

SERIES TITLE: *Big Bible Blockbusters: GENESIS*
The Bible's BIG BOLD BEGINNING

LESSON #6

LESSON TITLE: *The Big Test*

Sunday September 19th 9:15 Service

IT

God is Omnipotent – and worthy of TRUST

Welcome Karl

Worship Doug

Prayer Doug

WATCH IT – kid made video & audition video Doug

SUMMARY: *Funny Movie Auditions.* In this series, various puppet characters are auditioning for a role in the movie of the Bible story. It's intended a fun introduction of the Bible story, not as a telling of the story.

This week the roles being auditioned for are *Isaac*.

PLAY IT Doug

MOVIE PALS

PREPARATION: Download the Movie Pals download from your lesson downloads. You'll want a score keeper. It's a fast-paced game so you'll need an alert score keeper!

PLAYING: In your downloads you will find a list of Movie Pals. These are characters that go together. They are partners, friends or perhaps foes, but they are known for being with each other. Many will be easy – a few challenging! A lot of kids can play this game, choose the number of kids based on the size of your group, you can have up to 8-10 on each team, but you still need an audience. The kids line up in two lines where the two people who are the first person in line are facing each other. The rest are lined up behind them ready for their turn. Flip or coin or silly object to determine who goes first. On a player's turn, you will read a name from your list. They have 5 seconds to answer with the Movie Pal. If it is wrong, 9or they don't answer) play goes to the other team. If they know it, they get the points. It is a simple 10 points per correct answer, for either team. After a player goes, whether they know or not, they go to the end of the line. If neither know the answer, the leader will call on

someone first from the side of the room whose team member went first. If they know it, 5 points are rewarded. Alternate from side to side regardless of “steals” – keep it moving!

NOTE: You can re-use each Movie Pal pair by using the other name. For example, even if you already used “Batman,” and they answered, “Robin,” later you can say “Robin,” and the answer would be “Batman.” For keeping track, but put the Movie Pals sheet on a clipboard and mark each name as you use it.

OPTIONAL: A fun quick “math-free” way to keep score is to have two buckets, one for each team, and as they earn points you toss a fun object into the team buckets. A rubber ducky, pink-pong ball, or other silly item. Toss two in for correct answers (instead of 10 points), one for a steal (instead of 5).

THE POINT: The best movies are “buddy movies.” We love to watch friends go on adventures, work through conflict, overcome challenges, learn life lessons and win together! In life, you NEED “life buddies.” Who are you going through life with? Who joins you on your adventures? Do you stick with them even when the going gets tough? Are you quick to resolve conflict? Who are you cheering on and helping? Remember, the secret to getting good friends is to first BE a good friend!

TELL IT *Karl*

Focus this week: text

LETS MAKE A MOVIE! For this series, you’ll invite some children to come up on the stage to help you “make a movie” of the Bible Story. They will be assigned either a visual that they will hold and display, or an action that they will perform. They listen to the story and then perform when they hear their part. Do not worry about perfection! Call it a “rehearsal” so there is no pressure for it to be perfect! It is helpful to have a volunteer serve as a Stage Manager so that the person reading/telling the story is not also giving direction to the kids.

NOTE: If you use the Green Screen option below, be sure to choose children who are not wearing green clothing as they will “disappear” and become transparent in the editing!

PREPARATION: For this story you will need the following Actors and Props:

- 1) A child to play God
- 2) A boy to play Abraham
- 3) A child to play Isaac (a girl is fine)
- 4) A donkey (chosen during the skit)
- 5) 2 servants (chosen during the skit)

OPTIONAL: If you set up a green screen on your stage, you can film your kids acting out the story and then using an app or video editing software, replace the green background with the background included in your lesson downloads. This may sound intimidating if you have never done it before, but it's not that difficult. You also may find a staff member or volunteer (or teen or kid) in your church willing to do it for you. Just be sure to film in landscape (horizontal) orientation for easier editing. (In other words, hold your phone sideways, not vertical when filming.)

PRESENTATION: Invite kids to come up on stage explain to them that as you read the story, they are to walk out onto stage and act out what they hear the narrator describe.

OPTIONAL: If this takes too much stage space, consider setting up in the back or side of the room and having the kids turn to watch for just this segment.

TEACH IT **Doug**

Abraham's Test

NEEDED:

- A giant rat trap and eye protection
- Miscellaneous objects to destroy with the rat trap. Uncooked spaghetti, a pencil, chop sticks, etc. (Test items ahead of time, you want them to shatter.)

DO YOU TRUST ME?

PREPARATION: You will need a rat trap. A mouse trap is too small. Be sure to get a big rat trap. It is not only more effective, but has the spring you need to remove unnoticed.

THE EFFECT: After smashing many items you will ask a child to trust you and put their finger on the bait platform, the trigger bar will release, but they will be unharmed because they put their faith in you.

PRESENTATION: NOTE: Please only do this object lesson if you are confident you can do it safely without hurting yourself. There is no danger to the children if done correctly, but you could hurt yourself demonstrating the trap, so please be careful. Demonstrate extreme caution. Show the rat trap and explain how it works. The placement of the cheese, the spring, the trip bar, etc. Then, at a safe distance from the kids, demonstrate how it works. Explain as you set it how the spring works, how the trip bar holds it back, and how pressure the bait platform releases the spring bar to kill the rat! You may want to wear some eye protection while smashing the items you bring. The kids will LOVE watching spaghetti, a pencil, a

wooden ruler, chop sticks, and other weak items shatter when used to trip the trap. Of course, please be sure your fingers are never in danger. The impact IS very hard.

Then, start to talk about Abraham, and how God asked him to do something that looked very dangerous, even fatal for his son. This was the son that was supposed to lead to his descendants numbering in the millions, this could never happen if he never even grew up! Abraham knew that God LOVED HIM and he trusted God. But more than that, he put his FAITH in God. Faith is more than belief or even trust. Faith is ACTING on that belief and trust. Let's demonstrate what that means. How many of you BELIEVE that I love children and I would never do anything to harm a child? (hands go up) How many of you even TRUST ME that I would never hurt you? (hands go up) Well, right now, I'm going to see if one of you will put your FAITH in me. Meaning, you will ACT on that belief and trust. I need a volunteer to come up here who believes I would never hurt a child, trusts me and is willing to put their faith in me. (Choose a volunteer, young, but not too young is ideal, perhaps second grade.) Ask them to put their finger on the trap platform. Will they do it? Sometimes you may need to pick several kids until you will get one to do it. Many believe but few will act on that belief. When a child finally does it, the trip bar will pop which is a little startling, but the trap bar that does the smashing will not move and they are unharmed.

THE SECRET: As you are talking and fiddling with the rat trap, you remove the spring(s) from the going over the bar. Sometimes there are two springs going over both sides of the bar, other times there is only one. To make it less obvious, you can do the entire object lesson with only one spring on the bar, and the other already removed. It will still break things, but with half the force. It all depends on how confident and bold you can be removing the spring while talking and while NOT LOOKING at the trap, at least not obviously. Don't worry, there is no way to "mess up," you'll know you did it right, as there will be ZERO resistance to the bar after the spring is removed. You actually will have to FAKE to struggle as you "pull" the bar back to "set the trap" and put the trip bar in place. NOTE: The trip bar will not hold without the tension of the spring! So you have to "trick it" but pushing your thumb UNDER the bar near the bait platform to create just enough upward pressure to hold the trip bar in place. Hold the rat very steady and don't set it until just before you ask for your volunteer, as it can "pop" and give away your secret early, if you hold it that way for too long.

PLEASE KNOW: There is NO DANGER to any child with this trick. (I am asked that all the time.) There is danger to yourself when demonstrating the fully operational trap, so please do use caution at that stage, but the kids are not near the trap at that time.

THE POINT: The point is very clear and very powerful. Faith is when we ACT on what we know and believe. Abraham didn't just believe in God, he was willing to act on it, when God told him to sacrifice his son. Some people have a hard time how a father could even be willing to do this, but the Apostle Paul tells us in the book of Hebrews that he knew so

strongly that God would keep his promise, that he believe God would bring Isaac back to life! You can read that in Hebrews 11:19 to the kids, if you'd like.

NOTE: Avoid the word "kill" and use sacrifice. Older kids know what a sacrifice is, younger children can be scared by "kill" and sacrifice is more vague. That is why "hurt" is a better word for younger children.

Let's learn another **ATTRIBUTE OF GOD.**

REPEAT AFTER ME: text

During this series, we are learning 8 different Attributes of God - or 8 things that make God amazing and awesome and above anything we could ever be. If you can memorize all 8 Attributes of God, we'll have a special prize for you!

This week we are learning that our GOD is OMNIPOTENT - meaning God is ALL POWERFUL and IN CONTROL.

OBJECT LESSON: Gravity-Defying Water!

PREPARATION: You'll need a tall, clear drinking glass with a smooth top to it. Also, index cards that are wider than the top of the glass. Lastly, you need water - either a pitcher of water to pour into the glass, or a way to fill it to the rim while presenting.

PRESENTATION: Show the drinking glass and fill it with water. Tell the kids that you can turn it upside down and NONE of the water will pour out and ask if they would like to see this impossible feat done? Emphasize that this is impossible, because gravity will pull the water down toward the earth. Next, explain that God made the law of gravity, so he can break it if He wants to! Get an index card and write GOD IS ALL POWERFUL on the index card. Place the card on the top of the glass then with your hand fully covering the card, pick up the glass with the other hand and place your other hand on the bottom. Ask the kids if they are ready to see you defy gravity? Then you'll reverse the cup keeping your hands where they are, keeping a firm grip on the bottom of the glass, which is now up top. Next, slowly remove your hand downwards from the top of the glass (which is facing downward) and the index card will stick holding the water in. The reason is that since no air can get in, no water can get out, but no need to explain that to the kids! Just take a bow. If you are really brave, pass the glass around!

NOTE: Best to perform over a floor that you don't mind getting wet.... *JUST IN CASE!*

THE POINT: It sounded impossible to turn a glass filled with water upside down and not have it spill all over the floor. But not only did God write the law of gravity, He also wrote the other scientific laws too!

Read Scripture: Matthew 19:26 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." ESV

If there is time!

FIND IT

Have the children get their Bibles out and race to find these verses.

Encourage all the kids to look up the verses. After a student reads it, put it up on the screen and read it together. Briefly discuss the passage and explain it as it relates to the lesson.

Psalm 147:5 ESV

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

Hebrews 11:6 NIV

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Psalm 26:2 NIV

Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind.

HIDE IT

This is the THEME PASSAGE

Challenge the kids to memorize this passage during this series. You may want to have a fun prize or treat for the kids who memorize it!

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

Revelation 4:11

HAND MOTIONS! It's helpful to learn through hand motions. For many words, you can use official sign language signs.* Other times, it is fine to use a motion that is easier and makes more sense for kids. Here are some suggestions. A video demonstration is included in your lesson downloads in the 'Every Week' folder.

You (point up with both hands) **are worthy** (ASL sign*), **our Lord** (ASL sign*) **and God** (ASL sign*), **to receive** (ASL sign*) **glory** (ASL sign*) **and honor** (ASL sign*) **and power** (make fists and muscle pose), **for you created** (motion like packing dirt or clay) **all things** (point around the room), **and by your** (point up) **will** (point to your head) **they were created** (again

mold with both hands) *and have their being* (both hands palms up starting center body and panning outward).

* You can look up video demos of ASL Signs at signingsavvy.com

LIVE IT

This week, God might ask you to do something difficult. It may come through a parent or other leader. Be like Abraham and just trust God and quickly obey. Watch what God will do!

TAKE IT

Will include:

- It
- Find Its
- Hide It
- Activity
- Live It