LESSON 18

GOD RENEWS HIS PROMISE



Aim: **To show the children another example of the fact that God keeps his promises.**

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 18:1–15**

Memory Verse: **Genesis 18:14**
"Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Ask some adults or a few children (they may be members of the class, but not necessarily) to come early and create a short play about visiting someone's home. One person will be the owner of the house and the others must come to visit. Practise the exchange of greetings and the offering of refreshments. One visitor is going to bring some good news.

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. One day, Abraham received some very special visitors. It was at midday, when it was very hot, and he was sitting in the shade outside his tent. **Describe how Abraham greeted the visitors and invited them to enjoy some refreshments (18:1–5).**
2. Abraham went to find Sarah and asked her to bake bread. Then he went in search of the best meat he could find and gave orders for its preparation (18:6–7).
3. Abraham served the visitors, who asked about Sarah (18:8–9). **Show Picture 18.**
4. The visitors were in fact messengers from God, and they gave Abraham some wonderful news: In a year's time he and Sarah would have a son. This was a promise God had first given Abraham 25 years before (18:10).
5. In the tent, Sarah was listening to the conversation. When she heard the visitor, she laughed. **Point to Sarah in Picture 18**. She was well past the age of childbearing – 90 years old! How could she possibly have a baby (18:10–12)?
6. The visitor asked why Sarah had laughed. Did she doubt God's power? God is all-powerful and always keeps his promises. **Show Picture 16 and remind the children of God's covenant with Abraham**. This baby would be a miracle from God. But now Sarah was afraid, and she denied that she had laughed. Still, she found it hard to believe this promise from God. When Abraham and Sarah's son was born he was called Isaac, which means "he laughs" (18:13–15; 21:1–3).

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Instil the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Tell a true story or make one up about how you kept a promise to someone although it was difficult to do so, or about how someone else kept a promise to you that you did not think he or she could keep. God always keeps his promises.



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