

Roots
WBS Lesson #12
Genesis 16-17

Hook: Did you know that each of our names mean something? “John” means “God is gracious.” “Isaac” means “he laughs” and “Sadie” means “princess and lady-like.” It’s fun to learn what our names mean.

Book: Now, in Genesis we read that God gave Abram and Sarai new names. He changed Abram to “Abraham” and Sarai to “Sarah”! God did this to show that He was doing something very important in and through their lives. Abraham means “father of a multitude” which means, “many, MANY” and Sarah means “mother of nations.” God is about to begin fulfilling His promise. The Bible says: **“When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him. He said, ‘I am the Mighty God. Walk faithfully with me. Live in a way that pleases me. I will now act on my covenant between me and you. I will greatly increase the number of your children after you’.”** God told Abraham and Sarah that He would give them a son and they were to name him Isaac. The Lord always keeps His promises and now the Lord’s amazing promise would begin!

Look: Even though Abraham isn’t our father as we know a “dad” on earth, the Bible tells us that, spiritually, all of us who belong to Jesus come from Abraham. Why? Because we are all part of the promise God made to Abraham. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are part of the “multitude” of Christians that make up Abraham’s family. And one day we will live together as family in Heaven.

Took: Let’s stand up and hold hands in a circle. Boys and girls, we are not just friends in this classroom today. When we believe in Jesus, we become part of God’s family. We are brothers and sisters in Christ! That’s something to be thankful for. (*While you continue to hold hands, pray the prayer below:*)

Prayer: “Dear God, Thank You for keeping Your promise to Abraham. Help us to walk faithfully with You and live in a way that pleases You. Help us to treat each other as precious family—brothers and sisters in Christ. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Bible Verse: “You will not be called Abram anymore. Your name will be Abraham, because I have made you a father of many nations.” Genesis 17:5
NIRV

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what we learned

God changed Abram to “Abraham” and Sarai to “Sarah”! God did this to show that He was about to do something very important through them. Abraham means “father of a multitude” which means, “many, MANY” and Sarah means “mother of nations.” God told Abraham and Sarah that He would give them a son and they were to name him Isaac. The Lord always keeps His promises and now the Lord’s amazing promise would begin! All of us who belong to Jesus are part of the promise God made to Abraham. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are part of the “multitude” of Christians that make up Abraham’s family.



memory verse

**“You will not be called Abram anymore. Your name will be Abraham, because I have made you a father of many nations.”
Genesis 17:5 NIRV**



parent/child activity

Sit down with your child and look at a family photo album together. Point out the different family members in the pictures— aunts, uncles, siblings, grandparents, etc. Then remind your child of the truths we learned today, that all of us who belong to Jesus are part of the promise God made to Abraham. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. So even those who aren’t part of our earthly family are part of our spiritual family. One day we will all live together as family in Heaven.



daily prayer

“Dear God, Thank You for keeping Your promises. Help us to walk faithfully with You and live in a way that pleases You. Help us to treat each other as precious family—brothers and sisters in Christ. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”