____



Obedience to God's Word will bring God's blessing on your life. Disobedience will bring God's discipline. God makes special promises to children who obey their parents. He also speaks strong words about those who do not.

Match the verses to the correct summary. Underline the three blessings of obedience.

B	1. You will be known as foolish.	A. Proverbs 11:29
C	2. Your lamp will be put out.	B. Proverbs 15:5
F	3. <u>You will live a blessed life.</u>	C. Proverbs 20:20
A	4. You will be unstable like the wind.	D. Proverbs 23:24
D	5. You will bring joy to your parents.	E. Proverbs 28:24
G	6. Your obedience will please God.	F. Ephesians 6:1–3
E	7. You will be friends with people who are known for destroying others.	G. Colossians 3:20



Read each scenario and write a response that pleases God.

Scenario	A Response That Pleases God Is . . .
Kai tells the guys that his parents are mean because they won't let him see the new action movie. Some of the other guys start complaining about their parents too. Your parents won't let you see the movie either.	Answers will vary.
You have several friends over to work on homework. One of them wants to copy the answers instead of doing the work herself. After they leave, your mom talks to you about the kind of friends you have and suggests that you be careful.	Answers will vary.
You receive allowance for doing chores at home. You are pleased with the amount and are saving up for something you want. Then you find out that your friend gets an allowance without doing any chores and that he has just gotten what he wanted.	Answers will vary.

What About Me?

Take time at home to think about your attitude toward obeying your parents.



Do you look for ways to honor them?
 What two things can you do that would bring joy to your parents?

Redemption: God's Grand Design Lesson 29 46

Worktext pages 45–46

(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 30 to allow adequate time for in-depth discussion.)

Develop a Christlike attitude toward your parents. Read page 45 and discuss what God says about honoring and obeying your parents. Point out that obedience is not just doing what you are told; it also includes the right heart attitude. Remind the students that God always sees their hearts. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

Personal evaluation of attitude toward parents. Read and discuss the blessings of obedience. Evaluate the situations on page 46 together. Point out that disobedience is tied to the sin of pride since it is doing what you want rather than what God or your parents tell you. Encourage the students to read the "What About Me?" section at home and think about how they honor and obey their parents. Suggest that each student write a letter of gratitude to his parents, thanking them for guiding him and teaching him in the right way (optional).

Question Game

Name _____

Answer the questions.

Who Am I?

1. I trusted God even when He asked me for my son. Abraham
2. I was called the King of Salem. Melchizedek
3. I obeyed my father when he put me on the altar to offer me to God. Isaac
4. We fell into a pit. the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah
5. I blessed Abraham and all his descendants because he obeyed. God
6. I was taken captive by the kings and rescued by my uncle. Lot
7. I believed that God would work a miracle in order to fulfill His promises. Abraham
8. Three hundred eighteen of us traveled with Abraham. Abraham's soldiers
9. We are those who trusted Christ and followed His teachings. Christians

Where Is It?

10. In what New Testament book is Melchizedek mentioned? Hebrews
11. Abraham traveled three days to reach this land where God had instructed him to offer his son. the land of Moriah
12. This is the land God promised Abraham, Isaac, and all those who would be born after them. Canaan
13. This was the city that Abraham looked for. the heavenly or new Jerusalem
14. The kings met here to battle. Valley of Siddim near the Dead Sea
15. God owns these places. heaven and earth
16. Abraham put Isaac on this. the altar

LESSON
30

Unit 2b Review

Play a question game. Divide the class into two teams (or prepare question sheets for the students to use individually). Copies may be printed out from the Teacher's Toolkit CD. Allow the first team to answer the first question. If a team does not answer correctly, the other team then gets the opportunity to answer. Whether they get the answer correct or not, the next turn is their turn. Award ten points per correct answer.

Unit 2a–2b Review

Name _____

Circle the letters of the correct answers.

1. Abram told the Egyptians a lie, stating that Sarai was his sister instead of his wife. The reason he told this lie was that he _____. [Lesson 21]
 - a. believed God would give him a new wife
 - b. did not know the Egyptian word for wife
 - c. did not believe God's promise of future blessings
 - d. believed God wanted Sarai to marry the pharaoh
2. Abram allowed Lot to choose the region he wanted to live in. Why was Abram content to live in whatever area Lot did not choose? [Lesson 22]
 - a. He believed Lot would soon die so he could buy that land back.
 - b. He believed God would give him the land He had promised.
 - c. Lot used to live much farther east of there, so Abram thought Lot would travel east toward his old homeland.
 - d. He believed God would send a flood to destroy the city of Sodom.
3. Hebrews 11:8 says that Abram obeyed God's promise even though he did not know where he was going. What caused Abram to obey God? [Lessons 21–24]
 - a. his well-trained army of 318 soldiers
 - b. his wealth to pay off any enemies
 - c. his faith in what God said
 - d. his dislike of other family members (a good excuse to move away)
4. After Abram and his army rescued the king of Sodom and his people from their captors, why did Abram not take any payment from the king of Sodom? [Lesson 26]
 - a. Abram's soldiers were tired and did not want to get robbed on the way home.
 - b. Abram wanted God (and not any human) to be glorified for Abram's riches.
 - c. God had not given Abram enough chariots to carry all the belongings
 - d. God threatened Abram's army with a plague if he took payment from a wicked king.
5. Abraham put his only son on the altar of sacrifice. What does this tell us about Abraham? [Lesson 28]
 - a. He understood that all he owned belonged to God, and he was trusting God's promise.
 - b. He was hoping that God would give him another son who could bring him a better inheritance.
 - c. He believed God would give him an inheritance through his nephew, Lot.

Unit 2a–2b Review

Lead a review of Lessons 21–30. A reproducible copy of the review questions (without answers) is available on the Teacher's Toolkit CD under Half-Unit Reviews. The answers are also on the CD.