

CITY LG – August 16 - 17, 2025

Bible Story: God Chooses Abram • *Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-6*

Bottom Line: You can trust that God has a plan.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)*

Central LG Supplies: *(Play money and 3 elastic sticky hands per service)*

Campus Supply: *table*

WORSHIP

Give My All

Firm Foundation

SLIDE: Theme

Hello, everyone! It's so great to see all your smiling faces today! If you're excited to be here just like I am, give a friend a high five like this! *(Demonstrate.)* This month we're talking about faith. Can anyone tell me what faith is? *(Pause for responses.)* That's right! Let's all say it together.

Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.

Let's all say our Memory Verse together.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.

Great job, everyone! Well, as you may already know, we're training to be superheroes all month long! And today we're learning to be quick! If you've ever heard of Elasti-Girl, then you probably already know that she can stretch herself really far, so she can do things really fast. Like if some bad guys robbed a bank, she could knock the money right out of their hands and then grab it up and get it to the police before they even knew what happened. So, I guess the only question is . . . who's ready to train like Elasti-Girl?

Choose three kids to be on stage. Have them stand behind a table covered in play money, facing the audience. Give them each an elastic hand to use.

Okay, when I say 'go', you're going to use your elastic hand to grab the money and bring it back to your other hand. You'll work together as a team to get all the money so you can get it back to its rightful owner. Are you ready? *(Pause for responses.)* Okay, let's get started in 3 . . . 2 . . . 1 . . . GO!"

SFX: Upbeat music - *Cheer on the kids and provide funny commentary as they go. Once all the money has been gathered, celebrate all the kids who played as they go back to their seats.*

That was incredible! And now I know who to call if I ever need some Elasti-help!

Let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year—we're going through the key stories in the Bible in order! We're going through the story God is telling in the Bible.

Why? It's not so we can just learn the awesome stories of the Bible. No! See, God gave us the Bible so we could get to know Him! He wants us to be His close friends!

So, this year as we go through the Bible together, we will learn about Him!

We're going to go through God's Big Story together! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

We started our look at the story God is telling in the Bible just like you'd think we should—in the beginning. The book of Genesis is the very first book of the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) It tells us about the beginning when God created the whole world and everything in it . . . including people! We were made in the image of God to show the world what God is like.

But Adam and Eve, the first people God created, sinned. Sin is anything that goes against God and His ways—who He is or what He has said. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, when they sinned, they ushered in a curse of sin that affected them and everyone who would live after them.

Every person who lived after Adam and Eve sinned. They had to choose whether or not they would trust God. Most people didn't because their hearts pulled them away from God. We needed rescue.

But God never left us on our own. He loves us! Even from the very beginning, God had a plan to rescue us. This week, we'll learn that God was going to bring His rescue in a very special way—through a family! Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Bible Story 10:47

God's great rescue plan was going to come through a family! Even though Abraham and Sarah didn't know it, God was working on His great rescue plan. Let's all stand up for our bottom line.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

You can trust that God has a plan.

SLIDE: Theme

All through the story God is telling, written down in the Bible, the story that we're going to look at this year, we can see how God has been working out that plan. In Noah's life, He was working out that plan. In Abraham and Sarah's life, He was working out that plan. In every person's story leading up to Jesus, God was working out that plan!

And as we'll see beyond Jesus, God is still working on a plan! He's working on the plan to bring us closer than close to Him, forever. He is working on the plan when Jesus comes back and fixes everything forever!

When we think about Abraham and Sarah, we can remember that even if we can't see it, God is always, always working toward a good plan! He might be working toward the Jesus-is-coming-back forever plan. He might be working on another good plan of His. We don't know what His plan is, but we do know this: it is good, and He is working for good.

So when things are hard, because they will get that way, we can still trust that God is good, and He is working for good. If you want help believing that, just ask God for help. Let's go ahead and do that now!

SLIDE: Theme

God, thank You for the reminder that we can trust You because You are good and You have a good plan. Thank You for the story of Abraham and Sarah and the fact that You were working on our rescue through them. Teach us to know You are good, so we trust You in everything. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

We started supporting a new organization after Summer Jam. We are going to help kids and adults who live right near us! Our mission is Shady Oaks Camp for People with Disabilities in Homer Glen, IL. Their mission is to give kids and adults the same kind of camp experience that kids without disabilities can enjoy. And the cool thing is that there are people who go to church here at Parkview who attend this camp! Let's meet one right now.

VIDEO: Missions Night 2 (Runtime:)

Wow! You can see how much Shady Oaks Camp means to Richard and his mom Sallie, and LOTS of people who live around here! I'm so excited that we are raising money to help Shady Oaks provide summer camps for people with disabilities! Bring your money up if you brought it.