

Session 1

Abram

An introduction to the ancestor Abram

Scripture: Genesis 12–15

Supplies:

- Sandbox or felt board
- Characters: Abram, Sarai, Lot, and Pharaoh
- 2 characters as slaves/shepherds
- Sheep
- Camels
- A tent
- A river
- Trees (green twigs)
- Wooden blocks to represent a city
- A bag of sweets
- A glass of cooldrink for each child



Welcome

Play a choosing game with the children. (In this story Lot and Abram also have to choose.) Divide the group in two and let them choose one:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1 or 2 | On the back of 1 is written: Put your fingers on your mouths
On the back of 2 is written: Stand on one leg |
| A or B | On the back of A is written: Sing a song for the other group
On the back of B is written: Lie on the ground |
| Lots or little | On the back of lots is written: Do 5 push ups!
On the back of little is written: Do 1 push up |
| Wet or dry | On the back of wet is written: Get your cooldrink first at the end of today's session
On the back of dry is written: Wait for the other group before you get anything |



Worship

Settle down ritual: Children lie on the ground and hold hands. Say: “Remember: God binds us together as believers and also to our ancestor Abram.” Give each other's hands a squeeze to confirm this and then get up again.



Word

Sandbox or felt board:

Movement 1:

Place in the sand a few blocks in the back left corner representing Harran and a few blocks in the front right corner representing Canaan. Use pictures to do this on the felt board.

In Harran Abram and his family lived with their slaves, animals, and possessions. *(Place the characters one by one beside each other in Harran)*

The Lord told Abram to leave everything and travel to a new land. He will show them where to go. He blessed Abram and said that he will be a blessing to the nations. Abram and his people then left for Canaan. *(Walk all the characters and animals over to Canaan)*

Movement 2:

(Move Harran to the front left corner – it now represents Egypt. Put the Pharaoh there too.)

After a few years in Canaan there was a big drought and a great starvation. *(Take the sheep and the camels away)* Abram took his wife, Sarai, and their slaves and moved to Egypt. *(Walk everyone over to the front left corner)* Just outside the city Abram realized that his wife is beautiful and because he was afraid that he would be killed to get her, he said that Sarai was his sister. *(Move Abram and Sarai away from each other)*

After a time Pharaoh realized that Sarai and Abram were actually married, and he called Abram and argued with him. *(The characters talk to each other. Abram realizes that he made a mistake and was disobedient to God.)*

Movement 3:

(Prepare your two spaces: one with a river and trees and one without anything)

After it rained a lot in Canaan, Abram moved back home. *(Let everyone now move back and bring back the sheep and camels.)* While Lot and Abram's shepherds were looking after sheep in the fields, they began to argue. *(Let the two shepherds argue with each other)* Abram and Lot realized that they would have to move away from one another. They went to the top of a hill. *(Make a hill in the sand, or use a picture for the felt board.)* They saw that the river Jordan flowed in one area. There was a lot of grass and trees but in the other area there wasn't anything. Abram was so kind that he let Lot choose first. Lot chose the green area with the river, which meant Abram had to be happy with the dry and barren land. *(Put Lot between the trees)* God was still with Abram and blessed him. He was truly blessed, despite living in a dry land.

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder if Abram was scared to go to a strange place. How would you feel about moving?
2. I wonder why God was so patient with Abram.
3. I wonder if you are also disobedient like Abram sometimes.
4. I wonder if you know that God is also patient with you and forgives you.



Working and Playing

- Let the children play with the sand or felt board to tell each other the story again.
- Give the children paper to draw their favourite part of the story.
- Give the children some material to play with to dress up like the Biblical characters. Let them act out different parts of the story and let them choose who will be sheep, camels, Lot, Abram, and Sarai.

Closing prayer to end the session:

Leader says:

May we know where to walk

May we know what to do

May we know where to look

May we know what to say

All together:

Children answer and do:

Walk-walk-walk

Clap-clap-clap

Blink-blink-blink

Praise the Lord!

Amen.

