



# Abram Follows God’s Direction

Genesis 12:1-8

Infants and toddlers see the world as an extension of themselves. They don’t yet know or trust in a personal God who watches over their lives. Young children develop trust when parents and caregivers provide them with a loving, secure environment. This basic trust lays a foundation for the ability to trust God later.




► **Bible Point**  
We can follow God.

**Key Verse**  
“Trust in the Lord  
with all your heart”  
(Proverbs 3:5).

**Weaving Faith  
Into Life**  
Children will strengthen  
their trust in God and  
learn about following  
him.

**INFANT**


| LESSON                              | WHAT CHILDREN DO  | SUPPLIES   | EASY PREP  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>1</b><br>Getting Started         | <b>Sing and Celebrate</b><br>Listen to praise songs.                        | CD player<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD   |  |
| <b>2</b><br>Bible Exploration       | <b>The Big Tent</b><br>Use sight and touch to explore a picture.            | glue, sand or clear glitter, scissors, felt or paper, tape<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Abram and Sarai” teaching picture<br> | Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape the flap down on the back. |
| <b>3</b><br>Weaving Faith Into Life | <b>Going Up!</b><br>Learn an action verse.                                  | blanket  |  |
|                                     | <b>I Can Trust God</b><br>Listen to a “snuggling” song.                     |  |  |
|                                     | <b>Weaving Faith at Home</b><br>Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. | My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)  | Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.  |

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*





## TODDLER


| LESSON                              | WHAT CHILDREN DO  | SUPPLIES  | EASY PREP  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>1</b><br>Getting Started         | <b>Sing and Celebrate</b><br>Sing or listen to praise songs.  | CD player<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD  |  |
| <b>2</b><br>Bible Exploration       | <b>Abram and Sarai's Journey</b><br>Hear about Abram and Sarai from Genesis 12:1-8, and explore things to pack for a journey. | Bible; glue; sand or clear glitter; felt; scissors; tape; pillowcase filled with child-sized clothing, a toothbrush, a hairbrush, and a piece of fruit<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> "Abram and Sarai" teaching picture<br> | Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape it down on the back. |
| <b>3</b><br>Weaving Faith Into Life | <b>Glitter-Shaker Followers</b><br>Add "sand" and a door to their pictures.   | scissors, fabric scraps, glitter shakers, washable markers or large crayons, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Abram and Sarai" page (at the end of this lesson), glue  | Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut fabric-scrap tent doors to fit on the handout. You'll need a fabric door for each child.   |
|                                     | <b>Abram and Sarai's Travel March</b><br>March to music.  | CD player<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD  |  |
|                                     | <b>Weaving Faith at Home</b><br>Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.   | My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)   |  |

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



**2-YEAR-OLD**



| LESSON                              | WHAT CHILDREN DO  | SUPPLIES   | EASY PREP  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>1</b><br>Getting Started         | <b>Sing and Celebrate</b><br>Sing or listen to praise songs.                                    | CD player<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD   |  |
| <b>2</b><br>Bible Exploration       | <b>Abram and Sarai Follow God</b><br>Guess the contents of a packed pillowcase.                 | Bible; glue; sand or clear glitter; felt; scissors; tape; pillowcase filled with child-sized clothing, a toothbrush, a hairbrush, and a piece of fruit<br><b>Teacher Pack:</b> “Abram and Sarai” teaching picture<br> | Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape it down on the back. |
| <b>3</b><br>Weaving Faith Into Life | <b>Sarai’s Sand Makers</b><br>Make pictures to remind them of how Abram and Sarai followed God. | scissors, fabric scraps, glitter shakers, washable markers or crayons, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Abraham and Sarai” page (at the end of this lesson), glue, 2 paintbrushes, paper plate, wet wipes   | Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut fabric-scrap tent doors to fit on the handout. You’ll need a fabric door for each child.   |
|                                     | <b>Abram’s Map</b><br>Use touch to learn about Abram’s journey.                                 |  |  |
|                                     | <b>Weaving Faith at Home</b><br>Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.                     | My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)  |  |

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



# Abram Follows God's Direction

Genesis 12:1-8



BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Abram Obeys God's Command to Move

"Sell everything you can't carry, leave your friends and extended family, bring your wife and belongings. You'll probably never come back here again, but don't worry about that—I'll show you where to go." This was essentially God's command for Abram.

What trust in God it took for Abram to leave his home and everything familiar, and set out for an unknown destination, having only God's command to go on! Abram also had the worries of keeping intact the things he took with him. In those days, traveling with herds of livestock through unknown territory was treacherous. Besides, Abram was 75 years old! But he trusted and followed God.

## Abram's Traveling Companions

What helped Abram on his way was a trusting relationship with God and the promises of blessing that would benefit not only his household but "all the peoples on earth"!

Lot, Abram's nephew, went along but probably not just for companionship or adventure. It was a disgrace in that culture to not have descendants, and Abram realized that he and his wife were getting too old to have children. Abram may have asked Lot to go because Abram had no offspring of his own to take charge if Abram died or became incapacitated.

We're told nothing about the journey, but the trip from Haran to Bethel was approximately 400 miles, much of it over rough desert land. Conflict with local residents was likely a daily occurrence, and the trip probably took a month or more.

## God Blesses Abram for Obeying

Abram completed the journey in faith, and then, as described in Genesis 12:7, the Lord appeared to him. God had spoken to Abram earlier, but now God appeared and confirmed the promise he had made to Abram back at Haran: The fertile land before him would one day belong to his descendants. That meant the promises were beginning to come true!

Abram built an altar to honor God through worship. "Calling upon the name of the Lord" meant worshipping him and acknowledging him as God. Abram knew that God had blessed him already and that many more blessings were still to come.

## The Jesus Connection

Jesus taught us how to trust in God and proved that God won't let us down. May Jesus' example inspire you to have the courage to trust as Abram did!

Think about an experience that challenged you to trust God. If you knew then what you know now, how would your trust level have been different? With that in mind, pray for each of the individuals in your ministry, asking God to strengthen and inspire them all to trust him. You can write your prayer here.

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**INFANT**

**1**


**GETTING  
STARTED**



# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing “Go Follow God” (track 11 on the CD) to the tune of “I’ve Got the Joy” to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Bounce infants on your knees as you sing, or crawl on the floor as you sing and let older infants follow you.


 I’m going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God!  
I’m going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God today!

And I’ll be happy, so very happy.  
I’ll follow God where he wants me to go, go, go, go, go!  
And I’ll be happy, so very happy.  
I’ll follow God where he wants me to go.

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**

Sing “I Can Trust God” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me” to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants.

 I can trust God, this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Trust my God who is so strong,  
Trust in God my whole life long.  
I trust God.  
I trust God.  
I trust God  
Because he loves me so.

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**

## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

- CD player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: “Go Follow God”  
(track 11)





### The Big Tent Supplies

glue  
sand or clear glitter  
scissors  
felt or paper  
tape

**Teacher Pack**  
“Abram and Sarai”  
teaching picture

### The Big Tent Easy Prep

Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape the flap down on the back.

### Going Up! Supplies

blanket

## 2

### BIBLE EXPLORATION

## The Big Tent

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As crawlers are playing on the floor or as you hold an infant, show the “Abram and Sarai” teaching picture that you prepared.

Say: **Look at the big tent! Abram and Sarai are home. Can you open the door of the tent?** Help babies lift the flap. **They've traveled a long way. God gave them this home and all the land around it. Feel the sand.** Gently guide babies' fingers over the rough surface. **Abram and Sarai followed God. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**

## 3

### WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Going Up!

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lay a baby on his or her back on a blanket on the floor. Let the baby grasp your index fingers as you hold his or her wrists with the rest of your hand. Pull the baby to a sitting position as you say this verse:

**Going up, going down. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD wherever we go!**

For older babies, place your arms under their arms and lift them up off the floor. Return babies to their starting positions, and repeat the verse several times.

## I Can Trust God

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Snuggle with a baby as you sing “I Can Trust God” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me.” After a few times through the song, begin humming the melody. Sometimes this is a slow enough “downshift” to help a fussy baby drift off to sleep.



**I can trust God, this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Trust my God who is so strong,  
Trust in God my whole life long.**

**I trust God.  
I trust God.  
I trust God  
Because he loves me so.**



# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).


## TODDLER

### 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing “Go Follow God” (track 11 on the CD) to the tune of “I’ve Got the Joy” to the toddlers anytime during the lesson. Have toddlers march in place as they sing.

 I’m going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God!  
I’m going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God today!

And I’ll be happy, so very happy.  
I’ll follow God where he wants me to go, go, go, go, go!  
And I’ll be happy, so very happy.  
I’ll follow God where he wants me to go.

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**

When you sing “I Can Trust God” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me,” kneel behind a toddler and hold his or her hands. Shift the toddler’s weight from leg to leg in rhythm to the music.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
Teacher Pack  
CD: “Go Follow God” (track 11)



### Abram and Sarai's Journey Supplies


Bible  
glue  
sand or clear glitter  
felt  
scissors  
tape  
pillowcase filled with child-sized clothing, a toothbrush, a hairbrush, and a piece of fruit

#### Teacher Pack

“Abram and Sarai” teaching picture

### Abram and Sarai's Journey Easy Prep

Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape the flap down on the back.

 I can trust God, this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Trust my God who is so strong,  
Trust in God my whole life long.  
I trust God.  
I trust God.  
I trust God  
Because he loves me so.

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Abram and Sarai's Journey

#### What You'll Do

Gather a group of toddlers together, and set the filled pillowcase nearby. Open your Bible to Genesis 12:1-8, and tell children this is God's special book.

Say: **The Bible tells us about a man named Abram and his wife, Sarai.** Hold up the “Abram and Sarai” teaching picture that you prepared. **See Abram and Sarai? They've traveled a long way. See their backpacks? What do you think is in their backpacks? I wonder if they had the same things I have in my backpack.**

Set the picture aside, and hold up the pillowcase. Let children take turns pulling out items. Name the item each child pulls out.

After children have emptied the pillowcase, hold up the teaching picture again.

Say: **Abram and Sarai are at their new home. Would you like to open the door to their home?** Have children lift the curtain on the tent door. **God has given Abram and Sarai all this land and a new home.** Let the children touch the “sandy” land. **Abram and Sarai followed God.** ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**





**3**

**WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE**

## Glitter-Shaker Followers

### What You'll Do

Set out washable markers or large crayons, fabric scraps, glitter shakers, and copies of the “Abram and Sarai” page.

While children are coloring their papers, go around and help individual children add glitter to make “sand.” Spread glue on each child’s paper, and then let the child shake glitter from a glitter shaker over the glue. Help each child choose a piece of fabric and glue it onto the tent door so it can be opened and closed.

Say: **Here is a home for Abram and Sarai. They followed God until he brought them to their new home. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**

## Abram and Sarai’s Travel March

### What You'll Do

Play the “March” segment (track 12 on the CD) as you lead toddlers in a march around the room. (To effectively lead toddlers, you sometimes have to walk backward to see them!) Hold one toddler’s hands in yours, and verbally encourage the rest to follow you. Pick a new “hand-holder” frequently. Ensure you match your marching pace to children’s ability.

Say: **Hooray for all of you who are following me! Abram and Sarai followed God, and God led them. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too!**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Glitter-Shaker Followers Supplies

- scissors
- fabric scraps
- glitter shakers
- washable markers or large crayons
- My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Abram and Sarai” page (at the end of this lesson)
- glue

### Glitter-Shaker Followers Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut fabric-scrap tent doors to fit on the handout. You’ll need a fabric door for each child.

### Abram and Sarai’s Travel March Supplies

- CD player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: “March” (track 12)

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

- My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)





## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "Go Follow God"  
(track 11)


## 2-YEAR-OLD

# 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Go Follow God" (track 11 on the CD) to the tune of "I've Got the Joy" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, let children take turns leading with different motions, such as crawling, jumping, or walking on tiptoes.


 I'm going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God!  
I'm going to go, go, go, go,  
Go follow God.  
Go follow God today!

And I'll be happy, so very happy.  
I'll follow God where he wants me to go, go, go, go, go!  
And I'll be happy, so very happy.  
I'll follow God where he wants me to go.


*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**

Sing "I Can Trust God" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me" anytime during the lesson.

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
|  I can trust God, this I know, | I trust God.            |
| For the Bible tells me so.  | I trust God.            |
| Trust my God who is so strong,  | I trust God             |
| Trust in God my whole life long.  | Because he loves me so. |

Two-year-olds will also enjoy singing "Followin' God Again" (not on the CD) to the tune of "On the Road Again."

 Followin' God again.  
I just can't wait to follow God again.  
Oh how I love this happy travelin',  
And I can't wait to follow God again.

Afterward, say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD.**



**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Abram and Sarai Follow God

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Gather children together. Open your Bible to Genesis 12:1-8.

Say: **Our Bible passage today is about a man and his wife who loved God. Their names were Abram and Sarai.** Show the teaching picture. **God told them it was time to pack their bags and move. What do you think Abram and Sarai took with them?**

As children mention things you have packed, take the items out of the pillowcase. If they don't guess all the contents, give them some simple clues.

Say: **Abram and Sarai also took their camels and everything else they owned, including their tent. They followed God until he told them it was time to stop.** Point to the tent on the teaching picture. **Then they pitched their tent to make their home. Would you like to open the flap of their tent? What do you think was inside?** Let children lift the felt door.

**God told Abram and Sarai he would give them all the land around them. Would you like to feel what their land was like?** Let children feel the "sandy" land.

Say: **Abram and Sarai followed God and did what God asked them to do. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**

**3** WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Sarai's Sand Makers

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Set out washable markers or large crayons, fabric scraps, glitter shakers, and copies of the "Abraham and Sarai" page. Also set out glue poured on a paper plate. Have wet wipes nearby and a couple of paintbrushes ready to use.

Encourage the children to come to your work area one or two at a time. As children come, let them brush glue onto the land area of the handout and shake sand or glitter from a shaker over the glue. Invite each child to choose a piece of fabric to put over the tent door. Help children dip a finger into the glue, wipe it on the fabric, and glue the



**Abram and Sarai Follow God Supplies**

- Bible
- glue
- sand or clear glitter
- felt
- scissors
- tape
- pillowcase filled with child-sized clothing, a toothbrush, a hairbrush, and a piece of fruit

**Teacher Pack**  
"Abram and Sarai" teaching picture

**Abram and Sarai Follow God Easy Prep**

Spread glue over the desert landscape on the teaching picture, and sprinkle sand or clear glitter over it. Cut the dotted line above the tent door, and slide the felt or paper through the slit so it hangs like a tent flap; tape the flap down on the back.

**Sarai's Sand Makers Supplies**

- scissors
  - fabric scraps
  - glitter shakers
  - washable markers or large crayons
- (continued)*



### Sarai's Sand Makers Supplies

*(continued)*

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Abraham and Sarai" page (at the end of this lesson)

glue  
2 paintbrushes  
paper plate  
wet wipes

### Sarai's Sand Makers Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut fabric-scrap tent doors to fit on the handout. You'll need a fabric door for each child.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

fabric over the tent door so it can be opened and closed. When children finish gluing, let them color the rest of the handout.

Say: **This picture can remind you how Abram and Sarai followed God to their new home. They followed God, and God was good to them. ► WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**

## Abram's Map

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have a child sit on the floor in front of you. Then trace a "road map" on his or her back similar to the following.

Touch the child's back on the lower right.

Say: **Abram lived in Ur, way down here. When God told him to move, he trusted God and followed God's directions exactly. He hopped northwest** (bounce your fingers up and to the center of the child's back), **until he came to Haran. Oh, yes! On the way he had to cross a big river.** Move your fingers around like water. **Then he ran south** (quickly run your fingers down the left side of the child's back), **and he stopped** (stop your fingers abruptly) **when he got to Canaan** (give the child a gentle tickle).

Say: ► **WE CAN FOLLOW GOD, too.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



Your child learned that we can follow God (from Genesis 12:1-8). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Going Up!

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Lay your baby on his or her back on a blanket on the floor. Let your baby grasp your index fingers as you hold his or her wrists with the rest of your hand. Gently pull your baby to a sitting position.

Say: **Going up, going down. You can follow God wherever you go!**

If your baby is older, place your arms under his or her arms and lift your child up off the floor. Repeat the rhyme several times.

## TODDLER

### Abram and Sarai's Travel March

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Play some upbeat music, and lead your toddler in a march around the room.

Say: **Hooray for you; you're following me! Abram and Sarai followed God. You can follow God, too!**

Switch and let your toddler lead you.

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Abram's Map

.....

Have your child sit on the floor in front of you.

Touch your child's back on the lower right.

Say: **Abram lived in Ur. When God told him to move, he followed God. He hopped northwest (bounce your fingers up and to the center of your child's back), until he came to Haran. He had to cross a big river. Move your fingers around like water. Then he ran south (quickly run your fingers down the left side of your child's back), and he stopped (stop your fingers abruptly) when he got to Canaan (give your child a gentle tickle). We can follow God, too.**



### I Follow You

.....

Your child's first experiences in learning to follow God come through learning to follow you. You can reinforce the importance of following God by offering opportunities for your child to follow instructions and by modeling moments when you follow instructions. Openly share with your child that you choose to follow God every day through your words and actions. Give your child simple one-step directions such as "Please put this in your room" or "Please shut the cupboard door for me." When your child follows your instructions, praise him or her.



#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Set up a tent in your yard for your family to play or sleep in together. Then give your child "camel rides" on your back. Reassure your child that you can be trusted not to drop him or her.
- Fill a suitcase with your child's clothing, and let your child pack and unpack it.



# Abram and Sarai



**OK**  
**TO COPY**