



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for September 23, 2007
Released on September 19, 2007

"Abraham, Hagar, and Ishmael"

MEMORY VERSE:

"God said unto Abraham...also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed. (Genesis 21:12-13)

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: Genesis 21:9-21

9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

15 And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

16 And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bow shot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept.

17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

21 And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God is in control and that we can trust Him in any and all circumstances.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God is faithful. He keeps His promises.

2. God is omniscient (all knowing). We do not need to fear.
3. God will take care of His own. We can trust Him.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For "Telling the Lesson," bring in a small amount of bread and a bottle of water. For the "Helping to Remember" section, for each child, you will need: photocopies of the lesson activities at the end of this lesson summary, crayons or colored pencils.

LESSON BACKGROUND:

As we learned in last week's lesson, God kept promising Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky but both Abraham and Sarah were old and had no children. Abraham took Sarah's maid, Hagar, as his second wife to bear him children. Hagar conceived and bore Abraham a son and called him Ishmael. After Ishmael's birth, God repeated the promise that Abraham would be the father of many nations and also promised to bless Sarah with a son. Eventually God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and allowed Sarah to conceive and bear a child, Isaac.

Emphasize to your students the importance of knowing that God is in control of everything. We do not need to take matters into our own hands and try to help God work things out. He knows all things, is in control of everything, and we can trust Him to keep His promises. This week's lesson focuses on Abraham and Hagar and their son, Ishmael and the result of not waiting on God.

TEACHER'S NOTES / TELLING THE LESSON:

In last week's lesson, we read about Abraham having a celebration for his youngest son, Isaac. It was customary in those days to observe a feast that marked the day a child was weaned. Assuming that Isaac was weaned at age 2 or 3, Ishmael would have been around 16 years old at this time (Abraham was 86 when Ishmael was born and 100 when Isaac was born).

During part of the celebration, Isaac mother, Sarah, observed Ishmael (Isaac's older brother) teasing him, and it made her angry. She talked with Abraham about it. She did not want Ishmael around anymore. She did not want him growing up beside Isaac. She wanted Abraham to send him and his mother, Hagar, away.

Abraham was distressed about this situation. He loved Sarah, but he also loved Ishmael. God reminded Abraham that Isaac was the true heir and that it would be best to send Hagar and Ishmael away. God assured Abraham that He would take care of Ishmael and his mother. Abraham sent them away with a little bread and a bottle of water (show the bread and water).

While in the wilderness, Hagar and Ishmael ran out of food and water, and she became so distressed that she believed that they would die. She separated herself from Ishmael because she did not want to watch him die. During this time, both she and Ishmael begin to weep, and God heard them. He comforted Hagar, assured her that they would survive and promised that Ishmael's descendants would be a great nation.

God provided a well of water for them, and they survived. Ishmael grew to be an archer and married a woman from Egypt.

Consider the following as you prepare your lesson for your students:

- Be able to explain that during this time, it was permissible to have more than one wife, so Ishmael and Isaac were both Abraham's sons, but they had different mothers.
- The events in this week's lesson were the result of the mistake that Abraham and Sarah made by thinking that they could help God keep His promise. They could not see having

a son in their old age, so they thought they could provide God with a solution. They failed to wait and trust in God.

- The lesson also shows that God is always faithful. He provides even when we do not trust and wait on Him.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Hagar and Ishmael were very afraid when they were in the wilderness. They were also very sad about what had happened to them. They had been forced to leave their home and everyone that they knew and make a new start somewhere else. They were sad and afraid, but God had promised that He would take care of them. He assured Hagar that they would survive the terrible time they were having.

Do you get scared sometimes? Of course you do. Everyone does. Christians know that God takes care of His people. He will help us when we are afraid. He is faithful and wise. We can trust Him to know what to do with anything that happens to us. We should live each time and each moment trusting God to do what is best for us!

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Use a variety of activities to help your students remember the important points of the lesson. Activities will vary depending on the age of your students. Two activities have been included with this lesson summary – a maze and word search. Use these activities to further discuss and emphasize the important truths of the lesson.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

“God said unto Abraham...also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed. (Genesis 21:12-13)

God promised Abraham that He would take care of Ishmael. He did what He promised. We can trust God because He always keeps His promises.

PRAYER

Father in heaven, thank you for always taking care of us. Help us to remember that You know all things and will do what you promise. We praise You that You know how to take care of those who belong to You. Help us to always trust you, in Jesus’ name, amen.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK’S LESSON:

Next week’s lesson is “Isaac and Rebekah” from Genesis 24:34-48.

Lesson Summarized By:

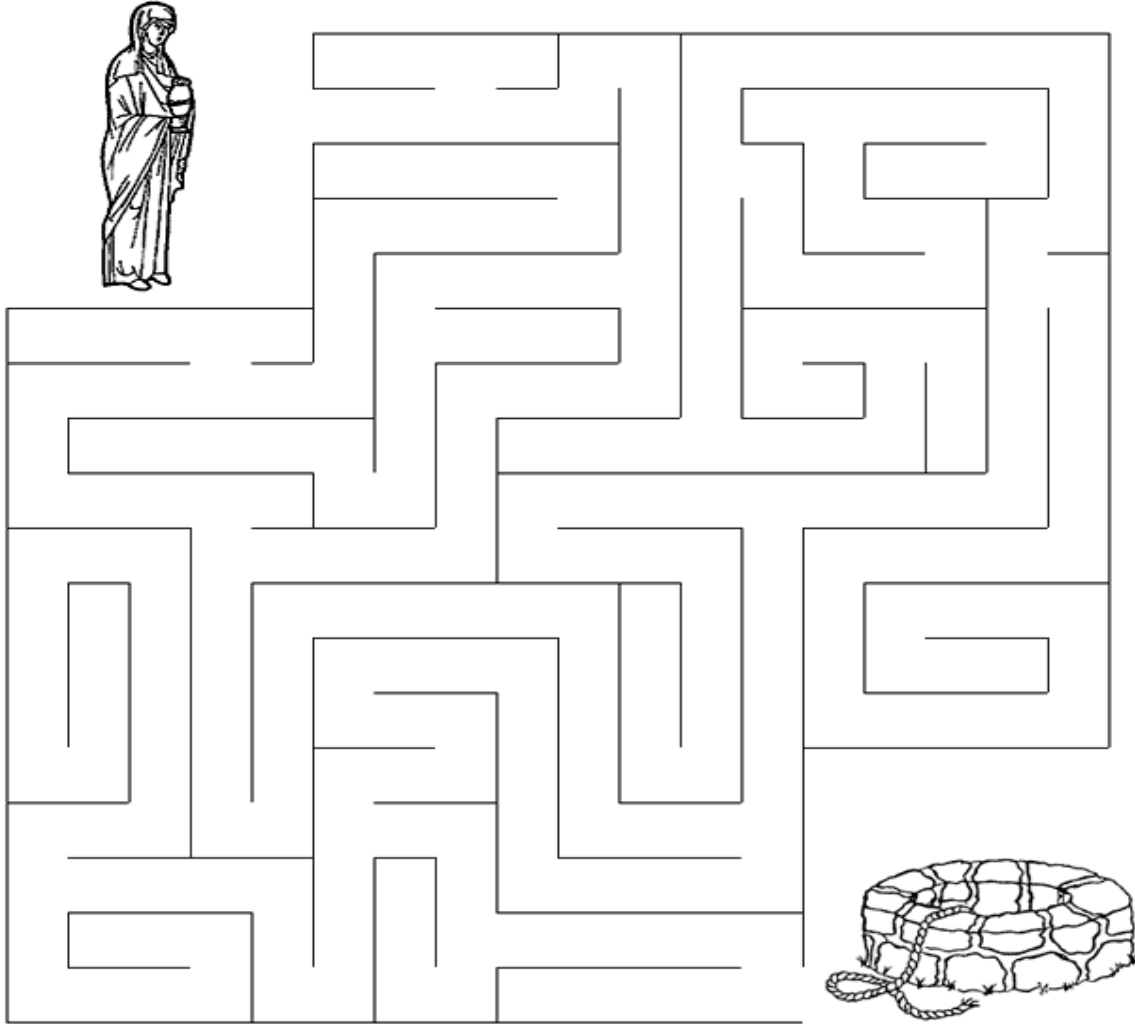
Renee Little

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**Lesson Activity: Abraham, Hagar, and Ishmael
Genesis 21:9-21**

Help Hagar find her way to the well.



Note: Image Courtesy of Sermons4kids.com

"And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink." (Genesis 21:19)

God will take care of you.

WORD SEARCH
Abraham, Hagar, and Ishmael
Genesis 21:9-21

Find each of the following words.

WILDERNESS

BREAD

PROMISES

WATER

NATION

ANGEL

ISHMAEL

ARCHER

ABRAHAM

BOTTLE

SARAH

HAGAR

WEPT

ISAAC

MOCKING

HEIR

I R I T L B H C B E A E B I E E D A H A B E S E G I
A A B L N R N K E I A S A T I R I R E D G E A H I R
E G E T R O E A O N S W A T E R T O R H E S R R S R
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I D N T A A B R A H A M M T S E L A S R P R E O N T
H O A L A E I G P N L I S A A R A N S A H S R E G L
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A N A I E A O R S A I C E A A L A W S M O B P G L S
A O H S G A O G R E I E N E W E P T O M R L A S T S
E I N A N R C I W C E R R R I G A R O T H E T G O E
A S R A T O N R M B A O E E I M P C N S W H A I W M
I R S H B A O D A E R B D A R E K A N B D E T S A M
S H N R P T H R K C I M L A A I H S P P R L P A R O
S S E H I N S E H O H C I I N S R B O T T L E A A H
I A A H A S I C A M O L W G E W M T B H L S A C K E
G K D T W S I B E I N C W L T S D L T R B T H N I S

ANSWER KEY: Word Search (Abraham, Hagar, and Ishmael)

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 O S W A T E R H
 I H A S A
 T A B R A H A M M R E N
 A S A A S G
N R E H C R A S E S I E
 A E L M L
 G N W E P T O M
 A R R R O
 R E I P C I
 D A E R B D E K S
 L I H A
 I N B O T T L E A
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