



Abraham

This is the story of Abraham, the father of the Great Family. He and Sarah went for Ur to Haran and then on into a new land. And when they came into the new land, Abraham went up on a hill at Shechem to pray and God was there. He prayed to God at Bethel, and God was there. Then they pitched their tents in Hebron, and God was there, too.

God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would be the mother and father of a great family. The family would be as many as there are grains of sand in the desert, stars in the sky and dust in the land.

But Abraham and Sarah had no children. Then three strangers came out of the desert and told them that they would have a child. They laughed. The child was born. And they named him "laughter".

Isaac grew. And when he was a boy, God appeared to Abraham and said, "Take your son, your only son, Issac whom you love, & go to the land of Moriah. Offer him as a burnt offering upon the mountain." The next day he cut the wood and took a donkey, 2 helpers & his son & began to walk towards the mountain. On the 3rd day they could see the mountain.

Abraham told his helpers to stay there with the donkey, then he and Isaac went on alone. Issac carried the wood for the offering and Abraham carried a bowl of fire and the knife. Isaac said, "Here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide."

When they came to the place for the sacrifice, Abraham tied up Isaac. He picked up the knife and was about to kill him for the sacrifice.

Angel came and said, "No. You do not need to do this."

Then Abraham looked, and there was a ram caught in the bushes. God provided the ram for the sacrifice. Abraham untied Isaac and they went down the mountain.

The angel called to him again and said, "God says, "I will make you the father of a great family...as many as the grains of sand in the desert and the stars in the sky. And I will make of you a great blessing, because you obeyed me."

Then Sarah, Abraham's beloved wife, died and he buried her in a cave at the end of the field near the Oaks of Mamre.

After Abraham helped find a wife for Isaac, he died, and was buried in the cave beside Sarah. Isaac and his wife Rebekah had twins, Esau and Jacob, so the Great Family grew.

(over)

Wondering Questions

Which part of the story did you like the best?

Which part of the story is the most important?

Which part of the story are you in or is about you?

Which part of the story can we leave out and still have all we need?

Song: "Father Abraham" - Have you children sing the song for you and tell you how the song connects with the story.