

Week 4—October 25th

Isaac is Born

FAITH WORD: Faith

MEMORY VERSE: For we walk by faith and not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

WONDER TIME:

As a family:

1. Head on over to www.newnanfumc.org/virtualkids for this week's Bible story and devotional.
2. Assemble the Wonder Cube and then allow each family member a chance to roll the cube and answer the questions. Do this as long as you would like.

WONDER ABOUT IT:

SAY: We have been talking a lot about faith and promises the past few weeks. The definition of faith is "to believe in God's presence and hope."

- Tell me why you think faith is important.
- Why do you think keeping promises is important?

ACTIVITIES:

Family: What's in a Name?

Supplies: "Name Directory" paper—one per family member; crayons or markers

SAY: Today, we learned what Isaac's name means. There are books that tell the meanings of names. Let's create a directory of the names of the people in our family. In our directory, you get to define what your name means.

WONDER: But have you ever thought about what you would like your name to mean?

Write the name of each family member on the paper and write words or draw pictures that define the meaning they would like for their name. Allow each family member to read or explain the meaning they chose for their name. Display your name sheets somewhere you can see them this week.

PreK and Kindergarten: Birthday Celebration

Supplies: Birthday candle provided, dolls or stuffed animals, baby items, real cupcakes, napkins, plates from your home

SAY: God keeps promises and cares for us every day. God is filled with joy when we are born. Today we will celebrate our births and remember that God loves us.

Have the children care for the dolls or stuffed animals by feeding and clothing them. Set the table for a cupcake celebration. Next, celebrate and remember the day each child was born by putting the birthday candle in the cupcake and singing, "Happy Birthday," to everyone!

WONDER: What do we do to help us remember that God is faithful to us and keeps promises made to us?

1st and 2nd grade: True or False

Supplies: cotton balls provided, two bowls from your home

Prepare Ahead: Designate one bowl "T" for True and the other bowl "F" for False.

Give each child a pile of cotton balls. Tell the children you are going to say a statement and, if they think the statement is true, to put a cotton ball in the bowl with a "T." If they think the statement is false, to put the cotton ball in the bowl with an "F" on it.

1. Abraham and Sarah moved from their home in California. (F)
2. Abraham offered the visitors a meal. (T)
3. For dessert, they had apple pie. (T or F)
4. A guest told Abraham that Sarah would have a son within the year. (T)
5. Sarah had a daughter named Isabel. (F)
6. Abraham was faithful. (T)
7. God kept the promise that was made. (T)

WONDER: When someone has a baby, they make a promise to care for the baby. What do you promise to care for?

3rd-5th grade: You've got to be Joking! Game

Prepare Ahead: Look up some kid-friendly jokes.

SAY: In today's Bible story, Sarah says that everyone who hears about her laughter will laugh with her. Let's share some laughter of our own by playing a game that works sort of like the game Telephone.

Have the children form a circle. Whisper a joke in one child's ear. Have that child tell the joke to the next child in the circle, going clockwise. Continue until all have told the joke. Have the last child tell the joke aloud. The joke you started with will have changed as it traveled, and the result will be even funnier than the original. Repeat with different jokes, as your time permits.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR THE WEEK:

Isaac was the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham. Through Isaac, Abraham would have many descendants. Abraham had to wait for the promise to be fulfilled, probably longer than he expected. Abraham never wavered in his faith; he knew God was with him. Abraham waited, and God blessed Sarah and Abraham with a son. Sarah laughed with joy when Isaac was born. God is faithful, and God keeps promises. God wants us to be faithful to God and to keep the promises we make.

Do you remember the pinkie promise of childhood? For our spiritual practice this week, I want you to hold your pinkie finger up. Look at it and remember a promise that you had to wait a long time to see realized.

Say, "The Lord carried out just what he had promised" (Genesis 21:1). I have faith in God's promises. Whenever you need to give your faith a boost, hold up your pinkie finger and remember God keeps promises.

