



Teacher Lesson Plans

Bibletime Levels 0-4

A Series

A5 & A6

Bible Educational Services

Registered Charity UK (CIO 1186004)

BES Mission:

Producing Bible lessons for intermediaries to present the truth of Jesus Christ to the next generation worldwide.

BES Vision:

To reach the next generation with our full curriculum in their own language by developing and supporting a global network of committed partners.

GENERAL INFORMATION

What Bible Educational Services does:

Bible Educational Services (BES) publish "Bibletime", "New Life" and "Gleaners" Bible lessons in English and support Postal Bible Schools and similar organisations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas. We do this by visiting, networking, advising and training. BES is also currently working in partnership with groups in other countries who are involved in translation, design, publishing and distribution of lessons. Lessons must be provided free of charge to all students.

Bibletime lessons were first used in Southern Ireland over 50 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintain editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and in all foreign languages. Bibletime lessons have been normally published in an A4 format which enables students in some areas, every four weeks, to send the lessons back to a Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, thanks to Every Home Crusade (Revival Movement) in Belfast, lessons for six months have been published in an A5 format, which has made usage in Churches and Schools much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system.

The BES lessons are unique in that they are prepared with home or group (Church / School) study in mind. They follow a planned syllabus which allows students to continue studying for up to 20 years. Five levels of lessons are available for specific age groups, Pre-school, 5-7's, 8-10's, 11-13's, 14-16's. There is a three-year syllabus for each age group. The age groups may vary according to different levels of ability. The Bibletime Resources allow children the opportunity to study the Bible and reflect on its relevance in the lives of people today.

Printed copies of the lessons are available in English from the BES website www.besweb.com or from the BES Office in Enniskillen. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to you if you are considering partnering with us, which are also available on the website.

BES Contact Addresses

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LESSON PLANS FOR TEACHERS

Teacher Lesson Plans are produced to equip Teachers using Bibletime lessons with suggestions and ideas for classroom study. In this booklet they are designed for use with Levels 0-4.

Each lesson plan follows the same Bible reference as the Bibletime lesson and are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are specific to the Easter story and the December lessons are based on the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Normally the classroom Teacher will work through the monthly A4 lesson each week with the class. They are free to allow time for independent study if this is appropriate. At the end of the month the Teacher will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the pupils.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

Teachers should feel free to use their own ideas and initiatives when using the Bibletime lessons, adapting them as appropriate to their particular pupils. These are suggestions which may help in the use of this Resource:

- **Be familiar with the story** - Teachers should be as familiar as possible with the Bible Story and also with the Bibletime lesson that accompanies it. Ideally, the Bibletime lesson should be completed by the Teacher before the lesson. The Lesson Plans for each lesson should also be carefully considered as a planning aid for the lessons.
- **Understand the lessons to be learned** - At the top of each lesson plan you will notice the words 'We are learning that', followed by some learning intentions. The children will hopefully have grasped these points after listening to the Teacher's presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson.
- **Introduce it** - With all lessons, we start where the children are with their own experience of the situation. We have suggested various ways that might be used to introduce the story to enable the children to be interactive in discussing the starting point of the story.
- **Teach It** - We have given the Key Points in the story. Teachers should not have to refer to these when actually teaching the story, but they are a useful guide. Aim to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way! Help the children to understand the main points by grasping their attention - use the appropriate tone and ask questions to test their learning.
- **Show it** - We appreciate that in some situations, visuals will be very difficult to obtain but wherever possible it is important to focus on pictures or objects to help in the understanding of the story. In most lessons we have given the information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org (FBI) which are downloadable from their website. These direct links to the story / study are available in Appendix A, B or C at the back of the booklet.
- **Learn It** - There is a Key Verse attached to each story. Hearing and learning these verses should enable pupils to increase their knowledge of Biblical vocabulary.
- **Complete It** - In a school situation you will be aware of the abilities of children to complete worksheets and the amount of Teacher support required. For some, it will be a requirement that the Teacher reads over the text of the lesson as the children follow what is now a familiar narrative. Other children may be able to read the text independently. Whatever the approach, try to make the lesson enjoyable, and remember to praise the pupils' efforts.
- **Review it** - We have suggested possible quizzes, games, art and drama to assist learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Live it-** This section carries the heading 'How does the lesson challenge Christians today?' and also some suggestions of possible group work and individual responses to the challenge of the lesson.

Bibletime Syllabus

	LEVEL 0 (Pre-School) LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-7) LEVEL 2 (Ages 8-10)	LEVEL 3 (Ages 11-13)	LEVEL 4 (Ages 14+)
STARTER SERIES	1. Starter Lesson - Intro	1. Starter Lesson - Intro	1. Starter Lesson – Intro
SERIES A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Abraham 6. Abraham 7. Peter 8. Peter 9. Jacob 10. Early Christians 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. Prayer 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation & Fall 2. Early developments - Genesis 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. The Christian Life 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story
SERIES B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Life of Christ 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Parables 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. People Jesus met 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. Gospel Writers 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Jacob & his family 7. Joseph 8. Acts 2: 42 - The way ahead 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. The Law 12. The Christmas Story
SERIES C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. More Miracles 3. People Jesus met 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth & Samuel 6. David 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Jonah 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. People Jesus met 3. More Miracles 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Men used by God - OT 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. The sayings of Jesus 3. The Lord's Power 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. More OT Characters 12. The Christmas Story

A5 Story 1
“Abram leaves home”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abram obeyed God when he left Ur and moved to a new land. • Christians show their trust in God by obeying Him. <p>Key Verse: Proverbs 3: 5 Bible Passage: Genesis 12: 1-9</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about moving to a new house if this is within the pupils’ experience. • How would they feel about going to live in another country far from home? - excited? worried? sad? happy? Give reasons. • Introduce Abram and explain what his life in the city of Ur was like – family, friends, house, animals, wealth....He had a good life!
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One day God said to Abram, “Leave your home and go to a land which I will show you” (Genesis 12: 1). <i>What was hard about what God was asking Abram? (leaving his good life at home / not knowing where he was going).</i> • God made promises to Abram (Genesis 12: 2-3). <i>Explain that God’s promises were all good things – e.g. a great nation and a great name. He wanted to bless Abram. When God blesses someone, He is showing them His goodness.</i> • Abram obeyed God (Genesis 12: 4). <i>Why do you think Abram obeyed? (He believed God’s promises / trusted God).</i> • <i>Explain who was with Abram – Sarai his wife, Lot his nephew, his servants and God was also there to show the way. Describe how they would have travelled on camels and stayed in tents during this long journey through a desert.</i> • Finally, Abram arrived in Canaan (Genesis 12: 6–9). • <i>How would Abram feel now? Explain that building an altar was Abram’s way of being thankful to God.</i> • <i>Talk about situations where Christians have to trust God today, e.g. during an illness / difficult situation.</i> • <i>The Bible teaches that trusting God completely means counting on Him to work things out rather than depending on our own way or ability.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abram leaves home.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain the Key Verse - Proverbs 3: 5. Explain that this verse describes what Abram did – he trusted in God with all His heart rather than working out things in his own way.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Revise the story by asking the pupils to answer Yes / No to the following statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God spoke to Abram. • Abram left home because of a famine. • God promised to bless Abram. • Abram was 70 when he left home. • Abram knew where he was going. • Abram had a son called Lot. • God led Abram to Canaan. • Abram lived in a house in the new land. • Abram trusted God by obeying God. • The Bible teaches that God wants everyone to trust and obey Him.

A5 Story 2
“Abram and Lot”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot made a selfish choice which turned out to be a bad choice. • It is important that our choices do not have negative consequences for others. <p>Key Verse: Either Philippians 4: 19 or Genesis 13: 15 Bible Passage: Genesis 13: 1 - 18</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about choices which the pupils make and about letting others choose first. • Talk about quarrelling / arguing and how it spoils our friendships.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abram’s servants and Lot’s servants were quarrelling about which land their animals would graze on (Genesis 13: 5–7). • Abram knew that the quarrelling was not good, so he kindly gave Lot first choice of the land for his animals (Genesis 13: 8–9). • <i>Describe the landscape pictorially, showing the contrast between the choices open to Lot – the flat well-watered land of the Jordan valley where there was plenty of green grass compared with the not-so-good, hilly land surrounding it. What do you think Lot will choose?</i> • Lot’s choice (Genesis 13: 10–13). <i>Why did Lot make the choice he did? (He saw what looked good and wanted it for himself). Lot was being greedy and selfish as we can be. Explain that Lot’s choice did not turn out to be as good as he thought because the people who lived there did not please God.</i> • Abram and Lot separated from each other, but God promised that one day in the future, He would give Abram and his family all the land he could see in every direction (Genesis 13: 14–18). • <i>How would you have felt if you had been Abram? Would you have felt cheated? (Reinforce that Abram had God’s promises which were better than what Lot had chosen).</i> • <i>Lot made a bad choice. It’s important to make wise choices as often our choices can affect the people around us.</i> • <i>The Bible teaches that God knows what is best for us and He is able to meet our needs perfectly, just as He was going to give Abram all he needed. God can be counted on to keep His promises.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abram and Lot.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain one of the Key Verses - Either Genesis 13: 15 or Philippians 4: 19
REMEMBER IT	<p>The story ends with Abram building an altar. The person who answers the question correctly in the team could throw a dice to collect a number of stones (Genesis 13: 1–6). Real stones or drawings of stones would do. The winning team has the altar with the most stones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we know Abram was a wealthy man? • Who decided that the quarrelling needed to stop? • Who had first choice? • Which river could Lot see? • What direction did Lot go in? • What was not good about the place Lot chose? • Where did God tell Abram to look? • What did God promise Abram? (land and family) • What did Abram do at the altar he built? • What does the Bible say about God’s promises?

A5 Story 3
“God’s promises to Abram”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible teaches that God knows the future and can make promises about what is going to happen. • The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust His promises. <p>Key Verse: Either 1 Corinthians 10: 13 or Genesis 15: 6 Bible Passage: Genesis 15: 1-7</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give an illustration of a promise which might be made to children. Emphasise the trust they have to show during the time of waiting and the excitement of looking forward to the actual fulfilment of the promise. • As people we may fail to keep our promises, but the Bible says that God always keeps His!
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God spoke to Abram in a dream and promised him a son (Genesis 15: 1, 4). <i>Link this to God’s previous promises to Abram (Genesis 12:2-3). Try to convey how amazing this news was for Abram who was by now 90+ years old.</i> • God showed Abram the stars and told him his family would be as many as the number of stars! (Genesis 15: 5) <i>Imagine the impossibility of trying to count the stars! Involve the pupils in the wonder of the stars – how were they created?</i> • Abram believed God’s promise (Genesis 15: 6). <i>Explore the reasons why Abram believed God.</i> • God gave Abram and Sarai new names (Genesis 17: 5, 15). <i>Abraham’s new name means “father of many” so he would always remember God’s promises.</i> • <i>Christians believe that God has promises for us in His Word, the Bible. Give some examples of God’s promises to us when we trust Him.</i> • <i>The Bible teaches that God is pleased when we believe what He says.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God’s promise to Abram.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain one of the Key Verses - Either 1 Corinthians 10: 13 (God is faithful) – Explain that faithful means that God can be depended on to keep His promises. Or Genesis 15: 6 – Explain that God was pleased when Abram believed Him.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What had God already promised Abram he would be head of? • What did God promise Abram in the dream or vision? • Who was Abram’s wife? • What did God show Abram? • What did God compare the stars to? • What did Abram do when God gave him this promise? • What was Abram’s new name? • What was Sarai’s new name? • What does the Bible teach about God’s promises? • What does the word “believe” mean?

A5 Story 4
“Abraham and the visitors”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the Bible was written, God sent His messages in different ways. Three important messengers brought this message from God to Abraham. • The Bible teaches that God is faithful to His promises - nothing is too hard for Him to do. <p>Key Verse: Genesis 18: 14 Bible Passage: Genesis 18: 1–15</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about what happens in your culture when unexpected visitors arrive. You could use some objects to illustrate this or do a little role-play about welcoming a guest. • Set the scene for Abraham’s visitors to arrive – Abraham was resting in the doorway of his tent in the middle of the day... when he noticed some men approaching. Who could this be?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham welcomed his visitors and organised water and food for them (Genesis 18: 2–8). <i>Explain Sarah’s part. Appeal to the senses when telling this story – the bright sun, the cool water on hot feet, the smells of the food ...</i> • After eating the meal, the three visitors gave Abraham the news that Sarah would have a son next year (Genesis 18: 9, 10). <i>How did the visitors know this? Explain who the visitors were – God’s messengers from Heaven – one was Jesus and the others were angels. Discuss how Abraham felt about hearing this news. God’s promises were very close to being fulfilled!</i> • Sarah laughed because she thought it seemed impossible, but God promised to do the impossible! (Genesis 18: 11–15). <i>Discuss how God may have felt when Sarah laughed.</i> • After a year, Sarah’s baby was born (Genesis 21: 1–7). <i>Try to capture the joy they must have felt. Had God kept His promise? With Level 2 children you could explain the meaning of Isaac’s name (laughter).</i> • <i>The Bible teaches that God can be relied on to keep all His promises to us. Nothing is too hard for Him – He is still like this today!</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abram and the visitors.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain the Key Verse - Genesis 18: 14 Make the point that for Christians, reminding themselves of God’s power encourages them to look to Him for help in every situation.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>These quiz questions relate to this story. You may wish to use these or base your quiz on an assortment of questions from all four stories in A5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What time of day was it when the visitors came? • Where was Abraham at the time? • What did Abraham ask Sarah to do? • What else did they have to eat? • Where was Sarah while the messengers were telling their news? • Why did Sarah laugh? • How long was it until Sarah would have a son? • What name was given to the baby? • What age was Abraham when Isaac was born? • Think of two reasons why Abraham and Sarah were happy. (They had a son, God had kept His promise to them) <p>Act It: Children would enjoy the first part of this narrative being acted out. Make all the actions very deliberate. Adult helpers could play the part of Abraham, Sarah, the servant, the 3 visitors. Alternatively, with a small group, the children could mime / take spoken parts.</p>

A6 Story 1
“Abraham listens to God”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abraham loved God more than anyone or anything else. The Bible teaches that we should also love God with our whole hearts. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 22: 8 or Deuteronomy 6: 5 Bible Passage: Genesis 22: 1-9</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the pupils to tell you about some of the things that are really important to them – What is the most important thing in your life? Why is it important? Then ask them how they would feel if they had to give these things up – Would they like to give that thing away? How would they feel if it was taken away? Explain that today’s story is about Abraham giving up something that was really important to him.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God kept his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a son. His name was Isaac. They loved him very much (Genesis 21: 1-3). One day God asked Abraham to take Isaac to a mountain called Moriah. Isaac was probably a teenager. God wanted Abraham to give his son Isaac as an offering to Him. God was testing Abraham to see if he really loved Him. Even though this made Abraham very sad, he trusted God and did what God had asked him to do (Genesis 22: 1-2). <i>Abraham loved God with his whole heart. Now he listened to God and was willing to obey Him even when God was asking such a difficult thing.</i> Early in the morning, Abraham got everything ready for the journey. He chopped up the wood for the sacrifice and took two servants and a donkey with him (Genesis 22: 3). After three days, they came to the mountain that God had chosen. Abraham told the two servants to wait for them, with the donkey. Isaac then carried the wood while his father carried the knife and the fire (Genesis 22: 4-6). As they started to climb, Isaac asked his Father, “Where is the lamb to put on the altar for the sacrifice? Abraham replied, “My son, God will provide Himself a lamb.” (Genesis 22: 7-8) <i>Abraham obeyed God because he loved Him. The Bible teaches that God wants us to love Him with all of our hearts and also to do everything He asks us to do.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abraham listens to God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 22: 8 or Deuteronomy 6: 5</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What was Abraham’s son called? What was the name of the mountain God wanted Abraham to go to? How many servants did Abraham take with him? What animal did Abraham take with him? How long did it take them to reach the mountain? Who did Abraham say would “provide Himself a lamb”? Who did Abraham love more than anyone or anything else? Who does the Bible say we should love with our whole hearts?

A6 Story 2
“God’s care” Level 0-1
“Abraham obeys God” Level 2

	A6 - LEVEL 0-1 Story 2 – God’s Care	A6 – LEVEL 2 Story 2 – Abraham obeys God
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 21: 8-20</i></p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Peter 5: 7</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God cared for Hagar and Ishmael. The Bible teaches that God knows what we need and cares for us too. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 22: 9-14</i></p> <p>Key Verse: Galatians 2: 20</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abraham was willing to kill his only son to obey God. God provided a ram to take Isaac’s place on the altar; the Bible teaches that He provided Jesus to take our place on the cross.
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the pupils if they have ever visited a very hot country. How did the sun make them feel? Explain to the pupils that in today’s story, Hagar and Ishmael are out in the hot sun with no food or water left. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the pupils if they have ever had to do something really difficult. Invite them to share their experiences. How did they feel? In today’s story God asked Abraham to do something unthinkable! – to kill his only son, Isaac. Abraham had to trust God.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationships between Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael and Isaac were strained. Ishmael was Abraham’s first born son and it distressed Abraham greatly to send him and his mother (Hagar) away (Genesis 21: 11). God reassured Abraham and told him that He had plans to make Ishmael’s descendants into a nation. Early one morning Abraham gave Hagar some food and a skin of water and sent her and Ishmael on their way. Soon Hagar and Ishmael found themselves in a hot, dry place with no food or water left. Hagar put Ishmael under the shade of a bush to shield him from the hot sun. She then sobbed at the thought of having to watch him die. God heard Ishmael crying and knew how worried Hagar was. He told Hagar to lift Ishmael up and He reassured her that Ishmael’s descendants would be a great nation. God opened Hagar’s eyes and showed her a well of water. Hagar gave Ishmael a drink and as the boy grew up God was with Him. The Bible teaches that God knows what we need and cares for us too. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God’s care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abraham travelled for three days to reach the mountain God had asked him to go to. Abraham was completely obedient to God. He was ready to give up everything for God and sacrifice his precious son. He bound Isaac and laid him on the altar. Just as Abraham took the knife to slay his son, an angel of the Lord called out to Abraham and told him not to harm Isaac (Genesis 22: 12). Abraham had shown how much he loved God by obeying His instructions. Just then Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in the bushes; God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac’s place (Genesis 22: 13). The Bible teaches that God sent His only son, Jesus into the world to be a sacrifice. He willingly took our place on the cross so that though faith in Him, we can stand forgiven before God. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abraham obeys God.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse – 1 Peter 5: 7	Teach and explain the Key Verse – Galatians 2: 20
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What was the name of Hagar’s son? Where did Hagar put Ishmael to shield him from the sun? How did Hagar feel at this point? Who heard Ishmael crying? What did God reveal to Hagar when He opened her eyes? What does the Bible say about God’s care? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How long did Abraham and Isaac’s journey take? Abraham was ‘obedient’ to God – what does this mean? How do you think Abraham felt when he bound Isaac and put him on the altar? What happened as soon as Abraham raised the knife? What did Abraham find to use as a sacrifice on the altar instead? What does the Bible say about Jesus as a sacrifice?

A6 Story 3
“God’s help”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The servant asked God for help and God helped him. • God will help us too if we ask Him. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 24: 27 or Isaiah 41:10 Bible Passage: Genesis 24: 1-28</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the pupils to think about people who help them – Who helps you? What kind of things do they help you with? How does it make you feel when they help you? • Allow pupils to tell stories about times that they helped someone. • Explain to them that today’s story is about God helping someone.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham was a very old man, but before he died he wanted to be sure that Isaac was happily married. So, he gave his chief servant instructions about finding a wife for his son. He told him to trust in God to guide him to the right woman (Genesis 24: 1-9). <i>How do you think the servant felt when Abraham asked him to find a wife for Isaac?</i> • The servant took ten of Abraham’s camels and set out on his journey. After travelling for many days, he stopped at a well near the city of Nahor. It was evening and all the young women were coming out to get water from the well (Genesis 24: 10-11). • The servant then prayed to God and asked Him to show him if one of these women was to be Isaac’s wife. He would ask for a drink and if a woman gave him a drink and then offered water for his ten camels, he would know she was God’s choice for Isaac (Genesis 24: 12-14). • Soon he saw a very pretty woman coming towards the well. Her name was Rebekah. When he asked for a drink she gladly gave him one and also enough water for his camels. <i>What would the servant be thinking? How would he be feeling?</i> (Genesis 24: 15-21) • After giving her presents from his master Abraham, he asked her if they had any room in their house for him to stay the night. When she said they had plenty of room, the servant bowed his head and thanked God for answering his prayers and helping him to find the right woman (Genesis 24: 22-27). • <i>Have you ever been given a difficult task to do? Suggest relevant examples.</i> • <i>Who did the servant ask for help?</i> • <i>The Bible teaches that God wants to help and lead us when we have choices and decisions to make. He will help us make the right choices.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God’s help.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 24: 27 or Isaiah 41:10</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who went to look for a wife for Isaac? • How many camels did the servant take with him? • Where did the servant stop? • What time of the day was it? • Who did the servant ask to help him find the right woman? • What was the name of the woman at the well? • What did she do to help the servant? • What did the servant do when he knew God had helped him? <p>If time permits, pupils could draw a picture of themselves helping someone.</p>

A6 Story 4
“God’s choice”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebekah and Isaac followed God’s plan and they were very happy. • The Bible teaches that those who trust God have real happiness. <p>Key Verse: Psalm 144: 15 Bible Passage: Genesis 24: 28-67</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the pupils if they have ever been to a wedding – Who was getting married? What did they wear? What happened at the wedding? Were the bride and groom happy? • Tell the pupils that today’s story is about a wedding that happened in Bible times. Probably this story is different to the way weddings are planned in your country.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind the pupils of the story so far. • Rebekah ran home to tell her family what had happened. Her brother Laban ran to the well, brought the servant to their home and made him welcome. But before the servant would even eat his supper, he told Rebekah’s family why he had come (Genesis 24: 28-49). • Her father and Laban both agreed that it was God who had led Isaac’s servant to Rebekah. Without any delay they gave the servant permission to take Rebekah back with him so that she could become Isaac’s wife. The servant thanked God for answering his prayer. Then he gave lots of gifts to Rebekah and her family (Genesis 24: 50-53). • In the morning, they asked Rebekah if she would return with the servant and marry Isaac. Rebekah agreed to go (Genesis 24: 54-61). <i>How would Rebekah be feeling? (a bit nervous because she didn’t know Isaac and his family but excited because this was obviously God’s plan for her!)</i> • Back at Abraham’s home, Isaac was waiting and wondering what was happening. One evening, while out for a walk, he saw the camels coming. Soon he welcomed Rebekah to her new home and took her into his mother’s tent. Isaac loved Rebekah very much and she became his wife (Genesis 24: 61-67). • <i>How do you think Isaac felt when he saw his new wife? (Probably very excited and maybe a bit nervous too as he had never met Rebekah before, but he trusted God’s plan too and was happy to take Rebekah as his wife).</i> • Both Isaac and Rebekah were very happy because they had trusted God and followed His plan. • <i>The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust Him too and follow His plan. When we do, we will be filled with real joy and happiness.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God’s choice.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain the Key Verse - Psalm 144: 15. This verse teaches that true happiness comes when God is carrying out His plan for our lives.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was Rebekah’s brother’s name? • What did the servant do before he ate his supper? • Why did Rebekah’s family agree to let her be Isaac’s wife? • What did the servant give Rebekah and her family? • Who did they say had led the servant to Rebekah? • When did Rebekah leave with the servant? • Who was out walking in the fields when the servant and Rebekah got home? • Why were Isaac and Rebekah happy together? • What does the Bible say about true happiness?

Level 3-4	A5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The life of Peter Topic – Peter preaches	A5 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – The life of Peter Topic – Pentecost
	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 2: 1-43</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 1: 8</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus' followers received the Holy Spirit as a gift from God. Peter preached to the crowd to repent and receive God's forgiveness. 	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 2: 1-42</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 2: 38</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pentecost is a Jewish festival, celebrated five days after the Passover. After Peter's preaching, the Church was born.
INTRODUCE IT	Think about how pupils might feel if there are big changes in their lives. New school, new home, changes in family circumstances. Explain that there were big changes coming for the disciples now that Jesus had ascended up to Heaven, and they had to carry on His work.	Think about the fact that birthdays, anniversaries and religious festivals are important for some families. Think of some special days in the coming months. The Jewish nation celebrated Pentecost which was fifty days after the Passover when they left Egypt and when Moses received the Law at Mount Sinai.
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The disciples were waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit which Jesus had promised them (Acts 1: 8). On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came as described in verses 2-3. The disciples began to speak in other languages so that people from many nations who had come to Jerusalem for a special festival could understand them. Some accused the disciples of having taken too much wine. Peter takes the initiative and explains to the crowd what had happened. He tells them that Joel's prophecy has been fulfilled and the Holy Spirit has come (Joel 2: 28-32). Boldly he tells them they were responsible for the death of Jesus, but that God has raised Him from the dead. The people were upset and asked what they could do. Peter tells them to repent and be baptised. That day, three thousand believed and became followers of Jesus. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Lesson 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Peter preaches.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus' promise was fulfilled when the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a spectacular way on the Day of Pentecost. Explain what happened when the Holy Spirit came. Peter said that the Jewish nation was responsible for the death of Jesus, but God had raised Him up and exalted Him to Heaven and now He had sent the Holy Spirit. Those who believed were the first members of the Church. It started that day and continues to the present day. Discuss what really happened to the people who believed (see verses 38-39). Look at what they did to show their lives were changed (see verses 42). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Study 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Pentecost.</p>
REVIEW IT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit gives Christians power to witness. What does this mean? How much importance do Christians place on spreading the Gospel message throughout the world? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the importance of the work of the Holy Spirit. Why is it good for Christians to meet together in close fellowship, as a Church? Find out the name of a Church that is growing fast and name its characteristics.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss some ways that a Christian pupil could be a witness for Christ in school. Carry out some research on the different forms of penance or repentance used many years ago. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why is Pentecost so important to the Church today? Discuss the difference between attending Church and being part of a Church fellowship.

Level 3-4	A5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The life of Peter Topic – Peter healing	A5 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – The life of Peter Topic – Healing a lame man
	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 3: 1-16</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 3: 6</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bible teaches that Jesus has power to heal sickness and disease. 2. He can change our lives if we put our trust in Him. 	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 3: 1-26</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 4: 10</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was God's power that healed the lame man and not that of the disciples. 2. Christians believe that God often places them in the right place at the right time, in order to carry out His work.
INTRODUCE IT	Peter and the other disciples would never forget the parable Jesus had taught them about the Good Samaritan and the need to "love their neighbours" (Luke 10: 25-37). When they saw this man in need, they knew that they had to do what Jesus would have done.	One of the greatest teachings of Jesus was care for others. He constantly showed to His disciples His love for everyone, especially the needy. He said that when He was gone, they would do even greater things than He had done (John 14: 12).
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter and John are going to the Temple to pray. 2. They meet a man who has been unable to walk, since he was born, forty years before. 3. He asks for money, but Peter says he has something better; he could be healed. 4. He helped the man to his feet and then the man began to jump and walk. He went into the Temple praising God. It was the first miracle in the early Church. 5. When a crowd gathered, Peter explained that the man had not been healed by his own power or Peter's power, but in the name of Jesus whom the people had crucified (see verse 16). 6. Note the emphasis of the man's faith in verse 16. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Peter healing.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soon after Pentecost Peter and John were going to the Temple to pray. 2. When they saw the lame man, they knew what Jesus would have done. 3. In faith, Peter helped the man to stand up. Immediately he was healed, showing proof by walking, jumping and going into the Temple praising God. 4. The power of Jesus was now evident in His apostles through the coming of the Holy Spirit. 5. Look at the main points of Peter's sermon -who Jesus is and what the Bible says He can still do! 6. Does God still equip His followers with power to heal? <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Healing a lame man.</p>
REVIEW IT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter and John saw a man in need and decided to help him. They were careful to give God the Glory for the healing that took place. 2. Ask the pupils to work in groups to research a modern day Christian charity who help people with disabilities. If time permits they could present their findings to the rest of the class. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter and John were on their way to the Temple to pray. Their commitment to prayer led to their encounter with the lame man. How important should prayer be in the lives of Christians today? 2. Think about the reasons why Peter has changed so much since he denied Jesus.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Think about the miracle of healing and the fact that not all people are healed. Discuss 1 John 5: 14-15. Why might God choose to allow suffering? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spending time with Jesus had affected Peter and John's everyday work and witness for Him. How can Christians today, who do not have Jesus with them physically still be effective in His service?

Level 3-4	A5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The life of Peter Topic – Peter witnessing	A5 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – The life of Peter Topic – Before the Sanhedrin
	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 4: 1-22</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 4: 12</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Holy Spirit was responsible for the change in Peter's life. 2. Christians believe that it is important to stand firm for God. 	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 4: 1-31</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 4: 13</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bible says that God gave Peter courage and strength to witness to the religious authorities. 2. The Bible says that Christians must be prepared to tell others about Jesus whatever the cost.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Revise what had happened in the previous lesson. Remind the pupils that in some countries, if you make a stand for Jesus, it could result in persecution or even imprisonment. On this occasion Peter and John faced persecution from the religious authorities.</p>	<p>Peter had preached another great sermon (chapter 3). The number of believers was around 5,000 (verse 4). The religious authorities thought that Jesus' crucifixion would be the end of His following. Now it was even greater!</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The religious authorities heard Peter's message and were disturbed because teaching the people was their job, and also because Peter was preaching that Jesus was alive. 2. Peter and John were arrested and put in prison. 3. The next day they had to face the Sanhedrin (the religious court), just as Jesus had done. 4. They wanted to know what power Peter had used to make the man walk. 5. Peter told them it was power in the name of Jesus (verse 10). 6. The religious leaders were impressed by Peter and John's courage. 7. They told them to stop preaching about Jesus. 8. Peter said that they had to obey God rather than them. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Peter witnessing.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter and John are arrested. 2. Note the significance of the Sanhedrin (Jewish Council). 3. Peter boldly told the Sanhedrin that it was the power of Jesus that had healed the man, and then explained that He is the only Saviour (verse 12). 4. The Sanhedrin were amazed at the courage of Peter and John and realised it was because they had been with Jesus. 5. They told them to stop preaching in the name of Jesus. But Peter told them they had to obey God rather than the Sanhedrin. 6. Peter and John returned to their own people and together they prayed that they might be able to speak the message boldly. Note how their prayers were answered in a very powerful way. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Before the Sanhedrin.</p>
REVIEW IT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Look at verse 12 and discuss with pupils why Jesus must be the foundation of a Christian's faith. 2. Find out about a famous Christian who 'took a stand' for their faith e.g. Eric Liddell. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss how a Christian might show boldness in their faith and witness. 2. Research the work of Open Doors or Barnabas Trust to find out how Christians are acting boldly in places where there is persecution.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Look at 1 Peter 2: 4-5. Discuss what it means for a Christian to be a 'living stone'. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do Christians rely enough on the work of the Holy Spirit? 2. How can opposition to the Gospel help faith to grow?

Level 3-4	A5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The life of Peter Topic – Peter in prison	A5 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – The life of Peter Topic – In prison
	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 12: 1-19</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 John 5: 14</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Persecution is something that can affect God's people. The Bible teaches that God loves us and knows what is best for us. 	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 12: 1-19</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 John 5: 5</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible encourages Christians to trust in God like Peter did, even in the most difficult circumstances. God can do the impossible, but He leaves the rest to us.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Jesus said that just as the world hated him, so they would hate the apostles and all of God's people (John 15: 18). In His early life Jesus had nearly been killed by King Herod. Now his grandson, another Herod is about to do the same thing to Peter.</p>	<p>Once again Peter is in prison because of his faith and his preaching. He must have had great faith to have been fast asleep in the prison, the night before his trial. Had Peter learnt the truth of the words which he later wrote? (1 Peter 5: 7)</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> King Herod has James put to death and when he realised that this pleased the Jews he arrested Peter. Peter is in prison again, awaiting a public trial. The Church met together to pray. The night before the trial an angel helped Peter escape from the prison. He went to the house where his friends were praying. The servant girl who opened the door told them that Peter was there, but nobody believed her. Eventually they realised that God had answered their prayers. Consider the importance of true fellowship among believers. The Bible explains that Christians should pray regularly, expect God to answer and accept God's will for their lives. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Peter in prison.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Church was concerned about Peter and earnestly prayed for him. Peter was guarded by 16 soldiers and chained to two of them. An angel appeared, woke Peter and freed him from the chains and led him out of the prison. Miraculously Peter was free. Peter realised that it was God who had freed him. He discovered that the Church were praying but not really believing that God could do impossible things. Clearly God had more work for Peter to do. It was not yet his time to die so God overruled. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – in prison.</p>
REVIEW IT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss why Christians might find it difficult to pray regularly. Find two Bible verses to do with God's guidance and share them with the group. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why should Christians pray to God in difficult times? Consider why it's important to pray expectantly, trusting God to answer. Ask the pupils if they can share an example of a time when God has answered prayer for someone they know.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why do God's ways sometimes seem a mystery e.g. some followers are harshly persecuted, and others are not? How does a Christian discover God's will for their lives? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why do Christians sometimes doubt that God will answer their prayers in the way they ask? In times of despair when hope seems gone, why should Christians continue to trust God?

Level 3-4	A6– LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Abraham’s journeys Topic - Trusting God	A6 – LEVEL 4 Study 1– Abraham’s journeys Topic – His call
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 12: 1-9</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Hebrews 11: 8</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abram was a man of faith: He trusted God even when he didn’t know where God was leading him. Christians believe that when God calls us, as He did Abram, we need to trust Him, follow Him and obey Him. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 11: 27-32; Genesis 12: 1-9</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>Acts 7: 2-4</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abram was a man of faith: He trusted God even when he didn’t know where God was leading him. God calls Christians to trust Him, follow Him and obey Him in every aspect of their lives.
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the pupils if they have ever moved to a new school. What were the challenges involved in this? (You could discuss starting new routines, different travel arrangements, making new friends and meeting new teachers). Ask if anyone in the group has moved to a new house. What challenges did this present? For Abram and his family, new challenges might have included a different language, food, climate and customs, as well as being far away from friends at home. 	<p>Walking debate. Ask the pupils to imagine they are setting out on a long journey to a country they have never been to before, and that the plan is to set up home there. What challenges could this present? (For Abram and his family new challenges might have included a different language, food, climate and customs, as well as being far away from friends at home). Write the following words individually on A4 sheets: UNSURE; WORRIED; EXCITED; STRESSED; APPREHENSIVE. Stick the sheets on a wall in separate parts of the room. Ask the pupils to walk to the sheet with the word that best describes how this situation might make them feel. Then discuss their choices: why might they feel this way?</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God spoke to Abram and told him to move with his family to a different country, which he would show to him. This wasn’t going to be easy. Travelling in Abram’s time was difficult and slow. He also had a lot of things to organise and people to take with him. God made a special promise to bless Abram and make his family into a great nation. Through this great nation all the other people on the earth would be blessed too. Abram set out with his nephew Lot and his wife Sarai. They took all their possessions with them. Abram was 75 years old! After they had been travelling for some time, God appeared to Abram at a place called Shechem. He told Abram He would give the land to his family. Abram built an altar and worshipped God. He then travelled to a place in the hills between Bethel and Ai and pitched his tent. Again, he built an altar to worship God. From there he continued travelling towards the Negev desert. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Trusting God.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God spoke to Abram and told him to move with his family to a different country. This wasn’t going to be easy. Travelling in Abram’s time was difficult and slow. He also had a lot of things to organise and people to take with him. God made a special promise to bless Abram and make his family into a great nation. Through this great nation all the other people on the earth would be blessed too. Through Abram’s family tree, Jesus Christ would be born to save humanity. Abram moved out in faith. He took his nephew Lot and his wife Sarai. They took all their possessions with them. Abram was 75 years old! After they had been travelling for some time, God appeared to Abram at a place called Shechem. He told Abram He would give the land to his family. Abram built an altar and worshipped God. In Bible times altars symbolised communion with God and commemorated notable encounters with Him. Abram then travelled to a place in the hills between Bethel and Ai and pitched his tent. Again, he built an altar to worship God. From there he continued travelling towards the Negev desert. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them. Complete Study 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His call.</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Draw a map of Abram’s journey from Haran to Bethel and mark on it the place names mentioned in this story. Make sure to include the great tree of Moreh and the two altars that Abram built to worship God.</p>	<p>Now make a list of adjectives we might use to describe Abram’s attitude to God’s call to move to a different land, based on the Biblical account studied today.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abram obeyed God when He asked him to set out on his journey, even though this would not have been an easy thing. What does this show us about his character? How important is faith in the life of a Christian, especially in times of difficulty or uncertainty? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss in pairs or groups of 3: Abram obeyed God. What does this teach us about Abram’s view of God? Think of situations where obeying God might be challenging. What can we learn from Abram’s story about how we should behave, even when we feel unsure, apprehensive or worried?

Level 3-4	A6– LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Abraham’s journeys Topic - Choices	A6 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Abraham’s journeys Topic – His choice
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 13: 1-18</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>Proverbs 3: 5 & 6</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It’s important to make good decisions in our lives. 2. Christians rely on God for guidance when making decisions. They do this by talking to Him in prayer and reading the Bible. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 13: 1-18; Genesis 14: 1-16</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Joshua 24: 15</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abram looked for God’s guidance and help, and he gave thanks to God. 2. The Bible teaches that Christians should ask God for His help and guidance, giving Him all the praise for blessing in their lives.
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We all make choices and decisions every day. Ask the group to give examples of small, everyday decisions and then some bigger life-changing decisions. Collate these on two lists on the board. • Give each person a piece of paper. On one side they should draw a picture representing a small decision they have made recently. On the other side they should draw a picture representing a hope, dream or ambition they have about the future. In small groups they can share and discuss their pictures. Explain that we all have decisions and choices to make and that we need help and guidance with these. Christians put their trust in God to help them make decisions and choices. 	<p>Serving God is a choice. What differences might we see in the lives of people who choose to serve God? Make a list of these on the board and keep them in mind as we study a snapshot of Abram’s life in this lesson.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abram went back to the place he had camped before, between Bethel and Ai. He had built an altar to God there, and he went to pray. 2. Abram had a decision to make. There were too many people living in the land, and they were quarrelling about it. There wasn’t room for everyone, so it was time for Abram to part company with his nephew Lot and live in a different area. 3. Abram gave Lot the opportunity to choose which area of the land he wanted to live in. 4. Lot chose the fertile, well-watered plain of the river Jordan and he decided to live near the cities. 5. Abram lived in the land of Canaan. 6. When Lot had gone his way, God spoke to Abram and promised him all the land he could see in every direction: north, south, east and west. 7. God promised that Abram would have many children and that the land would belong to them. 8. Abram settled to live near the great trees of Mamre, at Hebron. He built an altar there to worship God. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Choices.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abram had a decision to make. There were too many people living in the land, and they were quarrelling about pasture for the animals. It was time for Abram to part-company with his nephew Lot and live in a different area. 2. Abram gave Lot the opportunity to choose which area he wanted to live in. 3. Lot chose the fertile, plain of the river Jordan and he decided to live near the cities. 4. Abram lived in the land of Canaan. 5. When Lot had gone his way, God spoke to Abram and promised him all the land he could see in every direction. God promised that Abram would have many children and that the land would belong to them. 6. Abram settled near the great trees of Mamre, He built an altar there to worship God. 7. Abram was living in a time of conflict. The enemies of Sodom, where Lot lived, had attacked the city and captured Lot, together with some others and their possessions. 8. When Abram heard about this, he went with an army to attack the enemy and recover the hostages. Abram defeated the captors. He wouldn’t accept any payment from the King of Sodom, because it was God who gave him the victory over his enemies. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His choice.</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Produce a newspaper headline and short front-page report about the story in today’s lesson. The article should contain all of the key elements in the story. This activity could be completed in small groups or pairs. The articles could be displayed and discussed.</p>	<p>Read the Key Verse <i>Joshua 24: 15</i>. From what you have learned in this study, how did Abram demonstrate that he was a servant of God? Review the list of characteristics of servants of God made at the start of the lesson. Ask the pupils if they would like to add or change anything in this list.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss. Abram involved God in his choices and decisions, which resulted in God blessing him. Think about what it means to be blessed by God.</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss. Lot made a wrong choice which ended up having negative consequences. How important is it to consider others when making choices / decisions?</p>

Level 3-4	A6– LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 - Abraham's journeys Topic – God's promises	A6 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Abraham's journeys Topic – His confidence
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 17: 1-8; Genesis 18: 1-15; Genesis 21: 1-5</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Genesis 18: 14</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Even though Abram had tried to sort things out his own way, God didn't give up on him. 2. God confirmed His promise to Abram that he would be the father of many nations. It would mean blessing not just for Abram, but also for people throughout history. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 15: 1-7; Genesis 17: 1-19; Genesis 18: 1-15</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Genesis 18: 14</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God had promised Abram that he would have a child who would be his heir. Abram believed God, but he and his wife were old and still hadn't had any children. They tried to sort things out themselves. 2. God didn't give up on Abram and Sarai. God confirmed His promise that Abram would be the father of many nations. It would mean blessing not just for Abram but for many people throughout history.
INTRODUCE IT	Ask the pupils if they have ever made a promise. Has anyone ever made a promise to a member of the group? Sometimes people don't keep their promises. What are the reasons for this? This lesson explains that God keeps His promises, even when it might seem unlikely that He will.	Make a list of the types of promises people make today (marriage vows, military oaths, legal agreements, payment agreements, etc.) Discuss to what extent such promises are kept or broken. Today's study teaches us that God keeps His promises.
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God had promised Abram that he would have many children. 2. Abram and his wife Sarai were old and tried to work things out themselves. 3. God didn't break His promise though. In fact, He confirmed it again with Abram and Sarai. He gave them new names as a sign of the promise – they would be called Abraham and Sarah. 4. God told Abraham he would be the father of many nations. He promised that He would give the land to Abraham and to his descendants, and that He would be their God. 5. Three men came to visit him. Abraham was very kind to them. 6. God told Abraham that he would have a son within the next year. Sarah laughed when she heard this, because she and Abraham were too old to have children. 7. God kept His promise, and Sarah did have a son. 8. Abraham and Sarah called their son Isaac, meaning "laughter" because God had fulfilled an unbelievable promise to them, and had brought them great joy in their old age. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Lesson 3. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – God's promises.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God had promised Abram many descendants. 2. Abram and his wife Sarai were old and tried to work things out themselves. 3. God didn't give up on them. He confirmed the promise. God gave Abram and Sarai new names. They would now be called Abraham and Sarah, as a reminder of His promise. 4. God told Abraham he would be the father of many nations. He promised that He would give the land to Abraham and to his descendants, and that He would be their God. 5. Abraham's kindness to the strangers was common to his day – a person's reputation was often linked with his/her hospitality. 6. God told Abraham that Sarah would have a son within the next year. Sarah laughed, because she and Abraham were too old to have children. 7. God kept His promise, and Sarah did have a son. 8. Abraham and Sarah called their son Isaac, meaning "laughter" because God had fulfilled an unbelievable promise to them, and had brought them great joy in their old age. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Study 3. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His confidence.</p>
REVIEW IT	Read and discuss the Key Verse. Use the question it contains to design a bookmark.	In small groups: What do we learn about the characters of God, Abraham and Sarah in this lesson? Pupils could discuss their ideas in pairs and then report back to the whole group.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How might this lesson strengthen a Christian's faith in God? 2. What does this lesson teach about patience and waiting on God's timing? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are there things in life that are too hard for God? 2. Why might Christians be tempted to think of God's timing as being delayed?

Level 3-4

	A6– LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Abraham’s journeys Topic – The test of love	A6 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Abraham’s journeys Topic – The challenge
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 22: 1-14</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>John 1: 29</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God tested Abraham. He asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son. Abraham obeyed God and trusted Him completely. 2. God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac’s place. 3. The Bible teaches that God provided Jesus to take our place and die as a sacrifice to take away our sin. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 22: 1-19</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>Hebrews 11: 17-19</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son, Abraham obeyed God and trusted Him completely. 2. God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac’s place. 3. God confirmed His promises to Abraham because he had obeyed Him. 4. The Bible teaches that God provided Jesus to take our place and die as a sacrifice to take away our sin.
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Sometimes we use tests to find out things about people. Make a list of the types of tests people have to do (driving tests, school examinations, music examinations, hearing and sight tests, etc.) These tests show something of a person’s knowledge, understanding, physical abilities and behaviour. In this story, God used a test to find out if Abraham really trusted Him.</p>	<p>Is there anything, or anyone, in your life you just couldn’t live without? For Abraham, his son Isaac must have been one of those people. Abraham had waited so long to have Isaac. How might Abraham have felt if he had lost Isaac?</p>
<p>COMPLETE IT</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac as a burnt offering. 2. Abraham obeyed God’s instructions. Abraham travelled for three days to reach the place God had asked him to go to. 3. When Isaac asked Abraham where the sacrifice was, Abraham answered that God would provide one himself. This shows that Abraham had great faith in God. 4. Abraham was completely obedient to God. He was ready to give up everything for God and sacrifice his precious son. 5. God called out to Abraham and told him not to harm his son Isaac. 6. God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac’s place: a ram. 7. God confirmed His promise to Abraham that He would have so many descendants that no one would be able to count them. He also promised that through them He would bless all the nations on the earth. 8. The Bible teaches that God sent His only Son to take our place as the “Lamb of God”. Through faith in Jesus, God blesses us with salvation if we trust in Him. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The test of love.</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By asking Abraham to sacrifice his only son, God was testing him. This may have been to develop his character and his ability to trust God. 2. Abraham obeyed God’s instructions. Abraham travelled for three days to reach the place God had asked him to go to. 3. When Isaac asked Abraham where the sacrifice was, Abraham answered that God would provide one himself. This shows that Abraham had great faith in God. 4. Abraham was completely obedient to God. He was ready to give up his only son to prove that he loved God more than anyone else. 5. God called out to Abraham and told him not to harm his son Isaac. 6. God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac’s place: a ram. Note the parallel between the ram as Isaac’s substitute and Christ as a substitute for humans. 7. God confirmed His promise to Abraham that He would have many descendants and that no one would be able to count them. 8. The Bible teaches that God did not spare His own Son but sent him as a willing sacrifice to take our place on the cross. Through faith in Jesus, God blesses us with salvation if we trust in Him. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – The challenge.</p>
<p>REVIEW IT</p>	<p>The Key Verse teaches us that Jesus is the perfect sacrifice, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.</p>	<p>Abraham called the place where the events in today’s study took place “The Lord will Provide”. Why was this an appropriate name?</p>
<p>LIVE IT</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss. Abraham trusted God completely and obeyed Him and God blessed Him greatly for this. How can we follow Abraham’s example?</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss. Abraham trusted God and obeyed Him, even when He tested his faith. How can we follow his example? In what ways might God choose to test a person’s faith today?</p>

Level 0 & 1 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images	Suggested slides to use or omit
B5	Parables	The Good Samaritan	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lc-good-samaritan/	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rr-good-samaritan/	
		The Lost Sheep	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lc-lost-sheep/	
		The Foolish Son	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-prodigal-son/	(slide 1-14, 19)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/prodigal-son-preschool/	
		The Sower	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lc-parable-sower/	(slide 2, 4-8)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/parable-sower-preschool/	(slide 1-3, 5-8, 13)
B6	Joseph	The Young Dreamer	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-dreamer/	(slide 1-3)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-men2/	(young Joseph - slide 18)
		The Hated Brother	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-dreamer/	(slide 4-8)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-objects/	(bag of coins - slide 7)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-animals/	(camel - slide 2)
		The Good Slave	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-prison/	(slide 1-4)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-kings-queens/	(Potiphar's wife - e.g. slide 18)
		The New Leader	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-prison/	(slide 7-12)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-brothers/	(slide 1)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-kings-queens/	(Joseph rules Egypt - slide 10)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/isc-vegetation/	(sheaf of wheat - slide 6)

Level 2 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images	Suggested slides to use or omit
B5	Parables	The Good Samaritan	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rr-good-samaritan/	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/good-samaritan/#	(slide 6-8 may be inappropriate)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-good-samaritan/	
		The Lost Sheep	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lost-sheep/	(slide 2-15)
		The Lost Son	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-067-prodigal-son/	(slide 1-11)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/hm-prodigal-son/	(slide 1-27, 31)
		The Sower	
	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-049-parable-sower/	(slide 2-14)	
B6	Joseph	The Young Dreamer	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-dreams/	(slide 1-7; slide 6 may be inappropriate)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/josephs-dreams/	(slide 1-16)
		The Hated Brother	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pit/	(slide 1-9, 11-14, 16-17)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-slave/	(slide 1-8, 11-13, 16-22; slide 18, 21 may be inappropriate)
		The Faithful Prisoner	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison/	(slide 1-4, 11-12)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison-dreams/	(slide 1)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-potiphar/	(slide 1-5, 10, 21-24)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-baker-cupbearer/	(slide 1-3)
		The New Leader	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pharaoh-dreams/	(slide 1-13; slide 8, 9 may be inappropriate)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-ruler/	(slide 1-4)
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/pharaoh-dreams/	(slide 1, 10-15, 17-21, 23)		
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-brothers/	(slide 1-6)		

Level 3 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images	Suggested slides to use or omit
B5	Early Christians	Prepared by God!	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-ascension/	(slide 1-5)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/pentecost/	(slide 2-4)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/last-supper-jesus/	(slide 16-17)
		Prepared to Die!	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/stephen-martyred/	(slide 1-4, 7-17)
		Prepared to Listen!	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-ethiopian/	
B6	Joseph	Prepared to Go!	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-cornelius/	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bible-characters-officials/	(Cornelius - e.g. slide 5)
		The Young Dreamer	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/josephs-dreams/	
		The Hated Brother	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pit/	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-slave/	(slide 21 may be inappropriate)
		The Faithful Prisoner	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison/	(slide 1-4, 11-12)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-slave/	(slide 19-20)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-potiphar/	(slide 1-5, 10, 21-24)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-baker-cupbearer/	(slide 1-3)
		The New Leader	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison-dreams/	(slide 3-8, 11-12)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pharaoh-dreams/	(slide 1-13; slide 9 may be inappropriate)
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-baker-cupbearer/	(slide 13-22, 25, 28)		
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/pharaoh-dreams/	(slide 5, 16 may be inappropriate)		

Level 4 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images	Suggested slides to use or omit
B5	Early Christians	Stephen	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/stephen-martyred/	(slide 4, 7-17)
		Philip	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/stephen-martyred/	(slide 4)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-simon/	(slide 2-3, 5, 7)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-ethiopian/	
		Cornelius	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-cornelius/	(slide 1-6, 9-16)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bible-characters-officials/	(Cornelius - e.g. slide 5)
		Barnabas	
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-john-arrested/	(slide 17)		
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/paul-conversion/	(slide 17, 21-22)		
B6	Jacob & his family	At Haran	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-deceives/	(slide 5-12)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-dream/	(slide 1-2)
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-returns/	(slide 7)
		At Peniel	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-esau-reunited/	(slide 1-9)
		At Bethel	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-esau-reunited/	(slide 10-18)
		In Canaan	
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-dreams/	
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pit/			
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/josephs-dreams/			
https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-slave/	(slide 1-17, 21-23)		



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