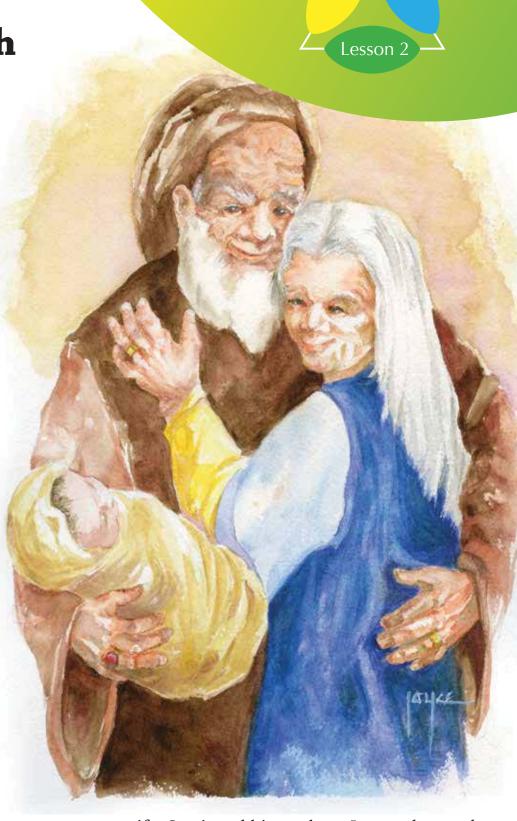
God Gives Faith

n the last lesson, we learned about a very important word—
"creed." Do you remember what a creed is? It is a statement of what you believe and trust. Everyone in the world believes in something. In a sense, everyone has a creed even if it is not a written one.

How do we know that our creed, or what we believe, is true? Doesn't everyone think that what he believes is right? How can we know what is really the truth? We know it is truth if God has said it in His Word, the Bible.

The book of Genesis tells the story of a man who lived long ago among people who did not believe in the true God. His name was Abram. God asked Abram to do a very hard thing—to leave his home, his relatives, and his country. God promised to lead him to a land he had never seen. God also promised to bless him in this new place. He would make a great nation from Abram's descendants and give blessings to the whole world through him.

What do you think? Do you think Abram could believe this God? The people in his home country believed in other gods. But God gave Abram faith to believe His promises. So even though Abram was already 75 years old, he took his



wife, Sarai, and his nephew, Lot, and moved to Canaan and waited for God to give him children.

Abram and Sarai waited and waited for a very long time. Now Abram was 99 years old,

and Sarai was too old to have any children. God spoke to Abram again, reminding him of the promises. God gave both Abram and Sarai special new names that would always help them remember His promises. Abram's name was changed to "Abraham" which means "father of a multitude," and Sarai's name was changed to "Sarah" which means "princess." Perhaps what others saw was an old, **childless** couple. But God was showing Abraham and Sarah that He would do something amazing through them.

Then the impossible happened. It was a miracle! A son was born to Abraham and Sarah, and they named him Isaac, which means "laughter." Oh, they were filled with happiness! God had kept

His promise! He is the true God. Abraham and Sarah had faith. They continued believing God's promises and trusted Him for all their needs.

Remember God's promise to make a great nation and give blessings to the whole world through Abraham? Hundreds of years later, at the time God would choose, these blessings came through Jesus, who was **descended** from Abraham's family.

Abraham and Sarah's God is the true God. We can learn about Him when we look up and see the heavens filled with His stars at night. We can learn about Him when we see



how perfectly the world was made and how He keeps it going. But we learn most clearly about God in the Bible, especially as we read His many promises of salvation and other blessings to all who believe in Him.

This week's memory verse says, "Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass." That is God's promise to you! He calls you to be His child. Do you believe that God is your Father? Do you trust that Jesus died on the cross to pay for your sins? If you do, then praise God! He has given you salvation, He promises to bless you, and you can trust Him. God always keeps His promises!





What a Trip!

Follow the journey of Abram and Sarai in Genesis 12:1–8 and label the following locations:

1. Mediterranean Sea 4. Euphrates River

7. Bethel

2. Sea of Galilee

5. Haran

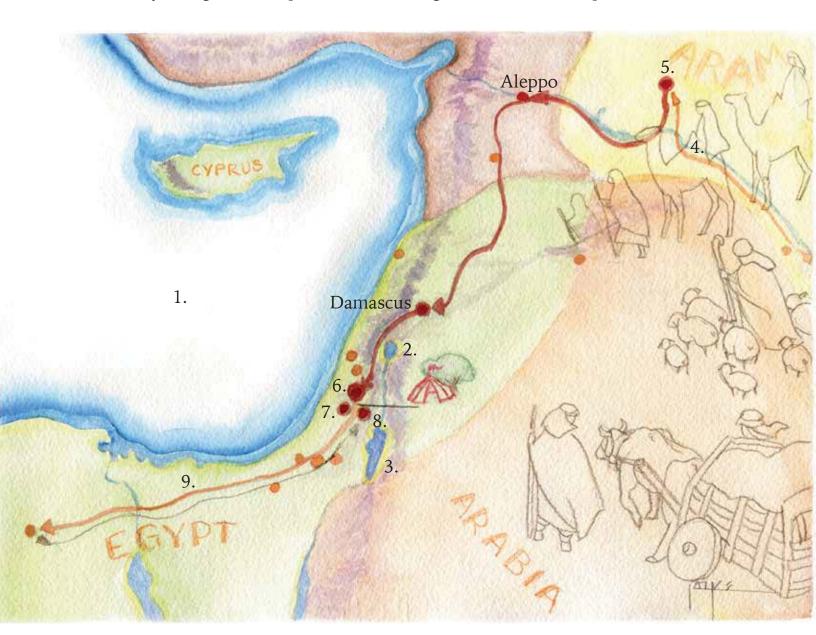
8. Ai

3. Dead Sea

6. Shechem

9. Canaan

Bonus activity: Using a Bible map, label the remaining dots that show other places Abram traveled.



ACTIVITY 2 Let's Review

Yes _____ No ____ Yes _____ No ____ Yes _____ No ____

2. God's Word is truth.

Yes _____ No ____

3. God would make a great nation from Abram's descendants. 4. Abram would someday be a great preacher.

1. A creed is a statement of what you believe and trust.

Yes _____ No ____

5. God would give blessings to the whole world through Abram.

Yes _____ No ____

6. Abram was 109 years old when God reminded him of His promise to give Abram descendants.

Yes _____ No ____

7. God gave Abram faith to believe His promises.

Yes _____ No ____

8. Abram's new name, "Abraham," meant "father of one."

Yes No

9. God blessed the entire world through Jesus, who was descended from Abraham's family.

Catechism

The First Article of Creation

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.



Memory Verse

Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

—I Thessalonians 5:24

Enrichment Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:1