

TEACHER'S NOTES

6 year olds	OUR HEAVENLY
Chapter 7	A Time of Waiting
Lesson 3	Abraham had Faith in God

AIMS

1. Students will begin to learn about the faith of Abraham.
2. They will be able to relate how Abraham received God's promise of many descendants.
3. They will be able to explain what faith is and how Abraham had great faith even when it was difficult.

BEGIN

Remind the children that while waiting for the Saviour, some people became very bad. However, there were also some people who loved God very much. Ask them to name two great men who waited and prepared themselves for the coming Saviour by loving, believing and obeying God (Noah and Abraham). In this lesson they will learn more about Abraham and his faith in God.

STEP 2

Read the Special Paragraph in the children's pack again with the children. Point out the word "faith" and stress its definition: a gift that makes us able to believe all that God tells us. Abraham had faith in all that God told him. That does not mean that he completely understood what God told him. For example, did Abraham fully understand why God wanted him to move to a new and strange land? No, of course not! But Abraham believed God when He said that this new land was a good place and that God would take care of him there. Faith means to believe in things that cannot be fully understood, and that is why God gives the gift of faith so that we are able to believe everything that he tells us.

STEP 3

Read the second part of Abraham's story in the children's pack. Stress the following points:

1. God tells Abraham that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars.
2. He also promised Abraham that the Saviour will also come from his family.
3. Explain that when God made this promise, Abraham did not have any children. He and his wife were at an age when people do not have children, like their grandparents.
4. So it must have been difficult for Abraham to believe God.

STEP 4

Explain that the gift of faith is given to us by God when we are baptised (even if we are babies). We are also given the ability to be obedient to God with His grace. Having received these gifts, we have a duty to look after them and help them grow as we grow up. It is important to pray and receive the sacraments as often as possible, to feed the gift of faith and help it to grow.

STEP 5

Have the children complete the "Waiting" questionnaire in their packs.

STEP 6

Explain to the children that by being obedient and faithful, they will be preparing for the day when they will meet Jesus, just as Noah and Abraham grew in love, obedience and faith while they waited for the Saviour to come.

STEP 7

Review Question 20 with the children, as well as the definition of “obedience” and “faith.”
Give the children a few minutes to discuss and study them.

STEP 8

Teach the children the simple act of faith found in their packs.

STEP 9

Teach an appropriate song such as “I sing the mighty power of God,” *Adoremus Hymnal* #616

STEP 10

Teach the children the Fatima prayer found in their packs.

PREVIEW

In the next lesson we will learn more about Abraham’s trust in God.