

Weekly Resource: The Story of Jesus

Gospel Anchored in Promise

Purpose: to provide space to go further in study and understanding of the gospel story of Jesus Christ.

→ **What about the gospel story of Jesus?**

In Sunday's message, Micah shared that "...we should aim to know the overall story of the gospel by heart."

- ❖ Growing up, how was the gospel story presented to you?
- ❖ Presently, how would you describe the overall gospel story of Jesus?

→ **What about Paul's assessment of God's promise to Abraham?**

Read Galatians 3:16-29

- ❖ How is Paul elevating Abraham (promise) above Moses (law)?
- ❖ Verse 16 reveals that the promise was to a "seed" (singular); check out Genesis 13:15; 17:8; 24:7 – what are the implications of Paul saying this singular seed is referring to one specific person – Jesus Christ?
- ❖ How is the promise to Abraham connected to the gospel story of Jesus?

→ **What about God's faithfulness?**

In Sunday's message, Micah shared that "...only God makes this promise to Abraham and the rest of Israel. This promise is solely the product of God's faithfulness and lovingkindness.

- ❖ How have God's promises and faithfulness been significant to your faith journey?
- ❖ God's faithfulness and lovingkindness have echoed throughout the generations...even in the midst of sin and suffering (exile) hope is alive by God's promise to be with and for his people. Read these additional examples:
 - Hosea 11:8-10
 - Joel 2:12-13
 - Amos 9:11-15
- ❖ How can you include God's promises in the gospel story of Jesus as you share it with others?

Weekly Prayer: O God, anchor me (us) in your promises. Remind me, Lord, that I can trust you because you will always be faithful and abounding in love. God, make me your servant who is eager to know more about you and empower me by the Spirit to share your gospel story with others. Lord, I freely yield all things to your pleasure and disposal for your glory and the sake of the world. Amen.

Children's Corner: The Story of Jesus

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*NOTE: Since we are able to offer our Nursery Video and T3 Videos every week for ages 2nd grade & younger, this resource will primarily be focused on content for ages 3rd-6th grade.

As we think about Micah's sermon this week, let's see if we can make some connections between the story of Abraham in Genesis to Jesus. Sometimes we think of Abraham and Jesus separately because their time living on earth was very far apart. Let's work together and search for clues in the story of Abraham that point us to Jesus.

***REMEMBER** – the gospel story is the same throughout the whole Bible and all of human history = God fulfills His promises by grace to restore us & the world to Himself because God loves us so much

***READ** – Genesis 12:1-9; Genesis 15:1-6; Genesis 21:1-7

- NIRV translation is sometimes a good choice for younger readers
- "The Jesus Storybook Bible" is also a good choice – the story of Abraham in this book is called *Son of Laughter* & is on pp. 56-61
- Look in v. 2-3 & v. 7
 - Can you find 4 promises that God makes to Abraham?
Let's name some together:
 - God promises to make Abraham into a great nation
 - God promises Abraham will be blessed & that his name will be great
 - God promises all peoples on earth will be blessed through Abraham
 - God promises Abraham a child (offspring; descendants; family)

***SEARCHING FOR CLUES THAT POINT TO JESUS**

What clues do you see that point us to Jesus in the story of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac?

How do those clues point us to Jesus?

What can we learn about God and His promises from these clues and from this story?

***STUFF TO TALK ABOUT WITH YOUR FAMILY**

- God shows Abraham His promise through the stars in the sky. Talk about what promises God makes to you.
- Abraham obeyed God's call to move to a new place. Why is it hard to move or adjust to new things? What does God do to help you feel better when things change?

***PRAYER**

God, thank you for showing us in Your Word that You can always be trusted to keep Your promises. Help us to have the courage to be obedient, even when it's hard. Thank you for sending Jesus through Abraham's family, for teaching us how to listen for Your voice, and for reminding us that You love us. We love you. In Jesus' name. Amen.