

PRESCHOOL

7. The Present

A story of Abraham and his son, Isaac.

Memory Verse

'Know this: GOD, your God, is a God you can depend upon. He keeps his covenant of loyal love with those who love him and observe his commandments for a thousand generations.' Deuteronomy 7:9 MSG

An idea to help you remember:

- Learn the verse a couple of words at a time. Say them over and over until they stick, then add the next few.

Story Time

Read 'The Present' (pages 62-69 in the Jesus Storybook Bible) or watch the video on our website.

Understanding the Story

Talk this through with your kids:

Sometimes this story can be a little confusing when we look at it from our time and way of living. The terrible lie (sin) comes with a cost and something needs to be done to make us right with God again. The promise of rescue would be fulfilled through Abraham's family in Jesus, but that was still a long way a way. Before Jesus rescued us from sin, people would give God a gift (a sacrifice) to make things right. It was a way of saying sorry and I love you to God. The gift would cost them something though, that's why it's called a sacrifice. They'd need to give up an animal or something they treasured to make things right.

Here, Abraham is ready to give up his son – the thing he treasures the most; but God stops him and provides a different way. One day, God would give up his only son, the one He treasures, to rescue all people from sin and give us a different way of life.

Questions to get you talking:

- Do you have anything you cherish? Would it be easy to give it up?
- Have you ever had to give something away? (Maybe donated some of your toys or allowance money to a good cause.) How did it feel?

Activities in your box

- **Colouring Sheet** – You'll need the colouring sheet from your box.
- **Treasure Chest** – You'll need the treasure chest template from your box. Instructions are with the box.
- **Chocolate Coins** – You'll need the coins from your box.

Activities using things around the house:

- Give a gift this week! You could donate some food to the food bank. Make a card for a friend at school or bake some cookies for your class.

ELEMENTARY (K-3)

7. The Present

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Understanding the Story

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Digging a little deeper:

Isaac was Abraham's son, a symbol of the promise God had spoken to him, the hope of the impossible becoming possible. It would be easy for Abraham to start trusting in Isaac and the hope he offered, rather than trusting in God to fulfil the promise.

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ELEMENTARY (4-7)

7. The Present

A story of Abraham and his son, Isaac.

Memory Verse

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Understanding the Story

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Sometimes this story can be a little confusing when we look at it from our time and culture. The terrible lie (sin) comes with a cost and something needs to be done to make us right with God again. The promise of rescue would be fulfilled through Abraham's family in Jesus, but that was still a long way a way. Before Jesus rescued us from sin, people would give God a gift (a sacrifice) to make things right. It was a way of saying sorry and I love you to God. The gift would cost them something though, that's why it's called a sacrifice. They'd need to give up an animal or something they treasured to make things right. Here, Abraham is ready to give up his son – the thing he treasures the most; but God gave him a ram instead. One day, God would give up his son, the one he treasures, to rescue all people from sin.

Digging a little deeper:

Isaac was Abraham's son, a symbol of the promise God had spoken to him, the hope of the impossible becoming possible. It would be easy for Abraham to start trusting in Isaac and the hope he offered, rather than trusting in God to fulfil the promise. By being willing to give up his son, he was showing his hope was in God alone. He did

not go up the mountain saying, "I can do it!"; rather, he went up the mountain saying "God will do it...I don't know how, but I trust him"

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