Bible Story: Birth of Isaac brite\* Idea: God works to keep His promises. Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 7:9

## **Online Church Script**

Note: To use brite\* during online church, you can use any platform that you are comfortable with. However, if you are just getting started, we recommend an interactive platform such as Zoom or Facebook Live. You can also pre-record your videos using a resource such as screencast-o-matic.com or loom.com and then send or post your video. For copyright reasons, we ask that you show, share, and post the videos only in closed groups (such as you your church's children's ministry Facebook group) or email lists (such as your list of parents of kids that attend your church).

## **Host Teacher Welcome**



What's your favorite season of the year? Raise your hand if your favorite is:

- Summer
- Fall
- Winter
- Spring

Why is that your favorite season? Is it hard to wait for your favorite season of the year? Sometimes we might get impatient waiting for a long time for something we want, like waiting for colder weather when it's hot outside, or waiting for swimming weather when it's freezing! When we're waiting for something we want, even if it feels like we have to wait a long time, we can trust that God's timing is perfect. We're going to learn today about someone from the Bible who had to wait a long time for something he wanted.

There are so many questions we all wonder about — even if we never ask them out loud to anyone. What we learn from the Bible can help us answer all kinds of questions and help us know how to act in all kinds of situations.

#### Today's questions are:

- Why doesn't God make everything good happen right away?
- · Why doesn't God always do what we expect the way we expect it?
- What should I do when I am impatient with God and the things I hope will happen? Let's pray and ask God to help open our hearts and ears to hear Him.

## **Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for Your Word, the Bible. I pray that You would help us to learn what You have to say to us today. Amen.

## Find It in the Bible



Show the slide or video for this section.

Our Bible story takes place in Genesis the first book of the Old Testament. The Bible is 100 percent true, and God gave us the Bible so that we could know Him. The Bible has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Open a Bible and show the kids the title page for the book of Genesis. Show the Books of the Bible slide or play the "Books of the Old Testament" <u>song</u>.

Genesis is in the first book of the Old Testament, and it is in a part of the Bible called the Pentateuch,

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which means five. The Pentateuch is made up of the books that teach about the creation of the world and all people, God's relationship with His people, sin hurting that relationship, and God's promise to bless and restore His relationship with

His people. One of those people was Abraham. Last week, we learned about how God led Abraham to a new home that God had promised him. This week, we'll learn about another promise God made to Abraham. We'll learn that even though Abraham had to wait a long time for the promise to be fulfilled, God did keep His promise.

## Intro Section



Show the video for this section or use the script below. Show the kids a plant in a pot (or the picture provided).

#### Have you ever had to wait for something you really wanted?

(Allow kids to respond.) I planted seeds that will grow and become delicious fruits and vegetables, or maybe a beautiful flower, and now I'm just waiting on them to grow and turn into something wonderful!

## How long do you think it takes seeds to grow into plants?

Why can't they just grow right now? I planted the seeds. I watered them. And I have sat and watched them. I have even sung to them. I'm starting to get impatient, because I want all the good things right now!

#### Why do you think we sometimes have to wait for good things in our lives?

What good could come from waiting? Have you ever had to wait on a promise from God? Let's hear a story from the Bible about someone who had to wait on God for a promise.

## **Bible Story**



Birth of Isaac

Show the Bible Story video or read Genesis 18:1-15 and Genesis 21:1-6 from the Bible or from the downloadable script. Then follow the script below.

**Do you remember who Abraham was and what promises God made to him?** Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were very old and didn't have any children. God called Abraham to leave his home and travel to a new land that God promised him. God promised to bless Abraham, give him children — as many as the stars in the sky and the dust of the earth — and bless the world through his family! God led him to a

new land to live in, and in our story today, we learned about another promise God kept to Abraham.

#### What promise did Abraham and Sarah have to wait a long time for?

Abraham and Sarah waited to have a baby! Remember Abraham and Sarah were very old and probably thought they would never get to have children. The promise to have a child must have seemed impossible. God overcame an obstacle and kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah.

#### How did Sarah react to the news?

When Sarah heard the news, she laughed. We know this is important, because after they had the baby, they named the baby Isaac, which means *he laughs*. God had finally answered their prayer and fulfilled a promise Abraham and Sarah had been waiting on for a long time! She was holding the baby in her arms whom she had been waiting for and hoping for.

#### Did you know God makes promises to us too?

Even if we have to wait a long time for God to answer our prayers or do something in our lives, we can trust God and His timing. He is never late, and He doesn't forget

about us. During the times of waiting, we can learn patience, trust, and grow stronger as we lean on God and on others. We can use our times of waiting to help others or prepare ourselves for God's

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plans for our lives.

#### What are some of God's promises to us from the Bible?

God promises to always love us, always forgive us, and make us new creations when we trust in Him. God promises to give us His presence and comfort. He promises to help us when we struggle with temptation, and to give us strength and help when we need it. Even if we can't see them right away, we can trust God to keep His promises. Just like we may not see the vegetables and fruit right away from planted seeds, we may not see the good things God is doing in our lives right away, but we can trust Him.

## Conclusion



Show the video for this section, and then use the script below.

That plant I showed you at the beginning may take a while to grow after I plant the seeds, but while I'm waiting, I can learn to take care of it and see it start to sprout from the soil. I can water it and think about what I'll do with all the vegetables and fruit and flowers once they grow! I don't have to just sit in front of the pot and wait for the seed to grow into vegetables, fruit, and flowers. I will learn patience and do important things during the waiting time too!

When we're waiting for God to do something for us, it can be hard to be patient. But while we're waiting, we can be praying, learning patience, and learning to trust Him. His timing is always right, and He will always keep His promises. Just like He kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah to have a baby, even when it seemed impossible, God will work in our lives and keep His promises to us too.

What can we do when we start to get impatient for the things we hope to happen? We can look at how God provided a baby for Abraham and Sarah, even in their old age, and trust God with the timing He has in our lives too. We know that God is faithful, and our memory verse from Deuteronomy reminds us of this.

## **Memory Verse**



We memorize Bible verses because God gave us the Bible, and by memorizing verses we remember the truth within them. This verse reminds us that we can trust God because He is faithful to keep His promises.

**ESV**: *Know therefore that the* LORD *your God is God, the faithful God who keeps a covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations.* 

**NIV:** Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commands.

**KJV**: *Know therefore that the LORD thy God, He is God, the faithful God which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations.* 

**NKJV:** Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.

## **Point to Jesus**



Help kids connect what they have learned with the gospel, and use this opportunity to ask the kids if they want to choose Jesus as their Savior.

What it Means to Be a Christian: Jesus came into this world to save sinners, and offers salvation, rescuing us from our sin, to everyone who trusts Jesus Christ as their Savior. People who trust Jesus as their Savior are called Christians. Here's what it means to be a Christian in three words: Belong, Believe, Become.

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Belong: Being a Christian means that you belong to God, the Creator of the world who made you and loves you. You also get to be part of a community of people who know and love Jesus!

Believe: When you believe as a Christian, it means to place your trust in Jesus, to know that you are saved from sin only by what Jesus has done, not by anything you could do on your own. We know what God did through what it says in the Bible. The Bible is 100 percent true.

Become: As a Christian, you are in a journey of becoming, of growing in love for God and His Word, the Bible. This relationship you have with God makes a difference in every part of your life. When you are a Christian, you value your relationship with God and show love to Him by loving other people.

What's Next: When you are a Christian, you grow as a resilient disciple, a brave and loving follower of Jesus. Your love for God and the people around you gets deeper and stronger. Your attitude is shaped by the Bible, and that changes how you see the world. Your commitment is to show your love for Jesus in what you do and say every day.

Connect to Today's Story: God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a baby, and God kept His promise. God promised to send a Savior, and He sent Jesus to earth at just the right time.

## **Host Teacher Ends Teaching**



Today we learned from the story of the birth of Isaac that even when it seemed as though Abraham and Sarah were too old to have a baby, God kept His promises in His own time. We don't have to be impatient as we wait for God to work in our lives. We can trust Him and His timing.

There are so many guestions we all wonder about — even if we never ask them out loud to anyone. What we learn from the Bible can help us answer all kinds of questions and help us know how to act in all kinds of situations.

In our Bible story today, we learned how to think about the answers to these questions:



Question about God: Why doesn't God make everything good happen right now? We are learning that God works in His own time to keep His promises.



₩e∖ Question about people: Why doesn't God always do what we expect the way we expect it?

We are learning that God's schedule is not our schedule for how He works in our world.



Question about our purpose: What should I do when I feel impatient with God and the things I hope will happen?

We are learning that we can look at the circumstances of Isaac's birth and trust God with the timing He has in our lives too.

These questions are big, and by knowing Him through the Bible, God can help us to take on life's challenges!

When we take on life's challenges as followers of Jesus, we are being resilient disciples!

## What does it mean to be a resilient disciple?

When you are a resilient disciple, a brave and loving follower of Jesus, this is your identity. You see the world through what you learn from the Bible, and it impacts your actions. You grow every day in your love for God and it affects your attitude and the way you care for the people around you.

Think of a person you know who most shows a love for God in their life, especially in circumstances like we talked about today. You have the chance to grow in your own relationship with God like that too!

## **Optional Small Group Experiences**

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**Discussion Activity** 

### **Unbreakable Experiment**

**Supplies:** Piece of paper, thick book, piece of cloth, piece of toilet paper, piece of uncooked spaghetti pasta, pipe cleaner (or use a printable page with images of all the objects), piece of paper (1 per kid), crayons

**Goal:** Help kids understand the difference between promises of humans and the promises of God, and how God's timing works in our lives.

**Quick Instructions:** Set out the supplies (or images from the printable) grouped into pairs: paper and book, cloth and toilet paper, spaghetti and pipe cleaner. In each pair, hold them up and ask the kids which they think will break in half the easiest. Talk to them about the difference between human promises, which are breakable, and God's promises. Ask them to name promises people make that can be broken. Talk about how sometimes people forget things or circumstances change, and they have to break promises. Have kids get a piece of paper and have them draw a picture that reminds them that God keeps His promises in His time. End by talking about how God never breaks His promises, even when it seems like He's forgotten.

#### **Expanded Instructions:**

- 1. Set out the supplies in pairs: piece of paper and thick book; piece of cloth and piece of toilet paper; piece of pasta noodle and pipe cleaner.
- 2. **Say:** For each pair, one of them is more easily breakable than the other. Let's try out which one would break. *Let the kids try to break one of the items in each pair.*
- 3. Ask: Which was easier to break? Allow kids to respond.
- 4. **Say:** The one that was easy to break are like the promises that others make to us. Sometimes people forget things or circumstances change, and they have to break those promises.
- 5. **Ask:** What about the one that was harder to break, and didn't break at all? What do you think that helps us to remember? God doesn't break His promises!
- 6. **Ask** and **Say**: Was it easy to tell which item would break easily? Do you always trust God to keep His promises? Even if we have to wait on Him, God always keeps His promises to us in His own time.
- 7. Have kids get a piece of paper and any coloring mediums they have.
- 8. **Say:** I want you to take your piece of paper and draw a picture or write something that reminds you that God keeps His promises in His time. *Give kids time to draw or write. Offer a time to share, if possible.*
- 9. **Say:** God never breaks His promises, even when it may seem like He's forgotten.
- 10. Choose questions below to discuss with kids or to pose as something to think about this week.

#### **Optional Discussion Questions:**

- Were you right on every guess about which item would break and which wouldn't?
- Have you ever had a person break a promise to you? How did it make you feel?

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**Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 7:9** 

How does it make you feel knowing God never breaks a promise?

## **Prayer Activity**

**God's Promises Prayer** 

Supplies: Printable page, piece of paper (one per child), crayons

Goal: Kids will review some of God's promises and practice thankfulness through prayer.

**Quick Instructions:** Using the God's Promises Prayer cards, choose two prayer cards. Give each kid a set of God's Promises Prayer cards and a crayon. Read over each of the cards with the kids. Have kids take their piece of paper and copy the words of the promise on their paper. Then, have kids draw a symbol to help them remember the promise. Next, lead kids through a time of giving thanks to God for each promise, and asking for help believing and remembering the promise. End with talking about how we are to thank Him for His faithfulness. If we need help trusting God with a certain promise or area of our lives, we can ask Him for help.

#### **Expanded Instructions:**

- 1. **PREP:** Print and cut out the prayer cards and choose which two promises you would like to share with them. Of course, if you have more time, do all of the promises with them.
- 2. **Say:** God has promised us so much. We were reminded today that God is faithful to keep his promises and do things in His time. Let's go over some of His promises He has made to us.
- 3. Have kids get a piece of paper and writing utensil.
- 4. Read through the promises. Hold up your promise cards so the kids can see them virtually.
- 5. **Say:** Now, I want you to take your piece of paper and write down this promise on your paper. Continue to show the card until you notice that most are finished.
- 6. **Say:** Think of a symbol that you could draw that would help you remember this promise. Take some time now to draw.
- 7. Repeat steps 5 & 6 for each promise you choose to share.
- 8. **Say**: We're going to pray together and give thanks to God for His faithfulness in our lives and for the promises. We will also ask Him to help us trust Him in each promise. *Lead kids in prayer through each promise*.
- 9. **Say:** God promises to always love us, always be with us, forgive us, to help us when we are tempted, to make us new. God promises we will live with Him forever if we trust Him. He promises to give us strength and comfort. Does He promise everything will always go perfectly for us, and we'll always get what we want, when we want it? No! But we can trust God to lead us and help us through anything we face.

#### **Optional Discussion Questions:**

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- Which promise is the easiest for you to remember and trust?
- Which promise is the one you need the most help remembering or trusting?
- What can you do when you're waiting on God to answer a prayer or fulfill a promise in your life?

## Shine! Send Off

To help kids and parents remember what they learned from this week's story, consider sharing the following through an email, in the files tab of your private Facebook® group or through your social media presence:

- Choose Your Challenge Comic Strip printable (can be found in the printables folder of your brite\* kids download)
- Parent Monthly Resource (can be found in the parent resource folder of your brite\* kids download)
- Shareable graphics for Social Media (can be found in the social media folder of your brite\* kids download)