

Sunday, February 28

Lent, Lesson 2

Follow the QR code for this week's video and lesson webpage.



God's Promise to Abraham

Abram and Sarai were faithful believers in God, but they had not been blessed with children of their own. God promised Abram that he would be the father of many generations—more people than stars in the sky or grains of sand on a beach! As a sign of that promise, God changed Abram's name to Abraham. We remember that God blessed Abraham to be the ancestor of all God's followers.



Bible Story

Reflection Questions

Preparing for Youth Sunday

Our Lenten Journey

Activity

Background: The Seventh Generation Principle

Indigenous people of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (the Iroquois) used the "seventh generation principle" when making decisions about their people. The ancient principle guides the leaders to how their decision would affect their children seven generations into the future. What kind of world do we want to leave our children's children's children's children's children's children's children's children?

Preparing for the story

Abram believed in God even when all the people around him did not. What do you think helped him to keep the faith?

What other stories do you remember about Abraham and his family?

Key Lessons

- Unit theme: God keeps God's promises, even when we don't
- God promised that Abraham would be the ancestor of many generations
- We can promise to make decisions that benefit the generations yet to come!

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Children's Bible in 365 Stories, #14

God talked to Abraham when he faced a difficult decision saying, "Don't be afraid, Abraham. I will keep you safe and I will give you a great reward." Abraham wanted neither riches nor honor. There was only one thing he and Sarah long for a child of their own. "What good will riches do me?" he asked bitterly, "I have no son to inherit my wealth Sarah and I are too old now to have children. When I die, one of my slaves will be my heir. "

"Go outside your tent, "God told him," and look up at the sky. "

Abraham went out into the cool evening air. The night was bright with stars. "Can you count those stars?" God asked. "I promise that you will have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. I am the God who brought you out of Ur, I will be your God and your children's guide forever. I am going to give you and Sarah a son and I will give you this country for his descendants to live in."

Although God's promises sounded impossible, as Abraham stood there in the velvety darkness he believed with all his heart that God would keep God's word. God was glad that Abraham trusted God. God accepted Abraham because he put his whole faith in God.

God kept his promise to Abraham and Sarah. Just as God had said, at the time God had foretold, Sarah gave birth to a baby boy. She was so happy that she laughed for joy.

God's Promise to Abraham

"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations... I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. " Genesis 17:4-5, 7

Preparing for Youth Sunday, March 21

During Lent, St. Andrew's and St. Michael's kids will prepare to create and lead our Youth Sunday service. This week, make a drawing of **Abraham under the sky of stars**. Send your drawing to Rev. Mia mia@standrewswellesley.org to be featured in the Youth Sunday service!

Reflection Questions

Lower Elementary:

What do you think about when you look at the stars at night?

What do you know about your ancestors?
What is the name of the furthest back ancestor your family knows about?

Upper Elementary:

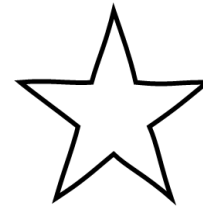
Ask your parents why they wanted to have children. Was it a hard decision?

Communities often make decisions with the generations of the future in mind. Can you think of what some of those decisions might be?

Our Family Tree

How much do you know about your ancestors? With your parents' help, draw a family tree. Start with you or your siblings as the outer branches. Add the names of your parents and their parents as far back as you can go!

As Christians, we trace our faiths' family trees back to our common ancestor, Abraham. So do Jews and Muslims!

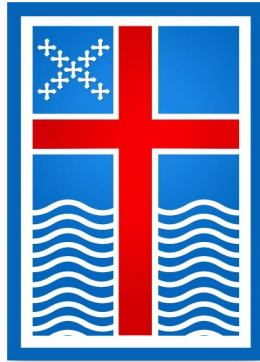


Our Lenten Journey

Each Sunday in Lent, we'll be making a promise to God in response to God's promise to us. We'll grow into our promises throughout Lent—and "hatch" them together on Easter!

- Make and color in a **star** sticker for "God's promise to Abraham."
- Write a promise you want to make **about caring for future generations**. *God, I will care for future generations by...* Put the promise in your **yellow** egg.
- Put some grains of sand in your **yellow** egg to remember how numerous Abraham's descendants are.
- (Put a piece of candy in the **yellow** egg, too! You'll get to eat it on Easter)

Put your **star** sticker on your **yellow** egg and keep it with your Alleluia box.



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Find videos and more on our children's page: standrewswellesley.org/Christian-learning/children

Discover what other kids are learning: [@standrewswellesleyyouth](https://www.instagram.com/standrewswellesleyyouth) on Instagram

Online worship, Sundays at 10am: standrewswellesley.org/live

Lent 2021

SUN	Unit 6: God Keeps Promises
Feb 21	Unit 6, Lesson 1— God's Promise to All Creation
Feb 28	Unit 6, Lesson 2—God's Promise to Abraham
March 7	Unit 6, Lesson 3—God's Promise to Moses
March 14	Unit 6, Lesson 4— Jesus' Promise to Us
March 21	Unit 6, Lesson 5—God's Promises on our Hearts Youth Sunday: Arrive on Zoom at 9:45am to be part of the Live Youth Sunday service!