

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 12: 1-3, 15:1-6

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On a large poster board or dry erase board, draw the lines to make a large <u>five-pointed star</u> as you paraphrase today's Bible story. You could do this on the back of your Big Idea board with chalk or metallic marker, and then flip it over to reveal the Big Idea after the Bible story.
- A long time ago, God spoke to someone named Abram and told him to leave his home and go to a different place that God was going to show him. [Draw the first line.]
 - Have you ever left your home to go to a new place? Imagine having to leave your whole family and all your friends. How would you feel if you had to do that?
- But the story didn't end there. God told Abram that he was going to become really great. God was going to bless Abram and make him a "great nation."[Draw the second line.]
 - o If God had said that to you, what would you think it meant?
- Some time later, God spoke to Abram again. God remembered the promise made to Abram and told him not to be afraid. [Draw the third line.]
 - Why might Abram have been afraid?
- God promised Abram that he would be the father to a great nation. But Abram
 was old and didn't have any children. He could not imagine how that could be
 so. [Draw the fourth line.]
 - Have you ever been promised something but you weren't sure it would happen?
- God led Abram outside. "Count the stars," God said. But there were so many
 Abram couldn't count them all. God told Abram that he was going to have a lot of
 kids, and then those kids would have lots of kids, and so on. [Draw the fifth line.]
- Have you ever tried to count the stars?
- Just as the stars are too many to count, so are the people who came from Abram's family. From that one person came many, many people who would one day follow the one, true God. God promised that Abram would be great now, but even greater in the future!

THE BIG IDEA | God's promises are for now and for later.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Write the Big Idea in large letters on a black poster board, using chalk markers in rainbow or neon colors. Tape large tropical leaves on top of the words. When it's time, remove the leaves one by one to reveal the Big Idea.
- There are many promises in the Bible that God made to people back then that are promises God makes to us today.
- Let's say today's Big Idea together: God's promises are for now and for later.

VIDEO | Promise, Episode 3

• INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's preschool teaching video.

ACTIVITY | Star Blessing

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a construction paper star, a marker, and various art materials. If you are in a space designated for your own use, keep the stars and hang them from the ceiling as a reminder that God's promises are for now and for later.
 - o **TODDLER HACK:** *Make <u>starry night sensory bags</u> for the kids to explore.*
- You are a part of God's promise and a part of Abram's blessing. Write your name on the star and decorate it.

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Let the kids hold their star as you pray together.
- Dear God, thank You for Your promise to Abram. We know that You promised great things for Abram and for us. Your promises are for now and for later. Help us to trust You like Abram did!