



## THIS PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

There are many stories in the bible of men and women putting their faith into action and achieving great things for God. In this program, we are learning about some of these 'heroes of the faith' listed in Hebrews 11. Our heart is that kids will see the many ways they can activate their faith in their lives, learning from these great men and women who have gone before us. Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. We don't trust our feelings, or what the circumstance looks like - instead we have faith in God!

**Our Repeated phrase is: In this program we are looking at heroes in the bible who stepped out in faith, so we can be encouraged to do the same.**

**Memory Verse: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see"- Hebrews 11:1**

## WEEK 2: ABRAHAM

This week we are diving into the story of Abraham and Sarah in their journey of believing God's promise to them of a son and a legacy for generations to come. The third time that God spoke to Abraham about his descendants 'Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness' (Genesis 15:6). **Faith is believing in God's promises** - in the bible and those to come!

## RESOURCES

- Coloured sticker dots or label tags and sharpies for the game
- A diamond or picture of a diamond for the illustration
- Wk 2 Connect worksheet, bible and colouring pencils for connect group

## PREACH OUTLINE

**Story:** Share the story of Abraham's journey to bare a child to Sarah - From God's first promises to him in Genesis 12 to the arrival of Isaac in Genesis 21 - Abraham consistently listened to God's voice, obeyed it and believed His promises. Faith believes God's promises are true!

**Points to hit:**

1. **Faith believes God's promises and obeys His voice** - God promises 75 year old Abram that nations will be born from him in Genesis 12. In Genesis 13 God promises his descendants will outnumber the dust and in Genesis 16 God promises they will outnumber the stars. Each time God promised, He asked something of Abram. Abram obeyed God's voice, worshipping Him. Abram believed God (Genesis 16:6). Faith believes God's promises, however impossible they seem and obeys His voice. God makes us many promises in the bible and one day He may speak just to you! Believe His promises come true.
2. **God fulfils His promises in His timing and ways** - Ten years after the first promise, Sarai and Abram grew impatient and made a way to have a baby without Sarai, who was too old. We don't need to know how God will do what He says, we just trust He will.
3. **Nothing is too hard for God** - God visited Abram and Sarai again when Abram was 99 and Sarai was 90 and both Abram and Sarai laughed - what God was promising seemed impossible. It had been almost 15 years since God first promised! But God said 'is anything too hard for the Lord?' (Genesis 17:17 and 18:13-14). He also gave them new names - Abraham and Sarah. When we have faith, we know that nothing is too hard for the Lord. We can believe for impossible things to happen through Him!

## ILLUSTRATION IDEA

Share a story of when God spoke something to your heart and you had to wait for it to come to pass. Show the kids a diamond - diamonds are known for being unbreakable! Even their name is greek for 'unbreakable.' The tools used to cut diamonds use diamonds to be able do it! They can only cut themselves! Just like a diamond can't be broken, God's word is never broken. He always keeps His promises.

## CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS

Connect groups are a time to build friendships and engage kids in discussion about the preach. Remember to keep it fun and to pray!

1. How many times do you think God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have many descendants? (5!)
2. Why do you think Sarah laughed when she heard she would have a son?
3. The bible tells us that Abraham had faith! What did Abraham have faith for?
4. Where can we learn about God's promises to us?
5. If God promises us something, do we need to try to make it happen by ourselves? Why?

## GAME: FIND YOUR SQUAD

You will need some creative communication skills for this challenge!

1. Use 3-5 different coloured dot stickers and put one on each child's forehead. The aim is for kids to find their squad (kids with the same colour dot) so distribute as evenly as possible!
2. On 'go' kids must try and work out what colour they have on their forehead without using any words, then they need to find kids with the same coloured dot. The first squad to find each person with the same coloured dot, wins!
3. Alternative: write out names of famous duos on separate sticker labels and pop them on kids backs - kids find their pair.