

Abraham and Isaac

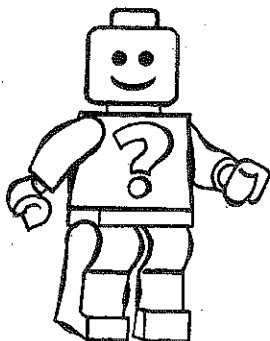
Genesis 22:1-19

Welcome the Group

Lay the Foundation

- *Where is this story found in the Bible?*
Old Testament
- *What is its place in the Bible story?*
after God made a promise to Abimelech; before the death of Sarah
- *Who is the author?*
Moses and others (Some scholars believe three or more people helped to write the book we call Genesis.)
- *Who are the main characters?*
Abraham, Isaac, Sarah, angel, and God
- *Where in the biblical world did it happen?*
Moriah
- *Where is this in today's world?*
north of Jerusalem

Find the full description of *Lay the Foundation* on page 15.



Did You Know?

- ✓ Abraham and Isaac traveled over 50 miles on their trip to the Mount Moriah.
- ✓ Isaac's name comes from the Hebrew words for "he laughs."
- ✓ This site in Moriah is thought to be the same location as Solomon's temple, as well as in close proximity to the place where Jesus was crucified.
- ✓ Most scholars believe Isaac wasn't a child as commonly portrayed. It is possible Isaac was as old as 36 years of age.

Pray

God of mercy and love, help us to listen to your voice in our lives. Help us trust you and honor you this day and always. Amen.

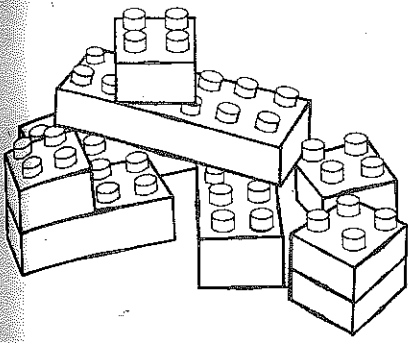
Suggested prayer methods are outlined on page 15.

Share the Story

Suggestions for storytelling are detailed on page 16.

Respond to the Story

Invite each member of the group to use bricks and figures to respond to the story. This can be done individually or in small groups. Suggestions for how to support this form of theological reflection can be found on page 16.



Ask Building Questions

- I wonder if you have ever heard God call your name?
- I wonder if you have ever felt tested?
- I wonder what it is like to hear sad or scary news?
- I wonder what Abraham was thinking and feeling?
- I wonder what Isaac was thinking and feeling?
- I wonder what God was thinking and feeling?
- I wonder if you have ever been blessed?
- I wonder if you ever experienced something scary or confusing?
- I wonder if you have felt the love of God?
- I wonder if you have given anything special to God?
- I wonder what would have happened if Abraham refused to follow the directions of God?
- I wonder if you have felt the protection of God?
- I wonder if Abraham imagined that you and I are some of the children God promised?

Suggest Blueprints *(if needed)*

- Abraham
- Isaac
- angel
- Mount Moriah
- the road they traveled
- the altar for the sacrifice
- wood
- ram
- God

Share Responses to the Story

Encourage each group member to share the creations they have made in response to the story. More details about sharing can be found on page 17.

Share a Snack

- “firewood” pretzel sticks
- hummus and pita bread
- thin licorice “ropes”
- star-shaped cookies

Continue the Story

One way to deepen the learning experience and create a link between group learning and faith formation in the home is to have builders show their creations to the adults who pick them up after class.

For additional study and conversation at home, consider different ways to share the Bible verses as well as some of the *Building Questions*. Possible methods of communication are texts, social media, e-blasts, website posts, and take-home sheets.

