

## THE STORY FOR CHILDREN

*The Story For Children devotionals are broken up into three days. Each day has something to read together, do together, think about together, and pray together with your children. These times together with your family will help your children understand and live out The Story of God's Word!*

### Chapter 2 – God Builds a Nation Day One – Following God

**Today's reading:** Pages 28-31

**This reading covers:** Genesis 12-13

**Summary:** Abram follows God and obeys him even when he doesn't understand.

**Do together:** Plan a special treat for your family without telling anyone. It could be a favorite dessert or new coloring books. Give them a complicated set of directions to find this special item.

**Think about:** Discuss God's command to Abram to leave his home and go to a strange land. Ask the children how difficult it would be for them to leave the familiar and go somewhere strange. Examples are: leaving the familiarity of their own room to stay in a hotel while on vacation; leaving the familiarity of staying home to go to preschool for the first time; leaving the familiarity of seeing relatives to visit other people.

**Also read:** John 14:21

**Prayer:** Thank you, Lord, for the way you guide us every day – at home, at work and at school. Help us to be a good example of faith and obedience. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Chapter 2 – God Builds a Nation

### Day Two – Faith and Trust

**Today's reading:** Pages 32-33

**This reading covers:** Genesis 12-14

**Summary:** Abram demonstrates faith by trusting God.

**Do together:** God promised Abram that he would have as many descendants as the stars in the sky. Take your family outside and imagine what Abram would have felt. Try to count the number of stars that you can see. What would Abram have been thinking about God's promise?

**Think about:** Talk about the word "faith." What is its meaning and how it can be applied to daily life? Share a personal story of how faith has worked in your life. Then ask each child to share a personal story of faith.

**Also read:** Hebrews 11:1-12

**Prayer:** Lord, I believe. Please help my unbelief. Help me to truly trust in you each day for all my needs. Then, let me reap the benefits of that trust. I love you Jesus. Amen.

## Chapter 2 – God Builds a Nation

### Day Three – Promises

**Today's reading:** Pages 34-35

**This reading covers:** Genesis 21

**Summary:** God shows he keeps his promises.

**Do together:** Make a list of positive attributes of each family member. Let the children contribute their ideas to the list.

**Think about:** Talk about the babies in Abraham's line (Isaac, Ishmael, Jacob and Esau). Talk about wanting your own baby and how special your child's birth was to you. Let your child share a favorite moment from his/her early years. Abraham and Sarah enjoyed their baby Isaac. He came as a result of God's promise.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help us to appreciate our family more than we have in the past. Let us see the positives in each family member and overlook the negatives. Show us how to forgive each other as you have forgiven us. Give us each the goal of making the others happy. In Jesus' name, Amen.