



## Family Conversation Guide

06.19.2022

### June Theme: **Walk By Faith.**

#### Monthly Memory Verse:

“And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.”

- **Genesis 15:6** (ESV)

#### Monthly Challenge Verse:

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

- **1 Timothy 4:12** (NIV)

### Week of June 19th

Main Idea: **God’s promises are true.**

Life Application:

**Trust that God’s promises are true.**

Parents: After listening to the sermon, take some time during the week to have great conversations with your kids. Use **The Action Bible (Pages 55-56)** as you lead your kids, and also use your own Bible (**Genesis 17-18:15**) to read through some of the verses listed that will help them better understand.

1. Review from last week:

Hagar obeyed the angel of the Lord and returned to her mistress Sarai and gave birth to her son, Ishmael. Sarai still did not have a child yet, and everyone thought of Ishmael as the first-born son of Abram, who would inherit everything from him. Read **page 55** in The Action Bible. **What was the problem in Abram's camp after Ishmael was born?** (*There was trouble between Hagar and Sarai. Hagar was prideful because she thought Ishmael would one day rule the tribe, and Sarai resented Hagar.*)

2. After 13 years, when Abram was 99 years old and Ishmael was 13, the Lord appeared to him. **What did He say to Abram?** (**Genesis 17: 1,2**- God called himself God Almighty-El Shaddai- for the first time. He then told Abram to walk before Him blameless, in order to keep the covenant God had made with Him. God reminded Abram that He would multiply him greatly, even though Abram and Sarai were old!)
3. Read **verses 5-8**. **God gave Abram a new name. What was it?** (*Abraham, the father of a multitude of nations*) In **verse 15**, **God gave Sarai a new name. What was it?** (*Sarah, which means "princess," and she would be the mother of many nations.*)
4. In **Genesis 17:9-14**, **what was the covenant God established between Himself and Abraham?** (*That every male in Abram's household, starting at 8 days old, would be circumcised as a covenant of the flesh between them and God. It's a visible sign of the invisible covenant heart promise that God had made with Abraham and all his descendants. If they were not circumcised, they would be cut off from their people.*)
5. In **Genesis 17:16-19**, God again tells Abraham that he will have a son by Sarah. **How did Abraham respond?** (*He fell on his face laughing!*) **Why?** (*It was a laughter of faith, believing in joy God would keep his promise.*) God also heard Abraham's heart for Ishmael. In **verse 20**, **what did God promise concerning Ishmael?** (*That He would bless Ishmael and he would also be the father of many- he would father 12 princes and nations.*)
6. In **verse 21**, **what did God make clear to Abraham?** (*That the child would be born in a year, and Isaac was the chosen one. God would establish His covenant with this child, not Ishmael.*)
7. That very day, Abraham and all of the male members of his family were circumcised, in obedience to God. Notice that Abraham was circumcised at 99—the importance of fathers living faith and not just telling their kids what to do.
8. **Today, how do parents show their commitment to God concerning their children?** (*In child dedications-we had two dedications at church on Sunday. The parents and the church commit to raising the children to love God and become disciples of Christ.*)
9. Read **page 55** and the **top of page 56 in The Action Bible**. Then use your Bible to discuss what happened in **Genesis 18:1-15**. **Who came to visit Abraham?** (*Three men.*) **What did Abraham**

**call one of them?** (Lord) Abraham knew that the Lord had appeared to him with the two men (later we will see that the two men were angels.) **What did Abraham do?** (He showed hospitality, which was VERY important to the Jewish people. He asked them to stop there, and he fed them well and gave them water to wash with and refresh themselves.)

10. Read **verses 9-12**. **What did the men tell Abraham about Sarah?** (That she would have a child.) **What did Sarah do when she heard them?** (She laughed to herself—a different kind of laugh from Abraham, a laugh of incredulity—she couldn’t believe that she would have a child because she was “worn out and her husband was old.”) The Lord (Jesus) heard Sarah laugh. **What did He say?** (**Verse 14**- “Is anything too hard for the Lord?”) Then the Lord said again that Sarah would have a child in about a year and that He would return to them.

11. **Do you know what Isaac’s name means?** (Laughter)

12. God gave Himself a new name (El Shaddai: God Almighty), and also Abraham and Sarah. He then gave Isaac a name- Laughter! **If you could give yourself a new name that meant something about you, what do you think it would be?** (Parents, have fun with this.)

### Digging Deeper

1. **What is the significance of circumcision?** (It is symbolic of cutting away of the flesh/foreskin to remind Jews that they are God’s chosen people, and that they are to live their lives in obedience to God’s will and in faith and not the flesh, human effort, that He will keep His covenants to them.) Christians choose to be circumcised in our hearts, to cut away the fleshly things (works) and choose to live in the Spirit by faith. (**Romans 2:29; Colossians 2:11-13**)
2. Believers in Christ dedicate their child to the Lord as the outward sign of the inward promise of God to the child and to the family. The child claims God’s promise as their own when they decide to be baptized.
3. **Do you believe that you are chosen by God to be in His family? Do you believe that He will keep His promises?** Discuss together.

### Pray:

Lord, Thank You for reminding Abraham and Sarah that you would keep your promise to give them a child. Please remind us that You will also keep Your promises to us. Help us to believe that You can do anything! In Jesus’ name, Amen.

### Family Challenge:

Wrap a box with beautiful paper and a bow. Inside the box, have a card with the name JESUS on one side, and on the other side, FORGIVENESS and GOD’S FOREVER FAMILY.

**Sit with your child/children and say, “What if you could talk with Jesus, right now, in this very room?** Jesus came to the earth to tell all of us how much God loves us. But there is a problem. We have all sinned, which makes it impossible to be close to God who is perfect in every way. So God sent Jesus to take our sins upon Himself and suffer and die so that we could be forgiven of all of our sins, past and future, and be a part of God’s family, His children, forever! That is the gift Jesus offers us, and it is free. Now imagine Jesus offering this gift to you, and all you have to do is accept it-

- ADMIT that you have sinned
- BELIEVE that Jesus died and rose from the dead so you could be forgiven, and then
- CHOOSE to accept his gift and be a part of God’s family forever.

**Ask if anyone would like to open the present** as you talk, and read the card together. If your child would like to pray with you to receive Christ, don’t hesitate! God will give you the words. What a blessing to lead your child to Christ! Then, write the date and time in their Bible. Tell them that this gift of salvation is theirs forever, it’s a done deal.

If your child has already accepted Jesus as their Savior, talk about their faith walk. **How can they follow Him with their lives every day?**