#### Lesson 7:

#### God Calls Abram/God’s Promise to Abram

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Genesis 12

MEMORY WORK:

Genesis 1:1

Days of Creation

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I may not always understand what God in His Word asks me to do, but if I study the Bible and try my hardest to obey, He has promised to bless me, just as He did Abram

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| **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

Have you ever been on a trip? (Discuss) What did you pack? We are going to study about a man that moved to a new home just because God told him to! His name was Abram. (Later his name was changed to Abraham.) How does God talk to us? We can’t hear His voice like Abram, but we can study and obey the Bible just like Abram obeyed God.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. For younger children: The teacher should focus on God telling Abram to move to the land of Canaan. He and Sarai moved and obeyed God. Focus on the three promises made. It would be good to have an object to represent each promise (baby or child figurine, picture of land of Canaan, and picture of Jesus). Focus on how we can obey God like Abram.
2. Eight generations after the Flood (about 300 years), there was a man named Terah who lived in the land called “Chaldea” (later known as Babylon), between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Terah had three sons: Abram, Nahor, and Haran (Haran died in Ur. Nahor married his niece, Milcah, had eight children, and remained in Mesopotamia).

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the articles “[**How Old was Terah**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=758)[**when Abraham was Born?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=758)” and “**[Terah Begot Abraham—When?](http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=900)**” by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for responses to alleged Bible contradictions regarding the birth of Abraham.

1. From Stephen’s comments in Acts 7, and Moses’ account of these events in Genesis 11 and 12, we learn that God spoke to Abram while he was in Ur of the Chaldees and told him to leave his family and his country behind and to go to an unknown land—a land that God Himself would show Abram. Abram took his father Terah and his nephew Lot with him. They went as far as Haran, into another idol-worshipping civilization. Abram would have been considered a very unusual man to worship the one true God in that place, at that time.
2. After some time, Terah died and Abram left Haran, continuing on his journey. He was 75 years old when he, his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and their servants left Haran. Abram and his family left a very civilized area of the world to move from place to place for almost 25 years (Discuss what it must have been like to leave a house to live in a tent, and to leave the conveniences of a “modern” city for deserted areas, etc.).
3. God made Abram three very special promises, which would be repeated by God to Abram at least three times, then later to his son Isaac and his grandson, Jacob. The three promises were:
	1. God would give him many descendants (children, grandchildren, etc.).
	2. God would give him a special land for his descendants (Canaan).
	3. God would bless everyone in the world through one of Abram’s descendants: One who would be the Savior of the world.

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the article “[**The Predicted**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=10&amp;article=1734&amp;topic=101)[**Messiah**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=10&amp;article=1734&amp;topic=101)” by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site for further study on O.T. predictions about the Messiah (i.e., Jesus).

1. Abram believed God’s promises and responded in faith, doing just as God asked him to do, even though it would be many, many years before the promises were fulfilled.
2. They journeyed southward to Shechem, then to a place between Bethel and Ai. At each place, Abram built an altar to worship the Lord.
3. There are some commands God has given us in the New Testament that we may not understand, but it is very important to obey, no matter what we think or feel. We must trust God. What is trust? Trust is having faith and confidence in someone else and what he says. Trust gives us a feeling of safety and security, without fear. If we believe and trust God, we will choose to obey (Example: baby birds or ducks following their mother).

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

* ABeka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file.
* Decorate room or bulletin board as a “travelogue” for Abram’s Journey of Faith. Include Ur, Haran, Shechem, Ai, Bethel, Mt. Moriah, the Jordan River, Sodom and Gomorrah, Egypt, etc. Tell this and each of the following stories from Abram’s life as you move the children from place to place. Have cutouts of each of Abram’s family and move them from place to place (Leave “Haran” at Ur and “Terah” at the city of Haran). Place cutouts of an altar at Shechem and between Ai and Bethel.).
* Set up a tent to tell the story in.
* Suitcases or things you might use when traveling

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

##### “Father Abraham”\*

Father Abraham had many sons

And many sons had Father Abraham

And I am one of them and so are you

So let’s all praise the Lord

(Right arm)

V.2 (Left arm)

V.3 ( Right foot

V.4 (Left foot)

V.5 (Chin up)

V.6 (Tongue out)

V.7 (Turn Around, sit down)

\*Discuss how God kept his promise to Abram that he would have a big family – many sons. Christians are adopted into the family of Abraham through Christ. This is how we are sons of Abraham.

**“3 Wandering Jews”**

Once there were 3 wandering Jews (repeat)

Wandering, wandering, Jew-Jew-Jews (repeat)

Once there were 3 wandering Jews.

The first one’s name was Abraham (repeat)

Abra-Abra-ham-ham-ham (repeat)

The first one’s name was Abraham

The second one’s name was Isaac (repeat)

I-I-saac-saac-saac, (repeat)

The second one’s name was Isaac

The third one’s name was Jacob(repeat)

Ja-Ja-cob-cob-cob, (repeat)

The third one’s name was Jacob.

The all went down to Canaan land, (repeat)

Canaan, Canaan, land, land, land, (repeat)

They all went down to Canaan land.

### SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* To illustrate trust, teacher leads blindfolded (or have them close their eyes) children around the room.
* Act out the story (especially Genesis 11 and 15:1-21)
* Cut a [suitcase](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/1-3-4-16Suitcase.pdf) out of construction paper and cut items out of magazines that you would take if you were moving like Abram. Have children pick items to put in their suitcase or glue on it. The four and five year olds could cut their own out of magazines. (suitcase provided in activity sheets)

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.)

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Bring a suitcase and clothes or items you would take on a trip and let children pack the suitcase. The teacher could ask simple review questions and each time a child answers correctly, he or she could put something in.

### Review Questions

### What was Abram’s dad’s name?

###  Terah

### What were Abram’s two brothers’ names?

### Nahor, Haran

### Where did Abram go when he left Ur?

###  Haran, the place

### Where did God speak to Abram?

### Ur

### How many promises did God make to Abram?

###  Three

###  List the three promises God made to Abram?

###  1. God would give him many descendants;

### 2. God would give his descendants a special land;

### 3. God would bless the world through a descendant of Abram)

###  Where did Abram go when he left Haran?

### Shechem

### Where did Abram go after Shechem?

### Between Bethel and Ai

### What was Abram’s wife’s name?

### Sarai

### What was Abram’s nephew’s name?

### Lot

### Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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