

# *TEACHER'S NOTES*

6 year olds	<b>OUR HEAVENLY</b>
Chapter 7	<b>A Time of Waiting</b>
Lesson 4	<b>Abraham trust and thankfulness</b>

## **AIMS**

1. Students will be able to relate the story of Abraham's call to sacrifice Isaac.
2. They will learn about Abraham's trust in God.

## **BEGIN**

Review the story of Abraham: God called him away from his homeland, and then promised him many descendants (one of whom would be the Saviour). Tell the children that finally God sent Abraham and Sarah a son, Isaac. They loved him with all their hearts and thanked God for keeping His promise. Then, one day God asked the most difficult thing of all from Abraham.

## **STEP 2**

Now read from the children's pack the third part of the story of Abraham – the call to sacrifice Isaac (Gen 22:1-19)

## **STEP 3**

Point out just how sad and confusing it must have been for Abraham to be asked to sacrifice Isaac. Not only was Isaac his son, but Abraham must have wondered how God could keep his promise to make his descendants as numerous as the star if he was to kill his only child. But in trusting God and obeying God's command, Abraham proved his great love and deep faith; he believed and obeyed God even when he could not understand His command. God rewarded him: Isaac had two sons and these two sons had many sons. Their descendants were the Israelites who are now known as the Jews. Eventually, as God had promised, the Saviour was born from Abraham's family.

## **STEP 4**

Like Noah, Abraham offered a sacrifice to God, the ram caught in the bushes. Just as God asked Abraham to offer his only son as a sacrifice of love, so God offered His only Beloved Son, Jesus, as a sacrifice for the love of all.

Catholics should go to Mass in a spirit of love, obedience and trust in God, because upon the altar, Jesus' sacrifice of himself upon the Cross is made present during the Mass.

## **STEP 5**

Tell the children that they will soon prepare to receive two wonderful sacraments: Penance (Confession) and First Holy Communion. Until then they can pray often to ask forgiveness when they have done anything wrong, to tell Jesus how much they love Him and when they say their prayer each day. This way they will grow in faith, obedience and trust, and prepare to meet their Saviour (now in their hearts, soon in the sacraments, and finally face-to-face in Heaven).

## **STEP 6**

Assign the matching exercise in the children's pack.

## **STEP 7**

Teach the children the Fatima prayer (in their packs) and pray it together. Explain that this prayer is usually said during the rosary following the Glory Be, and will be implemented when the children learn to pray the rosary in later lessons.

### **STEP 8**

Review the questions and words to know.

### **STEP 9**

Optional: Show the video “Abraham’s Sacrifice” from the series In the Beginning: Stories from the Bible (Available through Ignatius Press; 30 minutes).

### **CONCLUDE**

Lead the children in prayer for the virtues of faith, obedience, trust and thankfulness. The children should be encouraged to add their own petitions, e.g. Lord, please help me to obey my mother when she tells me it is time for bed etc.

Perform the skit in the children’s packs

Sing “I sing the mighty power of God,” Adoremus Hymnal, #616

### **PREVIEW**

In the next lesson we will review what we have learned and play a game, and have a quiz.