



Abraham Listens to God

Engage: Page 21

- ▶ Together with your child, talk about difficult tasks both of you have completed.
Ask: *How do you usually feel after completing a difficult task?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss the picture.
Ask: *Why is this activity difficult? (It requires working together. It is physically demanding.) In this session we will learn about Abraham and Sarah and how they were faithful and obedient to God under difficult circumstances.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how a difficult task he or she has completed compares with the one that God gives us to obey his commands. Pray the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 22–23

- ▶ Have your child make two columns on a sheet of paper. In one column, ask your child to write the rewards of receiving good grades in school, and in the other column, the consequences of getting poor grades. Discuss how obedience can bring rewards and blessings.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 22. **Ask:** *In what ways did God speak in this story? (He spoke directly to Abraham; he spoke to Abraham and Sarah through three visitors.) What can we do to be sure we hear God's voice? (Slow down, quiet our minds, and listen for God as we pray.)*
- ▶ Read aloud Abraham Is Tested on page 23. *Say: Abraham proved how strong his faith was.* Invite your child to read aloud Why Did God Test Abraham? Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What lessons did the Jewish people learn? (God did not want human sacrifice. He wanted faith and obedience.)* **Say:** *This is an example of how God always wants us to value and show dignity to all people.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Why are we all children of Abraham? (because we have faith in God)*

Art Exploration: Page 232

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online an interpretation of a traditional Jewish dance, the hora.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, the formation of the people, and the movement that is suggested.
- ▶ **Say:** *As members of God's family, we can help others know and trust God.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 232. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud The Chosen People. Point out the vocabulary term. **Say:** *The Jewish faith is still a response to God's call.* **Ask:** *As Christians how are we called to be one of God's Chosen People?* (pray, read the Bible, go to Mass, celebrate the sacraments)
- ▶ Read aloud God's People. Ask your child to share his or her list with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Ask:** *When do we pray the Sign of the Cross at Mass?* (at the beginning and end of Mass and before the Gospel) **Say:** *When we make this gesture, we pray silently, "God be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart."*
- ▶ Teach your child the following version of the hora, moving counterclockwise. Play Jewish music to accompany the dance.
 1. Step to the right. Left foot behind the right foot.
 2. Right foot beside left foot.
 3. Step to the right. Left foot in front of right foot.
 4. Continue as the circle spins.
 5. Move toward the center of the circle, holding hands in the air.
 6. Lower hands. Move backward. Repeat.

Reflect: Pages 24–25

- ▶ Together look at page 24. **Ask:** *What do you think the word hope means as it relates to faith and God?* Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *Hope is the confidence that God will always be with us and guide us.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 24. **Say:** *Many people learn this traditional prayer from memory.* Read aloud the Act of Hope slowly and with feeling. Pause for your child to reflect on the words. Then read aloud the last paragraph. Close the prayer by praying *Amen* and joining your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud The Messengers of God on page 25. **Ask:** *Why does God use angels as messengers?* (to help people understand and follow his plan)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Angels in Action. Together find the passages in your Bible. Write what each angel did.

Respond: Page 26

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to find an example of a Bible story or verse that can help strengthen a person's faith, such as Philippians 4:13.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.