

Bringing The Story Home- Ch. 2- Week of January 15th

GOD BUILDS A NATION

Bringing The Story Home is a tool for you to use with your family to connect with the weekly lessons taught in "The Story" curriculum. Feel free to use these activities in a way that fits your family life. Do what works with the time you have each week.



Big Idea: God Has a Plan for Me!

Bible Basis: Genesis 12-35

Key Verse: [God said], "I will give you all of the land that you see. I will give it to you and your children after you forever. I will make your children like the dust of the earth." Genesis 13:14-16 NIV

Parent Tips: Read and discuss the Big Idea from TrueKidz. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table or at some point this week. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child understand the importance of listening to God's voice even when we can't see the next step. The Extra Mile idea will help you drive home the concept of authentic faith.

Table Talk:

Younger Elementary

- **How do you see God working in your life?** (Could be feeling better after being sick, answered prayer, etc.)
- **What are some of the ways God worked in Abraham's life?** (Giving him land, children, etc.)
- **Would you have the same faith Abraham displayed by moving to a place you knew nothing about?**
- **Why is it so hard to move or adjust to new things? What does God do to help you feel better when things change?** (Gives you new friends, Love of family, speaks through His Word, etc.)

Older Elementary

- **Have you ever read something in the Bible and thought, "That's impossible!" Is anything impossible for God?**
- **How does faith play a role in God's "impossible" plans for our life?**
- **After Abraham passed God's test, did God give Abraham "descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand" (Genesis 22:17) right away?**
- **What can you learn about waiting for God's plan to come true?**
- **Why is it so hard to wait?**

Living Faith: Gather your family outside or in the living room. For this activity you'll need something to mark boundaries and items to set up an obstacle course. You can use pillows, empty 2-liter plastic bottles, stuffed animals, baseball bats, etc. Divide family members into pairs. If there is an odd number, have one person rotate in. Explain that one member from each team will stand on one side of the obstacle course wearing a bandana so he can't see anything. The other team member will stand on the other side and call out verbal directions to guide their partner. Only verbal directions, such as "Two small steps forward," "One step left," or "Lift your foot really high and take a big step" are allowed. All teams go through the

obstacle course at the same time, so it can be pretty chaotic. If the blindfolded person steps on an obstacle, knocks one down, or goes outside the boundary, then he has to be guided back to the beginning and start again. Take turns being blindfolded and giving directions, and always rearrange the obstacle course once a person has made it through. Feel free to adapt to fit your family situation.

When you decide to stop playing, ask these questions:

- **What was the hardest part about being blindfolded?** (Couldn't see; hard to hear directions) Explain that the blindfolded person had to totally trust the directions to stay safe and make it to the destination.
- **Do you think Abraham may have felt the same way when God called him to go to Canaan?**
- **Is it harder to obey when you can see the destination or when you are walking blind?**
- **What was the hardest part of giving directions?** (Had to shout; had to put yourselves in other person's shoes to guide left or right)
- **Does God ever mess up in the directions he gives us?**
- **Because we can always trust God, what should we do when we hear his leading?**

[Extra Mile:](#) For added emphasis about living out a real faith, bring your family around a computer and do a search for "Stained Glass Masquerade video." Then click on the YouTube video from Casting Crowns that's three minutes and 54 seconds long. You can also search for the song's lyrics if you want to read along.

After watching the video, ask:

- **What do you think the song means by "happy plastic people"?**
- **According to the song, is it OK to fail?**
- **How should the church treat people who fail?**

Explain that the Bible is filled with people who failed and didn't have the faith to fully trust God. But God forgives and gives us a second chance. He doesn't want us to be plastic and pretend everything's OK when it isn't. We need to be real with God and each other. When we have faith in God, his love can help us live authentically as the person he's created us to be.

[Prayer Time:](#) *Dear God, thank you for calling us to faith. Help us to always live for you and listen to your guidance in our lives. Amen.*