



Overview

Travelers will...

- discuss what it means when we say “God is with us on the Journey!”
- connect the story of Abraham and Sarah journeying with God with stories of their own journeys with God, and
- be challenged to notice God with them on their journeys as they answer God’s call of discipleship.

Materials

- Age-specific **Student Books** and/or **All Ages Reproducible Fun Pages**
- **Bible Story Activity Stickers** (for younger elementary only)
- Markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils
- **Road Trip Complete Music CD** or audio file of the song “God’s with Us on the Journey”

Timeline

for 20-minute centers

- 4 minutes: Icebreaker
- 3 minutes: Discussion
- 7 minutes: Self-Learning
- 4 minutes: Reflection
- 2 minutes: Prayer and Worship

for 15-minute centers

- 3 minutes: Icebreaker
- 2 minutes: Discussion
- 5 minutes: Self-Learning
- 3 minutes: Reflection
- 2 minutes: Prayer and Worship



Bible Story

Abraham and Sarah Follow God

(Genesis 12:1-9)

Green Light Verse

The LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

(Joshua 1:9)

Mile Marker

God is with us on the journey!

Icebreaker

Road Trip Souvenirs

SAY: Travelers, we'll be together a lot as we take this Road Trip, so let's make sure we get to know one another! Every Reflection Time, we'll start with a short get-to-know-you activity or Icebreaker.

In the story of Abraham and Sarah journeying with God, Abraham and Sarah built altars and worshipped God at important places along the way as a way of remembering special moments of God keeping promises made to them. When we go on road trips, we sometimes pick up souvenirs to help us remember special moments on our trips. For this first session's Icebreaker, let's tell everyone:

1. your name,
2. your favorite road trip or a road trip you'd like to take, and
3. the story of one souvenir you have, hope to get, or remember.

Discussion

- Why do you think God told Abraham to move to a new place and leave the land of his family?
- How do you think Sarah and Abraham felt about leaving their home and trusting God to journey to and live in a new land?

In the story "Abraham and Sarah follow God," we learn that God promised to be with Abraham on the journey. Then Abraham and Sarah obeyed God and did what God said, without knowing for sure what the land God promised would be like or what they would encounter on the journey. Through this journey and God's presence, Abraham and Sarah were blessed by God and became a blessing to others, including us.

- How does it make you feel to know that God also promises to be with you on your journey?
- In the story, what do Abraham and Sarah do to respond to God's goodness and promise keeping?

In our VBS song "God's with Us on the Journey," we sing "*When we feel discouraged, we will trust and pray.*" How can we remember to trust and pray when we feel discouraged?

(Optional: play/read the words to the song "God's with Us on the Journey")

The song "God's with Us on the Journey" tells us a lot about what we can expect when we journey with God. What phrase or promise in this song stands out that you'd like to remember?



Self-Learning

Younger Travelers

First and second graders complete the activities on pages 2–4 of the **Younger Elementary Student Book** and/or appropriate pages from this session of the new **All Ages Reproducible Fun Pages**.

As Travelers are completing the self-learning activities, discuss the following questions:

- **According to the story “Abraham and Sarah Follow God,”** who told Abraham to leave his land? (*God*)
- **Name one of the people who went with Abraham on this journey.** (*His nephew Lot, his wife Sarai or Sarah*)
- **What did Abraham build to remind him of God’s promises as he traveled through the land God promised?** (*Altars*)

The Lord spoke to Abraham and told him to leave Haran, his home, and go to the land of Canaan, the land God was promising him. When Abraham reached the land of Canaan, the Lord appeared to Abraham and promised to give the land to Abraham’s descendants. So God was with Abraham at the beginning of his journey and all the way into the land of Canaan.

Speaking of God being with Abraham and us, who can say our **Green Light Verse/Memory Verse with me?** (“*The LORD, your God is with you wherever you go.*” —Joshua 1:9)

When we say that **Green Light Verse**, it reminds us that God is with us everywhere we go. Where do you need God to go with you?

Older Travelers

Third through sixth graders complete the activities on pages 2–4 of the **Older Elementary Student Book** and/or appropriate pages from this session of the new **All Ages Reproducible Fun Pages**.

As Travelers are completing the self-learning activities, discuss the following questions:

- **According to the story “Abraham and Sarah Follow God,”** what did God say for Abraham to do? (*Leave his land, his family, and his household for the land that God would show him*)
- **Who went on this journey with Abraham?** (*His nephew Lot; his wife Sarai or Sarah, and all those who became members of their household in Haran*)
- **How did Abraham choose to remember the places that God showed him in the land that was promised?** (*Built altars and worshipped God*)

The Lord spoke to Abraham and told him to leave Haran, his home, and go to the land of Canaan, the land God was promising him. When Abraham reached the land of Canaan, the Lord appeared to Abraham and promised to give the land to Abraham’s descendants. So God was with Abraham at the beginning of his journey and all the way into the land of Canaan.

Speaking of God being with Abraham and us, who can say our **Green Light Verse/Memory Verse with me?** (“*The LORD, your God is with you wherever you go.*” —Joshua 1:9)

When we say that **Green Light Verse**, it reminds us that God is with us everywhere we go. Where do you need God to go with you?



Reflection

Trust in God

SAY: Travelers, when we read or listen to the story from the Book of Genesis about Abraham and Sarah following God, we might want to take some time and imagine what it must have been like to Abraham and Sarah for God to speak to and/or appear to them as it happened in this story.

- When you think about this story like this, does it seem like trusting God to be with you on the journey would have been easy or not so easy back then?
- How does knowing this story encourage us to know God is with us on our journeys today?

Our Mile Marker for this session is “God is with us on the journey!” As we think about the story “Abraham and Sarah Follow God,” we can see that God let Abraham know that God was with him, then God promised to bless Abraham and his descendants and that he and his descendants would be a blessing to others.

- What are some ways God has blessed us?
- What are some ways God can use us to be a blessing to others?

I hope we will all remember that we can be a blessing to others and remember God is with us on our journey!

Prayer and Worship

We will close each of our Reflection Times with worship and prayer.

In the story “Abraham and Sarah follow God,” we see how God speaks to Abraham, directing him on the journey and then staying with Abraham throughout the journey. Then, in the land God promised, God appears to Abraham and speaks to him again. It is almost like God being the GPS for Abraham and Sarah, giving directions. We may not hear God’s voice or see God like Abraham and Sarah did, but God directs us too, through the Bible, through our teachers, parents, and wise friends. For this prayer, I will say a sentence and we will say together, “God directs me step-by-step, God is with me turn-by-turn.”

Leader: **When I’m beginning my journey and I’m not sure where to start.**

All: **God directs me step-by-step, God is with me turn-by-turn,**

Leader: **When it feels like a struggle and I think I might lose heart.**

All: **God directs me step-by-step, God is with me turn-by-turn.**

Leader: **When I wish I could hear God’s voice, and I’d like to see God’s face.**

All: **God directs me step-by-step, God is with me turn-by-turn,**

Leader: **Then, I think to myself, like Sarah and Abraham, God will be with me all my days.**

All: **God directs me step-by-step, God is with me turn-by-turn,**

All: **Amen!**