

HEROES

OF THE

FAITH

Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power

5

100 YEAR OLD ABRAHAM HAS A SON

HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012

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Arlington † Metroplex
Taking church to the people



100 YEAR OLD ABRAHAM HAS A SON

Memory Verse:

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)

Lesson Goals:

- #1 - Understand how ordinary Abraham was
- #2 - Discover what faith led Abraham to do
- #3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

Audience:

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

Scripture to Study:

Genesis 11:27-22:18 (as background)

Genesis 12:1-9

Genesis 15:1-6

Genesis 17:1-8, 15-21

Genesis 18:1-16

Genesis 21:1-7

Genesis 22:1-18

Joshua 24:2-3

Isaiah 41:8

Hebrews 6:13-15

Hebrews 11:8-19



100 YEAR OLD ABRAHAM HAS A SON

Genesis 12:1-9, Genesis 15:1-6, Genesis 17:1-8, 15-21, Genesis 18:1-16,
Genesis 21:1-7, Genesis 22:1-18

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

Our hero: Abraham

His Heroic Feat: Believed God

Believing God may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

We meet Abraham, whose name started out as Abram, while he is living with his father and nephew in the land of Ur. Abram grew up in a home where other gods were worshipped. (Joshua 24:2) Abram was married to Sarai. They had no children because Sarai couldn't conceive.

One day, when Abram was 75 years old, God spoke to him. God told Abram to leave his country and his people. God told Abram He would show him where to go. God also told Abram, "I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you."

(Genesis 12:2a NIV) Abram would also be a blessing to others. Amazingly, Abram, who was more familiar with false gods than the one, true God, **believed God**. "So Abram left, just as the Lord had told him." (Genesis 12:4a NIV) Abram and his family arrived in the land of Canaan. They lived there as strangers, but God promised to give the land to Abram's children. There seemed to be a problem, though. If you'll remember, Abram and Sarai didn't have children.

Abram thought that his servant Eliezer would inherit all that he had. God told Abram, "'This man will not get what belongs to you. A son will come from your own body. He will get everything you own.' The Lord took Abram outside and said, 'Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can.' Then He said to him, 'That is how many children you will have.'" (Genesis 15:4-5 NIV) And do you know what? As outrageous as it sounded, Abram **believed God**! The Bible tells us that God "accepted Abram because he believed. So his faith made him right with the Lord." (Genesis 15:6 NIV)

Sarai didn't get pregnant right away, though. Abram and Sarai waited and waited and waited. There seemed to be no sign of God keeping His promise. And then, "when Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him." (Genesis 17:1 NIV) God reminded Abram of His promise and because of that promise, God changed Abram's name. "You will not be called Abram anymore. Your name will be Abraham, because I have made you a father of many nations." (Genesis 17:5 NIV) God also changed Sarai's name. He changed it to Sarah. "Abraham fell with his face to the ground. He laughed and said to himself, 'Will a son be born to a man who is 100 years old? Will Sarah have a child at the

age of 90?" (Genesis 17:17 NlrV) The answer, "Yes!" That is exactly what God had in mind. Abraham had waited 25 years for this son God promised and it was time for the promise to be kept.

"The Lord was gracious to Sarah, just as He said He would be. He did for Sarah what He had promised to do." (Genesis 21:1 NlrV) Sarah gave birth to a son. "He was born at the exact time God had promised him." (Genesis 21:2b NlrV) And they named their son Isaac.

What joy Isaac brought to Abraham and Sarah! But "some years later God decided to test Abraham." (Genesis 22:1a CEV) God spoke to Abraham and said, "Take your son, your only son. He is the one you love. Take Isaac. Go to Moriah. Give him to me there as a burnt offering. Sacrifice him on one of the mountains I will tell you about." (Genesis 22:2 NlrV) Can you imagine? Abraham had waited so long for Isaac and now God was asking for him back. What would Abraham do?

"Early the next morning Abraham got up. He put a saddle on his donkey. He took two of his servants and his son Isaac with him. He cut enough wood for the burnt offering. Then he started out for the place God had told him about." (Genesis 22:3 NlrV) What obedience!

Abraham built an altar on the mountain God showed him. He added the wood. Then he tied up his son Isaac and placed him on the altar on top of the wood. "Then [Abraham] reached out his hand, he took the knife to kill his son." (Genesis 22:10 NlrV) You see, Abraham had believed God when he promised to give him a son. And Abraham believed that it was through Isaac that God would bring about His other promises. So Abraham's willingness to obey God in this difficult thing of sacrificing his son showed that Abraham also **believed** that **God** could raise the dead! (Hebrews 11:19a) And "in a way, he did receive Isaac back from death." (Hebrews 11:19b NlrV) God sent a ram to be sacrificed in Isaac's place.

YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. Abraham believed God. That may not seem spectacular to you, but have you ever waited 25 years for anything? Abraham did. And "He kept believing in God's promise. . . He was absolutely sure that God had the power to do what He had promised. That's why 'God accepted Abraham because he believed. So his faith made him right with God.'" (Romans 4:20-22 NlrV) Do you believe God? That begins with believing in Him. Our memory verse says "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that **whoever believes in Him** shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16 NIV) What are you waiting for? It's just the beginning of being a hero!

NEXT WEEK
Jacob Wrestles With
God

PRE-SCHOOL!

LESSON

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

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One day, when Abraham was 75 years old, God spoke to him. God told Abraham to leave his country and his people. God told Abraham He would show him where to go. Abraham believed God. "So Abraham left, just as the Lord had told him." (Genesis 12:4a NIV) God promised to give the land to Abraham's children. There seemed to be a problem, though. Abraham and Sarah didn't have children.

God promised Abraham that he would have a son. "The Lord took Abram outside and said, 'Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can.' Then He said to him, 'That is how many children you will have.'" (Genesis 15:5 NIV) And do you know what? Abram believed God!

Sarah didn't get pregnant right away, though. Abraham waited and waited and waited. It looked like God had forgotten about His promise. And then, when Abram was 99 years old, God appeared to him. God reminded Abraham of His promise. "Abraham fell with his face to the ground. He laughed and said to himself, 'Will a son be born to a man who is 100 years old? Will Sarah have a child at the age of 90?'" (Genesis 17:17 NIV) Yes! That is exactly what God had in mind. Abraham had waited 25 years for this son God promised and it was time for God to keep the promise.

"The Lord was gracious to Sarah, just as He said He would be. He did for Sarah what He had promised to do." (Genesis 21:1 NIV) Sarah gave birth to a son. "He was born at the exact time God had promised him." (Genesis 21:2b NIV) And they named their son Isaac.

ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Sing John 3:16 or make up a rap.
- Make a string of stars. Fold a long strip of paper like an accordion and cut out stars or you may prefer stringing individual stars on yarn. Talk about God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 15:5, 22:17-18.
- If you haven't started a "Heroes Banner" do so. On a long strip of brown craft paper, write the heading "Heroes of the Faith." Add each hero, being sure to make note of his heroic feat. (Be sure that you allow enough space for all 52 heroes!)
- Listen to Michael Card's "They Called Him Laughter" and "God Will Provide a Lamb."
- Sing "Father Abraham," "I Will Change Your Name," "Our God," "I Will," or other songs related to the lesson.
- **For more training:** Discuss the numerous "children," or descendants, that Abraham had. Read Matthew 1:1-16. How do these verses confirm Genesis 17:6?
- **For more training:** Discuss James 2:14-24 in the light of this lesson.
- **For more training:** Read John 8:31-47. Discuss the implications of these verses for us today.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss Galatians 3:6-9, 14.
- **For more training:** Read: Genesis 22:1-2. Discuss: Would God ever ask us to do wrong? God was testing Abraham, not intending to have Abraham actually take his son's life. Read James 1:13-17 and discuss.

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John 3:16

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Ordinary Men and Women . . .
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HERO IN TRAINING

100 Year Old Abraham Has a Son

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Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9, Genesis 15:1-6, Genesis 17:1-8, 15-21, Genesis 18:1-16, Genesis 21:1-7, Genesis 22:1-18

Memory verse:

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Our Hero: _____

What did our hero do that was so heroic? _____

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? _____



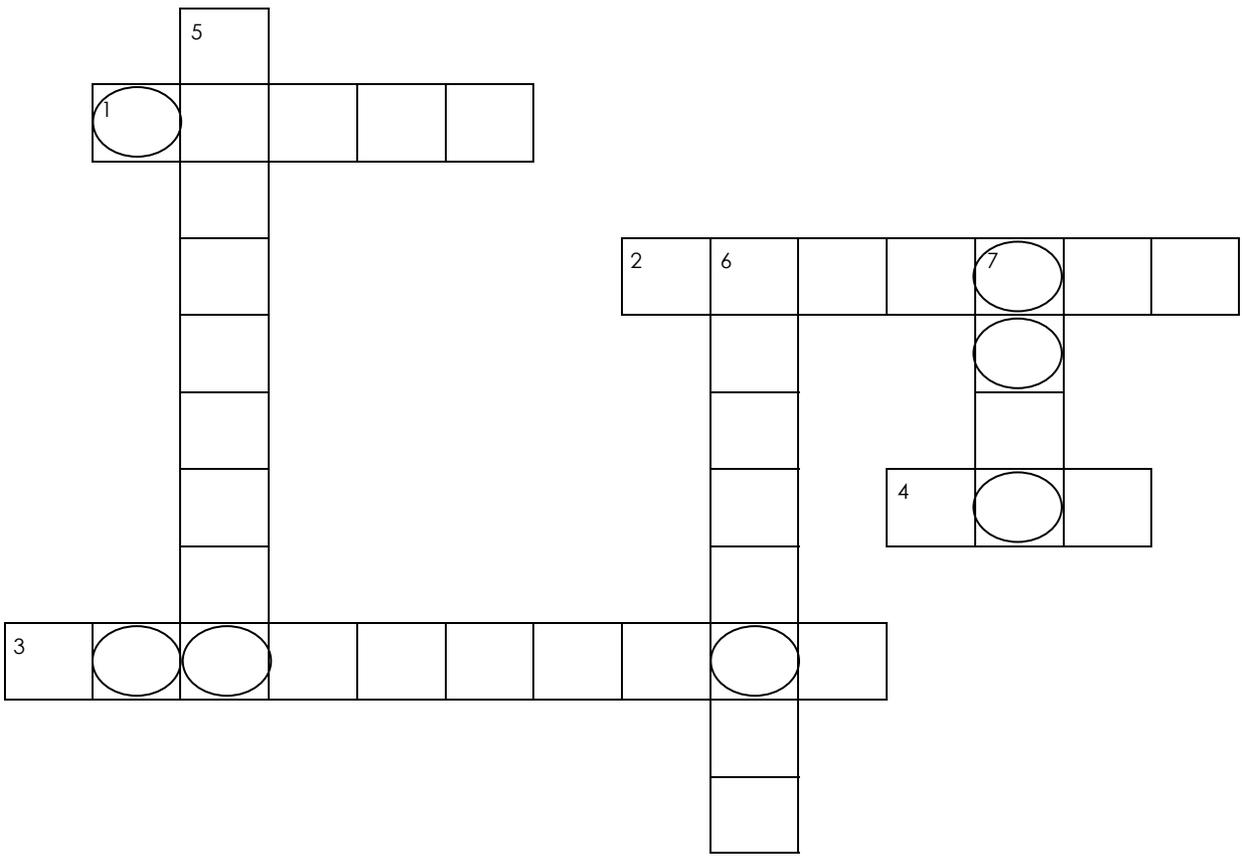
What power do Heroes of the Faith possess? _____

Do you have the power? _____

Read Hebrews 11:11, 17-19. List what Abraham believed.

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Complete the crossword puzzle. Then unscramble the circled letters to complete the memory verse.



Across

- 1 to lift up
- 2 our hero, the one who believed God
- 3 how many years Abraham waited for God to keep his promise of a child
- 4 the creator of the universe

Down

- 5 an offering to God, placed on an altar
- 6 trusted, had faith, what Abraham did
- 7 someone brave, courageous and compassionate

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that _____ believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 (NIV)

WORD

SEARCH!

B D C N F F E R I N G H O
H O H A R A S N I A C C A
A G P B E P R E F L O U V
M D A R N J I T S U S M O
D E S A O C A N D T A S I
E T K H Y M P A O I W A D
P C C A A S I X G O D E E
G E D M R R A S D A C C D
O D E R D N U H E N O I E
D S I S G N I R V S F W V
R E L A U G H T E R O T I
T R U N T E D G I A S M L
E T X D H R R E L T N I G
F N O I T A S R E S N O C
W A L K E D W I B R G B E

- Abraham

- Sarah

- Isaac

- believed God

- one hundred

- promise

- stars

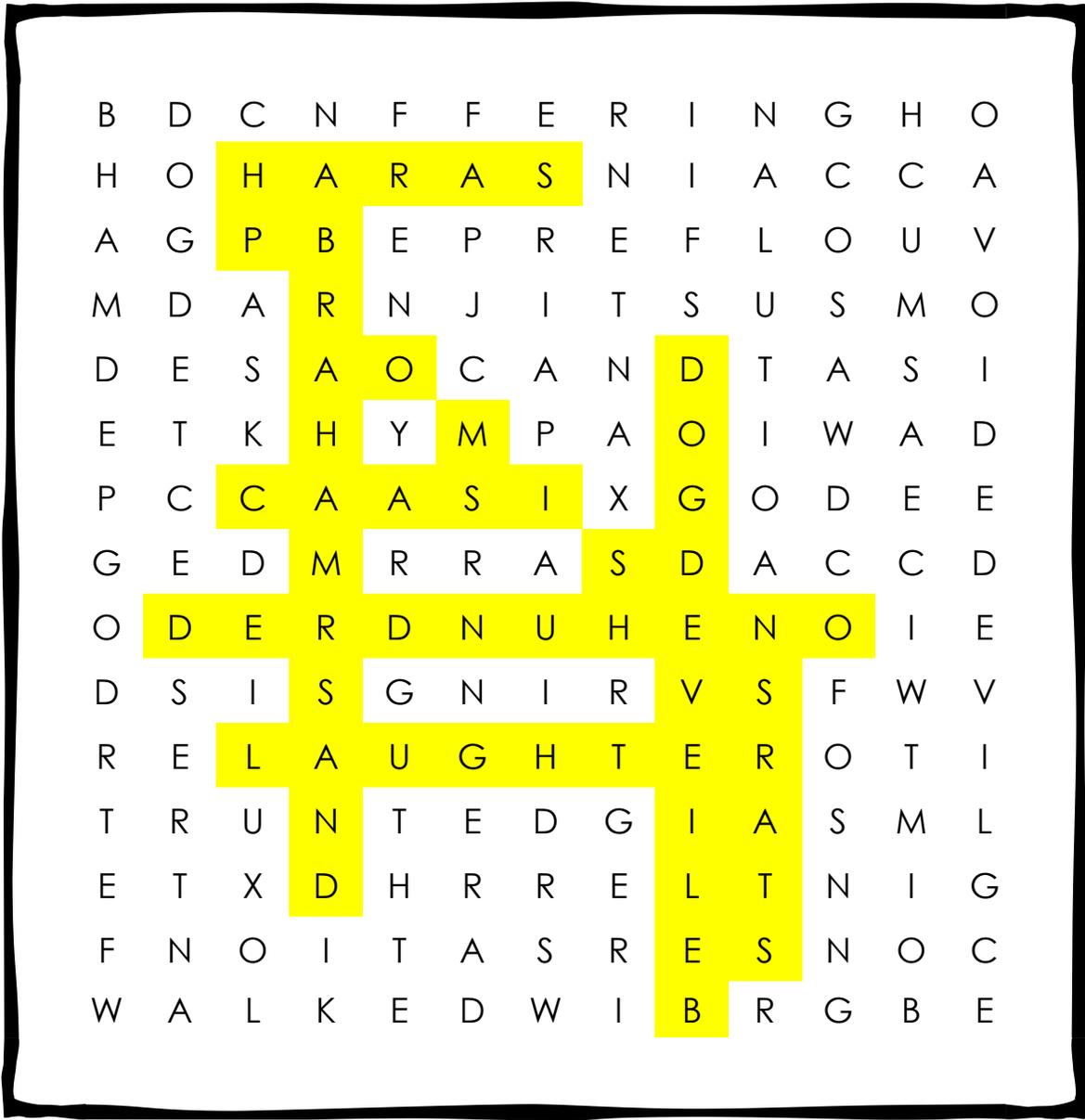
- sand

- laughter

WORD

SEARCH!

Answer Page



- Abraham

- Sarah

- Isaac

- believed God

- one hundred

- promise

- stars

- sand

- laughter