



# Abraham Has Three Visitors

Genesis 18:1–19:29

First- and second-graders love to hear about God’s miracles, and it’s easy for them to believe they really happened. Help them discover the miraculous things God did in Bible times, but also help them recognize some of the amazing things God does every day in our world. Talk with them about answered prayers and the wonderful world God created for us. Use this lesson to help kids express thankfulness for all the amazing things God does.



► **Bible Point**  
God does amazing things.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Are You Laughing?</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Make each other laugh, and discuss why people laugh at amazing things.	CD player, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Abraham and Sarah</b> <i>(about 25 min.)</i> Learn about Sarah and Abraham in Genesis 18:1-15, and discuss why Sarah laughed.	Bibles, CD player, paper, colored pencils <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	

**Key Verse**  
“For nothing is impossible with God”  
(Luke 1:37).

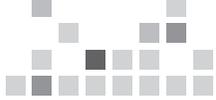
**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Kids will thank God for the amazing things he does.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Nothing Is Impossible</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Learn a trick, and relate it to the Key Verse.	3 disposable cups, marker, 5 cotton balls, extra cups and cotton balls (optional)	On the first cup, print the words “Nothing is”; on the second cup, print “impossible”; and on the third cup, print “with God.” Also place 2 small cotton balls in one of the cups.
	<b>Miracles in Our Lives</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Draw pictures of God’s amazing acts.	My Bible Fun, crayons	Tear out the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
<b>4</b> Lasting Impressions	<b>Daily Challenges</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.	My Bible Fun	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



# Abraham Has Three Visitors

Genesis 18:1–19:29

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

**A note about this lesson:** You might be surprised that you’ve been asked to teach this Bible passage to children this age. For this age level, we cover only Genesis 18:1-15, the passage where the three visitors tell Abraham and Sarah that their long wait would soon be over—God’s promise to them of a son would be fulfilled within the year.

## Abraham: Father of Many

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God changed Abram’s name, which means “exalted father,” to Abraham, “father of many.” Abraham and all the males of his household then went through the covenant of circumcision. God also renamed Sarai. Her new name, Sarah, likely stressed that she was to be the mother of nations and kings.

## Abraham Shows Hospitality

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In Abraham’s desert-dwelling culture, visitors were rare. A warm welcome and hospitality were requirements in the culture of that day, and Abraham knew what it was like to travel in the desert. Thus, he was ready to warmly welcome the travelers.

Many scholars believe that these travelers were angels (see Genesis 19:1). The fact that they knew Sarah’s name may support this, and in Genesis 18:10, it is clear that at least one of them was speaking for God.

For many years, God had been promising Abraham a son. Now God predicted the time of the birth to 99-year-old Abraham and 89-year-old Sarah: Within one year, their son would be born. Sarah’s laughter is understandable. Who would have thought that a 90-year-old woman could have a baby! God does truly amazing things!

## Abraham Pleads With God

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When God made it clear that his intent was to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham was horrified.

He’d likely done business with people there, and his nephew, Lot, lived there with his family. So Abraham pleaded with God to spare the few who were still faithful. God said the whole city would be saved if only 50 righteous people lived there. It’s helpful to remember here God’s definition of *righteous*. Abraham was declared righteous because of his faith, not because of a righteous lifestyle. As Abraham voiced his pleas ever more carefully, God promised to spare the city if just 10 righteous people were living there. But not even so small a number of faithful people could be found.

God did an amazing thing in sparing the lives of Lot and his family. Lot didn’t appear to deserve it, just as we don’t deserve the grace God gives to us. But we can be thankful that God is wonderfully merciful and still does amazing things for us.

## The Jesus Connection

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Jesus is God’s most amazing miracle. He gave us eternal life when we were dead in sin. You can thank God for his precious Son and his greatest miracle.

Look for miracles all around you, not just in big, dramatic situations but also in “smaller” things: the beauty of the sunrise, the happy gleam in a baby’s eyes, couples addressing their problems with forgiveness and love. Ask God to help individuals in your ministry to do the same. You can write your prayer here.

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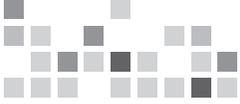
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## Are You Laughing? Supplies

CD player  
copies of the lyrics  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Teacher Pack

CD: "Nothing Is  
Impossible" (Luke  
1:37) (track 27)

# 1

## GETTING STARTED

# Are You Laughing?

## What You'll Do

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Put kids in pairs. Then instruct partners to take turns making each other laugh. They can accomplish this by telling each other silly jokes, making silly faces, or telling funny stories. Explain to kids that the only limitation is that they can't touch their partners.

After a couple of minutes, have kids stop. Say: **Today we'll learn about a woman named Sarah who laughed at something God told her because she thought it was impossible.**

**Our Key Verse, Luke 1:37, tells us to believe that nothing is impossible. "For nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).** Have kids repeat the verse with you.

Say: **We'll hear today how, when God did something truly amazing in her life, Sarah learned that nothing is impossible. Let's sing a song about how nothing is impossible with God.**

Hand out copies of the lyrics. Play "Nothing Is Impossible" (Luke 1:37) (track 27 on the CD), and lead kids in singing the song together.



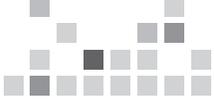
**Sometimes when you don't know what to do,  
It feels like you don't even have a clue.  
That is when you've got to turn to God,  
Because you know that he can do anything!**

**Nothing is impossible with God!  
Nothing is impossible with God! Yeah!**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**Nothing is impossible with God!  
Nothing is impossible with God! Yeah!  
Yeah!**

"Nothing Is Impossible" (Luke 1:37) by Jay Stocker. © 2005, 2008, 2011 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.



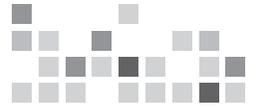
## Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What are some things that make you laugh?
- Tell about a time you laughed, like Sarah did, at something that seemed amazing.
- Why do you suppose God can do impossible things?

Say: **Today’s Bible Point tells us that ► GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS. Let’s hear about the amazing thing that God did in Sarah’s life.**



## 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Abraham and Sarah

## What You’ll Do

Open your Bible to Genesis 18:1-15, and show kids the passage. Then help kids find the verses in their own Bibles. Say: **I’m excited to hear about the amazing thing God did in Abraham and Sarah’s life.**

Distribute several sheets of paper and colored pencils to each child.

Say: **Let’s listen to Abraham and Sarah. They’re going to tell us about something really special that happened to them. As we listen, we’ll make family photo albums to show the events in their lives.** Explain that each time you pause the CD, they’ll have a chance to draw the scene they just heard about, as if a picture had been taken of Abraham, Sarah, or Isaac. They’ll pretend they’re making a family photo album; so they can draw two or three “photos” on each sheet of paper.

Play “Abraham and Sarah” (track 23 on the CD), and pause when the CD prompts you. Each time you pause the CD, the kids will draw a picture of the scene that was just described. Allow a couple of minutes for the children to draw each picture before continuing the CD.

When the CD track is over, have kids draw a final picture of the family, including Isaac.

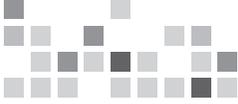
Say: **Sarah sure had something to laugh about when God said she’d have a baby. After all, she’d tried for years and hadn’t been able to. Let’s laugh with Sarah. We’ll each take a turn, giving our silliest laugh.** Let each child have a turn to demonstrate a silly laugh. Then have kids vote on the silliest laugh.

Say: **God will also do amazing things in your lives. And those things could be so amazing and surprising and wonderful that they make you laugh out loud, too!**

## Abraham and Sarah Supplies

- .....
- Bibles
  - CD player
  - paper
  - colored pencils
  - Teacher Pack**
  - CD: “Abraham and Sarah” (track 23)





Say: **Think of something big you need to have happen in your life right now.** Allow time.

Say: **Now draw a picture to represent the big thing you thought of. This will be the final picture in your photo album.** Allow time. Encourage kids to do this quietly.

Say: **Let's all take some time to pray to God and ask him to help us with these things.** Lead a prayer or let a child lead a general prayer and a moment of silence.

Say: ► **GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS, and you can trust him to take care of all the things you need.**

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was most amazing about what Abraham and Sarah said?**
- **What do you think is funny about what happened to Sarah?**
- **Tell about a time God did something surprising for you.**

Say: **Sarah was 90 years old when God told her she was going to have a baby. I bet anyone would laugh at that—especially when she'd tried to have one for so long, but hadn't been able to. But what Sarah learned was that ► GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS!**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Nothing Is Impossible

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **I'm going to do a trick for you.**

Place the cups in front of you, with the words of the Key Verse facing the children. (Make sure the words of the verse are in the correct order!) Place one cotton ball in front of each cup. Tell the children that you're going to move the cotton balls through the cups. Place each cotton ball into its respective cup, and while you're placing each ball into the cup, have children say the Key Verse together. Carefully turn the cups over; stacking one on top of the other, making sure that the cup with the three cotton balls is on the bottom. Ask one child to tap the top cup three times, then slowly lift all of the cups together. Like a miracle, three cotton balls will have appeared beneath the cups! It will appear to the children that the cotton balls have moved through the cups.

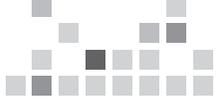
Turn the cups right side up, and repeat the process with only two cups, making sure each time that the cup with the most cotton balls is on the bottom when you turn them upside

### Nothing Is Impossible Supplies

3 disposable cups  
marker  
5 cotton balls  
extra cups and cotton  
balls (optional)

### Nothing Is Impossible Easy Prep

On the first cup, print the words "Nothing is"; on the second cup, print "impossible"; and on the third cup, print "with God." Also place 2 small cotton balls in one of the cups.



down. You can continue to repeat the process, alternating three cups and two cups to get the right results each time.

Ask:

- **How do you think all three cotton balls ended up together when we put only one in each cup?** Allow time.

Say: **Remember, it's just a trick, and since I know the secret, it's possible for me to make all three cotton balls appear in the same place. In the same way, God knows everything about everyone. That makes all things possible for God. Whenever you have a problem, or a "trick," that seems impossible to you, ask God about it and together you can fix it. Why? Our Key Verse tells us why. Let's say it again: "For nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).**

Have the children say the Key Verse with you.

Show the children how to do the trick, and let them practice it. If you have extra supplies, the children will learn the trick more effectively if they practice in pairs.

### Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **Explain whether this trick seemed impossible to you at first.**
- **What things does God do that seem impossible to you?**
- **How can you be sure that God can do impossible things?**

Say: **What God did for Sarah seemed impossible, but he's God so he could do it!**  
▶ **GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS, and we can believe he'll do amazing things in our lives, too.**

## Miracles in Our Lives

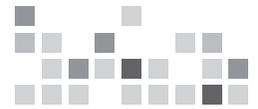
### What You'll Do

Ask:

- **What are some amazing things or miracles that God has done in your life?**

Give kids the My Bible Fun pages, and point out the picture frame. Ask kids to draw pictures in their frames of something amazing that God has done or is doing in their lives.

When kids are done drawing, let them share their pictures with the rest of the group. After each child shares, lead kids in a cheer to God, thanking him for doing amazing things.



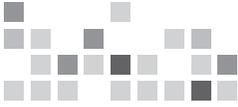
### Miracles in Our Lives Supplies

My Bible Fun  
crayons

### Miracles in Our Lives Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 11  
pages from each My  
Bible Fun student book.





## Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Explain which of our friends' examples of amazing things stood out most to you. Why?
- How does hearing our friends share these things help you believe that God does amazing things?

Say: One of the reasons miracles happen is because God loves us so much! Isn't he amazing? Remember to share these pictures with your family when you get home, so that your family can also see that ► **GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS!** You can tell your family about the amazing thing God did for Sarah and Abraham, too.

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## 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

### Daily Challenges

Say: Let's think about ways we can watch for how ► **GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS** in our lives.

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Tell a friend about an amazing thing God's done in your own life.
- Watch the sunrise or sunset, and thank God for the miracles he gives us every day.
- Have someone read Luke 24 with you. Praise God for the gift of Jesus.

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

## Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

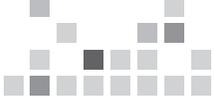
- What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Share a time, a place, or other ideas. Allow time.

Say: ► **GOD DOES AMAZING THINGS**—he did in Sarah's life and he does in our lives, too. Let's thank God for the amazing things he does as we follow through with our Daily Challenges this week.

Daily Challenges  
Supplies

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My Bible Fun

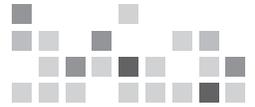


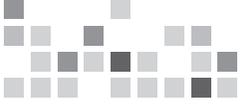
## Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how God does amazing things. Kids can also do the activities in the “HomeConnect” section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God for the amazing things or miracles that he does in their lives. Allow time for kids to ask God to help them trust him with their “impossible” tasks.



**Lyrics** ■■■■**Nothing Is Impossible (Luke 1:37)**

Sometimes when you don't know what to do,  
It feels like you don't even have a clue.  
That is when you've got to turn to God,  
Because you know that he can do anything!

**Nothing is impossible with God!**  
**Nothing is impossible with God! Yeah!**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**Nothing is impossible with God!**  
**Nothing is impossible with God! Yeah!**  
**Yeah!**

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