

LESSON 3 OPENING

A LAUGHABLE PROMISE—ISAAC IS BORN

It is great to have all of you here to think about what God can do in our lives. How many of you here are sports fans? *Raise your hand to indicate that the children should do the same to participate.* Which are your favorite teams? *Take a few responses.*

My favorite team is the [Chicago Cubs]. I know they are not the best team ever, but I am a loyal fan. I even have this [baseball cap] that I bought when I was a child, about your age. *Show the [cap] to the group.* Now kids, you have probably noticed that my [cap] is really old and worn-out. Look at the edges, how rough and threadbare they are. See how the colors are faded? The clasp at the back doesn't really hold together anymore either.

Some folks may say, "Hey, that [hat] is all worn-out. Why don't you get a new one?" Well, I could. I have enough money. But see, boys and girls, if I were to go out and buy a new one, it would be newer, more colorful, and more attractive. However, it wouldn't be this [baseball cap]; it wouldn't be my [baseball cap].

This one may be old and faded, but it's mine. What's more, it still works! See? *Place the [cap] on your [head].* It still covers my [head]. It still has the [Chicago Cubs logo] on it. It still does what it was made to do. Most important, it is precious to me. I got this [cap] a long time ago. When I wear it, I recall all the good memories that I have of [watching baseball with my friends]. It's mine; and I am going to keep it!

Boys and girls, did you know that God created the world and all the people in it? Did you hear the sad news that Adam and Eve disobeyed God and, in fact, that all people disobey God?

Well, imagine if God became tired of taking care of the world and all of us! What if He decided that we are too disobedient, too sinful, and just too much trouble to keep? What if He decided to throw us all away like an old, worn-out [baseball cap]?

Praise God that He didn't! In fact, God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise from the dead to take our sins away! Through Christ, God has made us His children forever. We're never too mean, too silly, too old, too young, or too shy for God to love us and work in us.

Today, you will learn about Abraham and Sarah, two of God's beloved children. They were old and thought that God could never use them, but you will see how God never stops caring for His children, never breaks His promises, and never refuses to be at work in our lives. God wants all people to have faith in Jesus Christ, our Savior! And with God, all things are possible. He can do anything.

Pray: Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for making us Your children through Baptism and for being at work in our lives. Forgive us for not trusting in Your unending love for us. By Your Holy Spirit, help us trust that with You all things are possible. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

LESSON TEXT

Genesis 18:1–15; 21:1–7

BIBLE TRUTH

God keeps His promises.

FAITH FOCUS

The First Article,
Questions 128–30

LAW & GOSPEL

I doubt God can do what He promises and do not trust Him.

God in His mercy carries out His promises and gives me faith to trust Him.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.
Psalm 126:3

VISUAL HELPS

Some item that is quite old and worn but still usable (e.g., a ball cap, tie, or boots; in the text, the item will be an old Chicago Cubs baseball cap)

Lesson 3

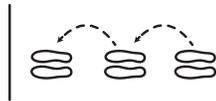
Isaac is Born
Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

ACTIVITIES

Choose from the following activities and crafts to help connect Bible learning to life.

Move and Grow

Have children line up and give them directions for how to move to a designated line or wall. Have them pretend to first be a baby, then a child, then an adult. For example, tell them to crawl like a baby, take two baby steps, take four running steps, skip or hop three times, take three mommy-size steps, and so forth.



Rhythm Rattles

Have each child spoon one to two tablespoons of rice or dried beans into a plastic Easter egg. Close and tape seam with packaging tape. Give children stickers to add designs to the rattle. Talk about how God kept His promise and blessed Sarah and Abraham with Isaac. This made them happy. Babies are a blessing to families. Shaking rattles make babies happy. Sing a praise song together as you shake your egg rattles and think of God's blessings.



Oaks of Mamre

Do some online research before class (or if students are adept at this, during class) on the archaeological site of the oaks of Mamre. Find and share photographs of the probable site where God spoke with Abraham.

SEARCH Oaks of Mamre

Tummy Giggles

Have children lie on the floor on their backs with their heads on someone else's tummy. Say, **Try not to laugh like Sarah did when she heard she would have a baby.** Children will most likely still laugh. Ask how laughter makes them feel. Talk about how God makes our hearts happy by giving us family, friends, and Jesus!



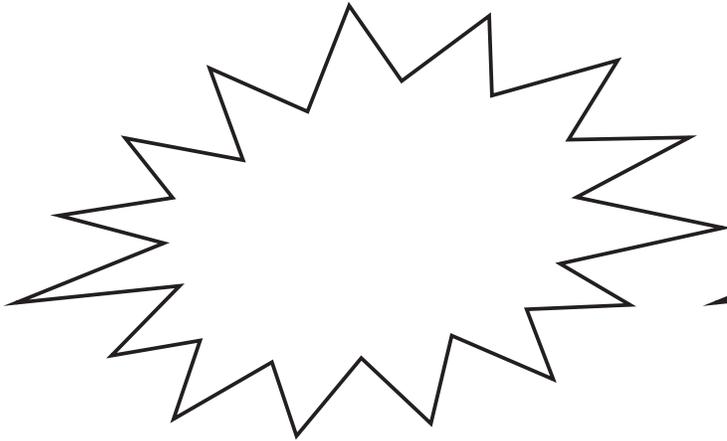
A LAUGHABLE PROMISE—ISAAC IS BORN

Unit 4, Lesson 3

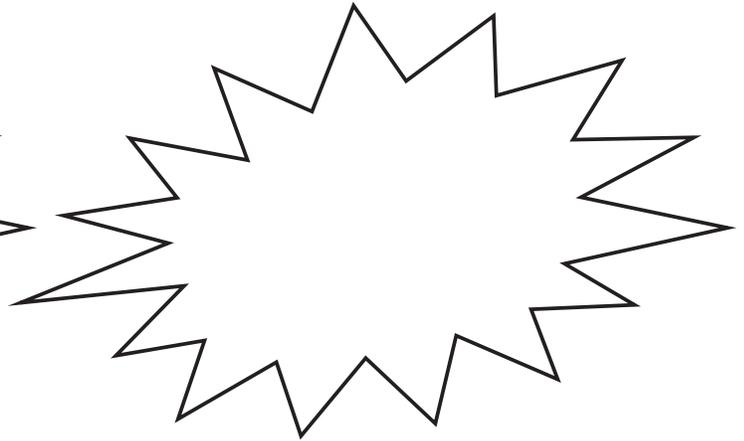
God's Great Promises

God kept His promise and did a great thing for Abraham and Sarah when He gave them their son, Isaac. God makes and keeps great promises to you too!

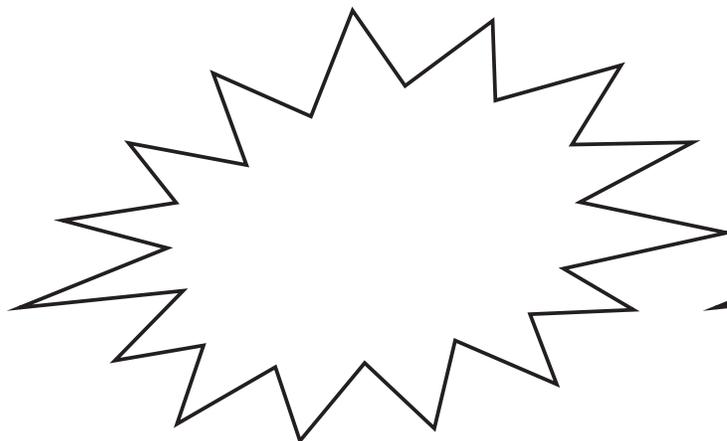
Directions: As you read each Bible verse below, print on the starburst above it the promise that God makes and keeps for you in Jesus.



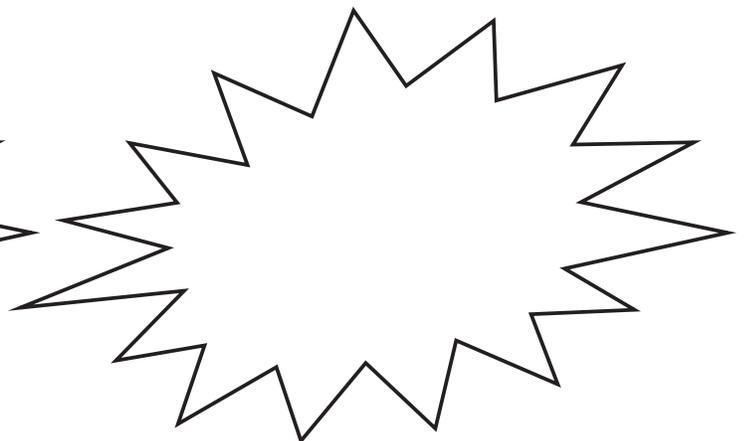
[God] has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." (*Hebrews 13:5b*)



And this is the promise that He made to us—eternal life. (*1 John 2:25*)



[God says,] "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued My faithfulness to you." (*Jeremiah 31:3b*)



If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (*1 John 1:9*)

Lesson 3:

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

A Laughable Promise - Isaac is Born



Color

God was faithful to give Abraham and Sarah their promised son in Isaac. God is faithful to us in giving us His promised Son, Jesus Christ



The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.

Psalm 126:3