WELCOME TO

CELEBRATE WONDER

October 25, 2020

MEET YOU AT OUR GRACE WEBSITE

GRACESIOUXCITY.ORG

Access code for site:
Gracekids

Under the children's ministry tab, you will find Virtual Sunday School. Per the request of Cokesbury Kids in place of a registration for live stream, we are giving an easy code word for the kids of Grace to access it. We will be creating packets with our weekly letter that has materials for upcoming Sundays. If you are new to Grace and would like to participate in our Sunday school please send us a message and we'll reply with an invite. You will find materials on the next few pages with some fun games and skits.

FAITH WORD

WONDER Question

How do you feel when you have to wait for something you really want?

Although we can't gather together we can still gather with Christ.
We do miss our church family but the church is WHERE WE ARE!

We really appreciate the photos we've received of your kiddos enjoying our Sunday School lessons and games. If you would like to share any family activities through Sunday School, Faith Family Club, or just what you're up to. We'd love to keep the connection.
Email to Christianed@gracesiouxcity.org

New lesson plans each Sunday

GRACE UNITED METHODIST VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Abraham's Visitors

Over the past few weeks we have been learning about Abraham and Sarah. As we know, Abraham was spoken to by God in which he was told to leave his home with his wife, Sarah, and travel to a place far away. God promised Abraham that once he and Sarah made it to their new home, God would give them a child and make Abraham the "Father of All Nations. Abraham kept his faith in God and did as he was told. Today, we're going to learn about Sarah's faith in God.

Spiritual Practice

Hold a rock in one hand and feel the solidness of the rock. The rock is solid like faith.

Hold dirt in your other hand and spread your fingers out for the dirt to slip through. Sometimes, it's hard to hold on to faith a Look for rocks this week. When you see one, imagine how hard and solid rocks are. pray that your faith will stay solid like a rock.

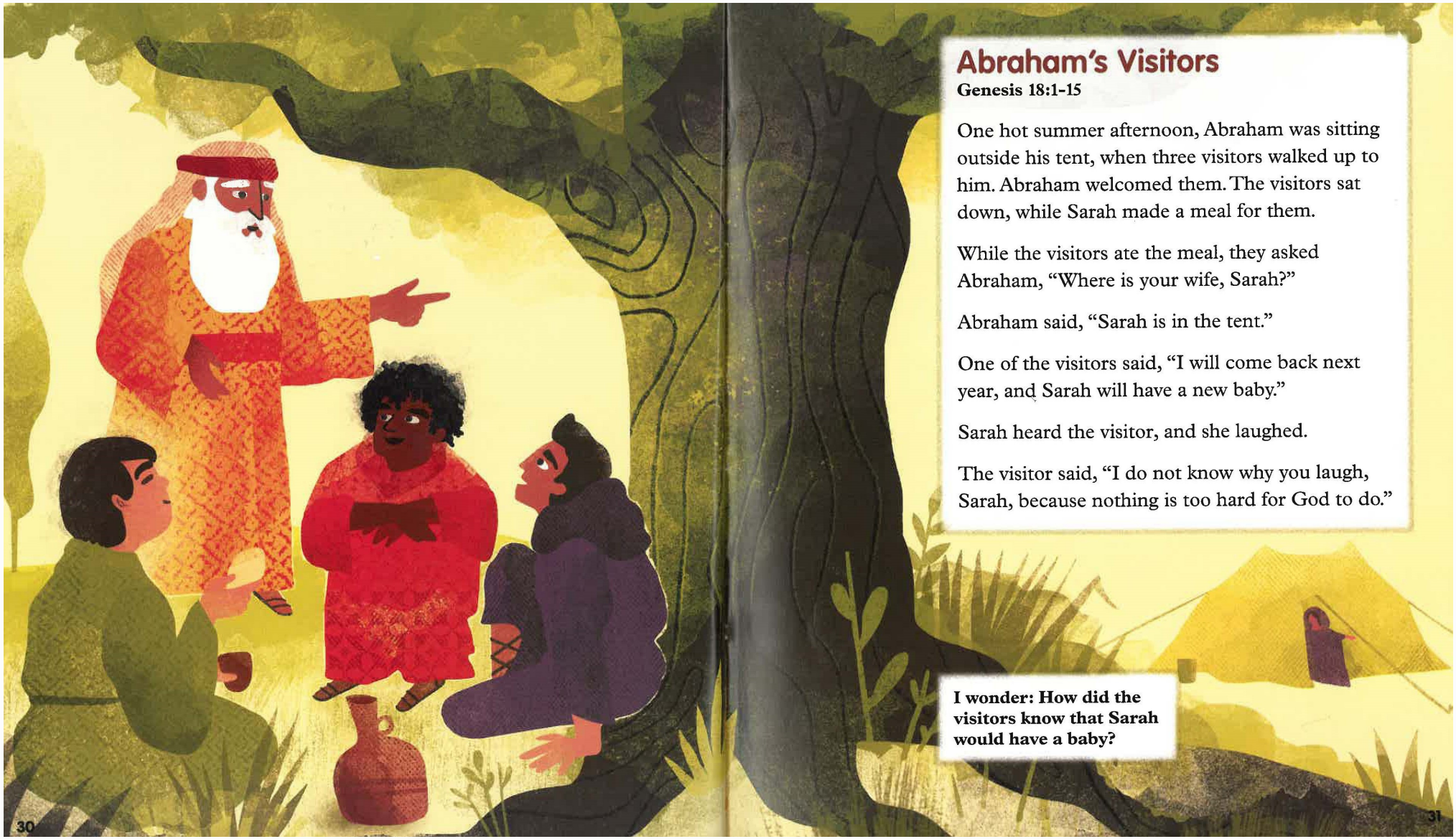
Weekly Spiritual Practice for Adults

In the Bible story, Sarah laughs. her laughter is likely a response of shock and confusion. But, laughter is also a response of joy, and children bring us so much joy. Take some time to write down three things that bring you joy. Take time to reflect on how those things in your life came to be. It's likely they did not come without some change, confusion, or even difficulty. joy is an expression of gratitude and sometimes we have to be grateful for what is challenging so that we might see God's true Joy. It seems, we find the most joy when we trust God through the messy process of faith.

Instagram
gracesiouxcity

Grace UMC Sioux City, Iowa
@gracesiouxcity

Follow along in our Bible Story time then roll your wonder cube to answer questions with your family.



Abraham's Visitors

Genesis 18:1-15

One hot summer afternoon, Abraham was sitting outside his tent, when three visitors walked up to him. Abraham welcomed them. The visitors sat down, while Sarah made a meal for them.

While the visitors ate the meal, they asked Abraham, "Where is your wife, Sarah?"

Abraham said, "Sarah is in the tent."

One of the visitors said, "I will come back next year, and Sarah will have a new baby."

Sarah heard the visitor, and she laughed.

The visitor said, "I do not know why you laugh, Sarah, because nothing is too hard for God to do."

I wonder: How did the visitors know that Sarah would have a baby?

CELEBRATE WONDER™

Match the Story

Appeared suddenly.

Ate under a tree.

Prepared baked goods.

Took the meal to the men.

Prepared the calf.

Asked, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

Laughed.

Had a son.

Served the food.

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Abraham's Visitors

Faith Is Not a Formula

Solve the math problems and match your answers to the correct letter to find a hidden a message.

2x5	100-10	200-90	150-60	10x5

15x2	4x5	35+35	7x10

25x2	30x3	20+60	500-400

45+45

30-20	100-100	100+20	!

Key		
O=0	B=1	C=5
S=10	U=15	I=20
W=30	Z=40	J=45
H=50	M=60	L=70
V=80	A=90	T=95
E=100	R=110	N=120

Abraham's Visitors

Welcome Guests

CELEBRATE WONDER

Session 7 • Ages 3–5

Instructions

1. Cut out the blanket and each food/serving item.
2. Glue the blanket on a piece of construction paper.
3. Glue each food/serving item on and around the blanket
4. Draw guests around the blanket on the construction paper.

Abraham's Visitors

Laugh

Did you know that laughter can help us in many ways? People say "laughter is like medicine" because it can help us feel better.

1. Laughter helps us to be happy. It gives us positive thoughts and gives us joy.

2. Laughter helps us relax. When we feel stressed or worried, laughter can help us feel a little bit better and can relax tense or tight muscles.

3. Some people believe that it takes more muscles to frown than to smile.

4. When we laugh with others, we also bond with a new friend or bring happiness to someone else. Laughter is contagious, which means, when you laugh it can make others laugh too. Laughter helps us to be silly with our friends.

5. Laughter can lower your blood pressure and makes your heart rate go down. This means laughter can help us feel calm. Some say this can help us feel happy for almost a whole day!

6. Did you know that there is a World Laughter Day? World Laughter Day happens on the first Sunday of May.

7. Children usually laugh three times more than adults.

Everyone can share a joke or make a funny comment, and everyone likes to laugh. Sharing laughter with others is a great way to share God's love and to help others feel happy.

Abraham's Visitors

In the Story

Instructions

Search for words from our Bible story.

- Oaks
- Tent
- Suddenly
- Servant
- Bread
- Cattle
- Calf
- Quickly
- Butter
- Milk
- Son
- Old
- Laughed
- Age
- Difficult

T	Y	T	L	K	R	E	C	Y	V	E	S	X	B	Q
K	L	I	G	A	A	C	L	A	F	L	C	G	U	Y
Y	N	U	T	C	U	K	I	L	P	Z	S	M	T	E
G	E	W	C	G	C	G	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	I
R	D	I	T	I	I	H	H	W	G	U	L	H	E	Y
T	D	J	U	C	F	J	X	E	A	M	F	L	R	J
N	U	Q	S	Y	T	F	I	G	D	A	E	R	B	W
E	S	N	R	K	S	F	I	N	U	D	O	X	T	C
T	K	P	U	N	A	E	N	D	Q	G	L	H	A	O
O	N	N	U	L	L	O	J	K	Z	Y	D	T	W	M
K	L	N	O	O	J	T	L	Y	K	Y	T	X	E	U
U	V	H	Y	C	R	I	S	M	N	L	C	U	E	R
J	D	A	B	L	M	V	R	O	E	C	A	L	F	U
K	G	V	G	L	O	L	N	O	N	L	Z	H	M	R
E	Y	W	N	H	Z	C	Y	Z	J	D	T	Y	I	V

Abraham's Visitors

Doubt

CELEBRATE WONDER

Session 7 • Ages 9+

Instructions

Our Bible story (Genesis 18:1-14) tells us that Sarah had some doubts about the message the visitors brought to Abraham and her. Explore your feelings about doubt by making a list in the circle. Then respond to the journaling question below.

I have doubts about...

What strengthens your faith when you have doubts?

AT HOME WEEKLY
CHILDRENS MINISTRY
Grace United Methodist Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONTACTS
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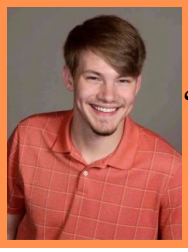

Brock Bourek

Tamera Albert

Parents Page

Dear Families, Celebrate Wonder is centered around Bible stories and encourages children to explore faith through Wonder Questions using classroom tools, such as a Wonder Cube, Wonder Box, and Wonder Mat. These tools invite children into conversation, which helps develop deeper connections to the Bible and to faith.

Is Anything too Hard for the Lord?

Are you facing a seemingly impossible situation in your life? Whatever challenges you may face in the year ahead, nothing is too hard for the Lord. Abraham was a hundred years old. His wife Sarah was ninety. God promised them a son. They said, in effect, 'that is impossible'. This is the context of the great rhetorical question: 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

The answer is 'no'. If Sarah could conceive when 'already very old, and ... past the age of childbearing' , then nothing is too hard for the Lord. In our passages for today we see three great challenges that all of us will face in the year ahead. In each of these challenges we need to remember that nothing is too hard for the Lord.

Living the Jesus lifestyle
Matthew 6:25-7:23

Jesus' words are the greatest words ever spoken. They are so challenging. For example, he says, 'Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them'. This golden rule is beautifully simple but seems impossibly hard to live out.

The greatest challenge in reading Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount is not understanding them, but putting them into practice. His instructions are clear, but some of the standards seem impossibly high. Yet, 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

Stop worrying and start living

Jesus commands us not to worry about our lives or material things. We are to think ahead, plan ahead but not to worry ahead. We are to trust in our Heavenly Father to provide. He knows our every need.

Faith is the antidote to worry

Sort out your priorities

Jesus tells us to change our ambitions and priorities. We are to seek God for who he is and not for what he can do for us. Like us, God does not want his friends only to be only interested in what they can get out of him. He wants us to seek his 'presence' not his 'presents'.

He calls us to take on a new set of responsibilities that are both exciting and challenging: 'seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be yours as well'.

Do not be judgmental

We are not to take pleasure in judging others, not to enjoy seeking out other people's failings or presuming their actions spring from bad motives. If we knew what people had been through, their sorrow and their suffering, we would not be so quick to judge.

Jesus tells us to get our own lives sorted out first. We are to change ourselves before we try and change other people. Rather than sowing harsh criticism and judgment, we are to sow mercy, kindness and love. Persist in prayer We are not to be repetitious, but we are to be persistent. Jesus makes wonderful promises of answered prayer. He promises good gifts as we pray.

Choose to live a radical life

Jesus tells us to stay on the narrow road that leads to life. On the narrow road there is no room for pride, dishonesty, anger, hatred of enemies or un-forgiveness.

Humility is the order of the day.
You have to give, to pray, to exercise self-control and seek first the kingdom of God. It is a road of purity, integrity, honesty and forgiveness. It is a road where you are required to 'do to others what you would have them do to you'. You are to show good fruit – by your character, lifestyle, teaching, actions, impact and relationships.

Lord, as I face the challenge of living the Jesus lifestyle this year, thank you that nothing is impossible with you. Fill me today with your Holy Spirit and help me to live the kind of life that deep down I long to live.