

Bible in 52 Weeks—Story #4 Isaac



Look up the meanings of your names, first and last. You can do this with a google search or in a baby name book. Tell your children (or other household members) the story of how they got their name and tell how you got yours, if you know.



Isaac

Read Genesis 18 and 21: 1-7 or read about Isaac being promised/born in children's Bible.

Conversation Starters with children:

1. What happens when Abraham and Sarah are told they will have a son even though they are very old?
2. Why do you think they laughed? What would you do if it were you?
3. What kinds of things make you laugh? How can laughing be praising God?
4. Isaac means 'he laughs' or 'laughter'—what does your name mean? Does it say anything about you or how you were named?
5. If you could pick a new name what would it be? Why?
6. How do names define us or tell about ourselves? How do they NOT define us or tell us about ourselves?
7. How do you hear God's promise in this story?

Conversation Starters with Adults/Youth:

1. When was a time that you had an unexpected, yet wonderful, event happen to you? How did you react?
2. The strangers in this story are often considered to be God or God's messengers. Who has been God's messenger to you in your life?
3. Genesis 18: 22-33 is reminiscent of the story of The Flood. It seems that Abraham knows that God promises mercy on God's people, even if they are not behaving. How can we remember to look for the "righteous" people in situations that might not seem "righteous"?
4. Do you think that we can change God's mind as Abraham seems to in Genesis 18?
5. How do you hear God's promise in Genesis 18 and 21?

6. Does your name match your personality at all? What defines you or what shapes you?

Activity suggestions:

- * Watch a funny movie together and pay attention to the laughter!
- * Write prayers around it of what you are grateful for or what has made you laugh that day.
- * Play a fun game like charades. Give each other names or words from the Bible to act out.
- * Write your name in large bubble letters or print it off from the computer. Write words that describe you in the letters of your name.
- * When you watch or read the news, look for the people who are helping.



Pray together—*God, thank you for play, for laughter, for time to giggle and rejoice. Be with us in these times and all throughout the day. Amen* (be sure to leave room for your own personal prayers too!)



Bless one another either with the sign of the cross:
+May you know laughter, play and rest from our loving God+