

GENESIS

Lesson 5:

ABRAHAM AND LOT

CONTENT:

1. It is the story of how Abraham and Lot faced problems and parted on good terms.
2. It explains Abraham's generosity to Lot - which had its root in his trust in God.
3. Guide to lead the children to follow Abraham's example by being generous to others and trusting God to look after themselves.

ASSIGNMENT

REFERENCES: Genesis 12:10, 13:1-18

MATERIALS NEEDED: Good News Bible, blank sheets for activity.

I. STARTER: (Recapitulation)

[ROLE PLAY]*[Ask for 4 volunteers to come up and act]*

Teacher: Imagine I am Jerry's mummy, and whenever he wants anything he asks me and I give it to him. *[Jerry 'acts' this.. comes up to mother, asks for money to buy a note book, she gives the money and also tells him to buy samosa for himself... jerry goes off to the shop..]*

Teacher: Now imagine Tony is a boy who looks after himself... he has no one to look after him. He earns money polishing shoes. He also goes to the shop to buy a samosa.

[Tony acts this... polish's someone's shoes, pockets the money and goes to the shop.]

Teacher: Now while both the boys are at the shop, a poor old woman comes and asks for one rupee to buy some bread... *[Woman comes and begs from both Jerry and Tony]*

Teacher: We'll stop the act there... Can you tell me, who do you think will give her something and why? *[Let the children give suggestions and bring out]*

- It is more likely that Jerry would give the woman something, *[maybe his samosa]*; because he knows he has a mother who is there always to look after him.

Today we'll go back to Abraham and see how he behaves towards others... Is he generous... or does he keep for himself? ...Let's find out!

II. DEVELOPMENT:

Read Genesis 12:10, 13:1-18

Teacher: Let's imagine we are Abraham's and Lot's shepherds. Now let's see if you can imagine what they must have said to each other.

[Let the 2 halves of the class face each other {in their places} and allow 2 to 5 spokesmen from each side 'quarrel'. You could prompt them in case they run out of arguments.] The quarrel might go like this

Abraham's Shepherd's: There is no place for all of us – you people better take your animals away.

Abraham's Shepherd's: Yes! Your animals are finishing all the good grass and leaving nothing for us.

Abraham's Shepherd's: After all, Abraham is the real master out there- Lot is only his nephew.

Lot's Shepherd's: Abraham maybe your master, but Lot is our master, we will obey him and not you.

Lot's Shepherd's: If you want us to go, then come and send us away, let's see who is stronger!

Lot's Shepherd's: What right do you have to tell us to go away...this is not your land!

Abraham's Shepherd's: Yes it is our land! God promised it to Abraham...

Now let's see how the problem was solved...[Ask 2 volunteers who remember the reading to come up and act Abraham and Lot's part.]

QUESTIONS: [Allow the children to use their Bibles as you ask the following questions.]

- Who chose the better land? [Lot] Why do you say it was better...which words tell us this? [It had plenty of water.. it was a valley with a river]
- Near which city did Lot put up his tents? [Near Sodom] What kind of people lived there? [Wicked.. they sinned against God]
- Who had greater right to choose first? Why? [Abraham since he was the elder as well as the leader]
- Why then did he let his nephew choose the best land? [let the children discuss in pairs and write down their answers.. then bring out]
- Abraham wanted to make peace.
- He also trusted God so much, that he did not worry about his future... he knew God would look after him and his flocks.

III. REFLECTION & PRAYER:

[Form a prayer circle. Let the children quieten down] Listen to Jesus's words to you today –
Read: Luke 12 : 29 – 31 [Read the passage again and encourage the children to let the words sink into their hearts.] Sing together

‘Jehovah Jirah, My provider
His grace is sufficient for me {for me, for me}(2)
My Lord will supply all my needs
According to his riches and glory
He will give his angels charge over me
Jehovah Jirah, cares for me {for me, for me}(2)

Or
God our father looks on us with Love

Pray together: Father in heaven, help us to be generous and trust you. Amen.

IV. ACTIVITY:

Teacher: think of a time when there was a quarrel over something – a toy, the best seat in the bus or in class, the best part in a drama or while playing

- Share the incident with your partner.[Let a few children share their examples with the class]
- Now make a comic strip [like in the newspaper] showing the story. Make one big picture showing the argument and then two ways of solving the problem – Lot's way and Abraham's way.

Teacher should draw an example on black-board or prepare one on a chart to show the children. Tell them not to worry if the pictures are not very artistic, as long as we can understand the story.