

## Lesson 68

# Israel Receives a Land

God was faithful to his promise to give Abraham's descendants a land.

# Studying God's Word

## Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Lesson Flip Chart, and any items you brought or prepared for this lesson.

## Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of supplication and ask God for help with something.

I'll start. Dear God, thank you for hearing my prayer. Would you please . . .  
(insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration  
I'm sorry prayers—Confession  
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving  
Please prayers—Supplication

## Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

What word means God will always keep his promises? Faithful.  
What special laws did God give to Moses and the Israelites? The Ten Commandments.  
What people (or nation) did God promise to give the land of Canaan to? The Israelites.  
Who were the Israelites? The descendants of Israel (Jacob).

## **Bible Treasure Hunt**

Before Bible Treasure Hunt, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Each week before class, hide your Bible somewhere in the room. You can use different methods each week to keep the students excited about finding the Bible. For example, you might set a timer, play music while the students search, tell students when they are getting warmer and colder, or choose a student to hide the Bible and let you or classmates find it.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. God's Word is true, and we can always trust what it says. It's like a great treasure that tells us about who God is and what he has done for us. But where is this treasure? You will have to help me with that. We're going to go on a Bible Treasure Hunt. Somewhere in this room, I've hidden the Bible. When I say "Go," you will need to look for it. Whoever finds the Bible must bring it back to their seat and hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Explain the method you chose for today. Ready? Set! Go!

K-1st Lesson continues next. Pre-K Lesson follows.

### **Pre-K Lesson**

### **K-1st Lesson**

### **Pre-K Lesson**

### **Review**

Refer to the Exodus to Malachi . God was faithful to the Israelites. He rescued them from slavery in Egypt, gave them food and water in the wilderness, and brought them to the land he promised long ago to their great-grandfather Abraham.

After Moses died, who became the new leader of the Israelites? Joshua.

God promised to be with Joshua as he led the Israelites into the promised land of Canaan.

Refer to Lesson 66 Flip Chart. What instructions did God give them to fight Jericho? March around the walls, shout, blow trumpets.

What happened when they obeyed? God brought down the walls.

Refer to Lesson 67 Flip Chart. Then the Israelites lost their next battle against Ai. Why did they lose? Achan sinned by taking items from Jericho that he shouldn't have.

Achan thought he could hide his sin, but God knew all about it. God wanted the Israelites to obey him completely.

Then in the battle against five kings and their armies, God threw hailstones from the sky!

When the enemy started to run away, what did Joshua ask God to do to the sun? Make it stand still. Stay up in the sky.

Yes! God made the sun stand still to help Joshua chase down the enemy.

Have students hold up their God Is Faithful Signs during the lesson. Wow! We've seen that God is faithful. If you made the God Is Faithful Signs, have students hold them up whenever they hear the word "faithful" during the lesson. He told Joshua he would help them win the battles. Who thinks God was faithful to help Joshua and the Israelites? Raise signs (or hands).

God did help them win. Joshua had great faith in God. But there was another man named Caleb who also put his faith in God to do a big, scary job. Let's find out what happened.

## The Faith of Caleb

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Joshua divided up the land so every tribe of Israel could have a place of their own to live. Now they could live in houses and cities that were already there—they didn't even have to build them! And they could eat fruit and vegetables from the trees and gardens that were there, too.

This was a good land, and God was faithful to give it to them like he promised. But there were still some enemies living in the land. That meant the Israelite families would have to fight to get them out! But God promised to help if they would trust him.

Show Lesson Illustration #1 from the Lesson Illustrations. One man who truly believed God would help him was Caleb! He and Joshua had been chosen to be part of the 12 spies Moses sent to spy out the land many years before. Now Caleb was 85 years old. But he didn't want to rest and let the younger men fight. He was ready for more!

Joshua 14:11–12

Listen to what he told his friend Joshua. Who has the Bible? Will you bring it up, please? Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read Joshua 14:11–12.

What did Caleb say about himself? Did he think he could still fight? He was as strong as he was when Moses sent him as a spy into Canaan. He was ready for war.

Caleb felt as strong as he did when he first went into the land as a spy many years ago. God kept him strong, and he was ready for battle!

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

Which country did Caleb ask Joshua to give him? The hill country.

Most people were afraid of the hill country. This land had giants living in it! These tall, strong people lived in walled cities.

Refer to Lesson Illustration #1 from the Lesson Illustrations. Remember, when the spies saw them years ago? Ten of the spies were afraid and said they felt like grasshoppers next to the giants.

But what did Caleb say? Who would be with him and help him? Listen again. Reread the last sentence of verse 12. The Lord would be with him.

Caleb had faith that he could take on the scariest people in the land. He knew that with God on his side, he could win—even against giants!

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Joshua blessed Caleb and gave him the hill country to live in. But first, Caleb would have to take the land from the giants.

Do you think Caleb could do it? Or would he run away in fear?

Allow discussion.

Who thinks God would be faithful to help Caleb? Raise signs (or hands).

Caleb and his men showed great faith in God. They went up to the hill country and attacked the walled cities where these giant people lived and drove them out. God rewarded Caleb for his faith by helping him win the battle! Now Caleb and his family could settle in that good land.

## Faithfulness of God

We've been talking a lot about the Israelites, haven't we? That's because they are a very important part of history. And we can see how God was always faithful to keep his promises to them.

Does God ever break a promise? No!

God cannot lie. He is faithful to do everything he says he will do. All these things we've been talking about have shown us how God kept important promises that he made to Abraham all the way back in Genesis.

Show Lesson Illustration #2 from the Lesson Illustrations. God promised to make Abraham into a nation of many people. And he did. Remember, Abraham's descendants were his son, Isaac, and his son, Jacob, and his 12 sons, and all their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and on and on. The family grew and grew and became the Israelites.

God also said he would give Abraham's descendants the promised land of Canaan. We just learned how he did that by helping the Israelites fight and win so the land became theirs. Now they had a land of their own called Israel.

Show Lesson Illustration #3 from the Lesson Illustrations. God gave Abraham another promise of a special descendant who would bless all families of the earth. He was born many years later and was laid in a manger.

Who was this promise talking about? Jesus.

Yes! That special descendant would be Jesus. He would bless all people by dying to save us from the punishment of sin. He is our Savior! The New Testament tells how God sent Jesus, how he was born, how he lived, died, and rose again.

Do you see how God is faithful to do all he says he will do? God always keeps his promises. He kept his promises to the Israelites. But would the Israelites always keep their promises to God? We'll find out in our next lesson.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

## **K-1st Lesson**

### **Review**

Refer to the Exodus to Malachi . God was faithful to the Israelites. He rescued them from slavery in Egypt, gave them food and water in the wilderness, and brought them to the land he promised long ago to their great-grandfather Abraham.

God promised to be with Joshua as he led the Israelites into the promised land of Canaan.

Refer to Lesson 66 Flip Chart. What was the first city they had to fight? Jericho.

Joshua obeyed God's instructions even though they seemed strange. And God brought down the walls so Israel could take the city.

Refer to Lesson 67 Flip Chart. But then the Israelites lost their next battle against Ai. Why did they lose? Achan sinned by taking items from Jericho that he shouldn't have.

Achan thought he could hide his sin, but God knew all about it. God was teaching the Israelites to obey him completely.

Then in the battle against five kings and their armies, God threw hailstones from the sky and made the sun stand still to help Joshua chase down the enemy.

Have students hold up their God Is Faithful Signs during the lesson. Wow! We've seen that God is faithful. If you made the God Is Faithful Signs, have students hold them up whenever they hear the word "faithful" during the lesson. In today's lesson, we'll see how God kept his promise to give the land to the Israelites. And we'll hear how a man named Caleb put his faith in God to do a big, scary job.

## **The Last Battles and the Land**

Other kings in the land heard about how Israel was winning all these battles and taking the land. So they gathered their armies together and went out to fight against Israel. Let's read about these kings and their armies.

#### Joshua 11:4

Who has the Bible? Will you bring it up, please? Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read Joshua 11:4.

How big was this army? There were so many soldiers it was like the what? Like the sand on the seashore.

How many of you have ever been to the seashore or on a sandy beach somewhere? Show of hands.

Bring out the bag of sand. One thing about sand is that in just a handful there are so many little grains you can't count them. There must be thousands or millions in this little bag. So to say that this army was like the sand on the seashore, that means there must have been A LOT of soldiers. You could say there were "gazillions" of them!

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

And what did the army have "very many" of? Horses and chariots.

This was a huge, powerful army—many kings with their armies all coming together to fight the Israelites.

Who thinks Joshua was worried? Raise your hand. Show of hands.

Who thinks God would be faithful to help Joshua? Raise signs (or hands).

#### Joshua 11:6

Well, listen to what God said. Read the first sentence of Joshua 11:6.

What did God tell Joshua? Do not be afraid.

Right! God promised to be with Joshua and to help him win over all these kings and their great army. So, Joshua and his men attacked—and destroyed them all! Now they just had to take over the cities and the land so they could live there. And that took another seven years of fighting!

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Finally, most of the big battles were over. Joshua divided up the land so every tribe of Israel could have a place of their own to live. They could finally live in houses and cities that were there—they didn't even have to build them! And they could eat fruit and vegetables from the trees and plants that were already there—they didn't have to plant them and wait for them to grow! This was a good land God had given them.

Joshua commanded the people to go take the land they were given as their own. That meant they would have to drive out any enemies who were still trying to live in their land. So there were some more battles to be fought! But God was faithful to help them if they would trust him.

## The Faith of Caleb

Show Lesson Illustration #1 from the [Lesson Illustrations](#). One man who truly believed God would help him was Caleb! He and Joshua had been chosen to be part of the 12 spies who spied out the land many years before. Now Caleb was 85 years old. But he didn't want to rest and let the younger men fight the last battles. He was ready for more!

Joshua 14:11–12

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What did Caleb say about himself? Did he think he could still fight? He was as strong as he was when Moses sent him as a spy into Canaan. He was ready for war.

Caleb said he felt as strong as he did when he went into the land as a spy. God kept him strong, and he was ready for battle!

What did Caleb ask Joshua to give him? Which country? The hill country.

This hill country was a place most people were afraid of—giants lived there! These tall, strong people lived in walled cities.

But what did Caleb say? Who would be with him and help him? Listen again. Reread the last sentence of verse 12. The Lord would be with him.

Caleb had faith that he could take on the scariest people in the land. With God on his side, he knew he could win—even against giants!

Refer to the [Lesson Flip Chart](#). Joshua blessed Caleb and said he could have the hill country to live in. But first, Caleb would have to take the land from the giants.

Do you think Caleb could do it? Or would he end up running away in fear? Allow discussion.

Who thinks God would be faithful to help Caleb? Raise signs (or hands).

Caleb and his men showed great faith in God. They went up to the hill country and attacked the walled cities where these giant people lived and drove them out! God rewarded Caleb's faith by helping him win the battle! Now Caleb and his family could settle in that good land.

## The Faithfulness of God

We've been talking a lot about the Israelites, haven't we? That's because they are a very important part of history. And we can see how God was faithful to keep his promises to them. All these things we've been talking about are part of how God kept important promises that he made to Abraham all the way back in Genesis.

Show Lesson Illustration #2 from the [Lesson Illustrations](#). God promised to make Abraham into a great nation. And he did; Abraham's descendants grew



and grew and became the people of Israel.

God also said he would give them the promised land of Canaan. We just learned how he did that. God helped the Israelites win the battles so the land became theirs. Now they were a nation with a land of their own called Israel.

Show Lesson Illustration #3 from the [Lesson Illustrations](#). God gave Abraham another promise of a special descendant who would bless all families of the earth.

Who was this promise talking about? Jesus.

Yes! That special descendant would be Jesus. He would bless all people by dying to save us from the punishment of sin. He is our Savior! The New Testament tells how God sent Jesus, how he was born, how he lived, died, and rose again.

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## Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

## Basket Toss

Students give the correct answer and toss the beanbags to see how many points they can collect for their team. Each basket has greater points.

### Materials

Review Questions  
Two beanbags  
Three laundry baskets or boxes  
Masking tape

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a tossing line. Bring in three laundry baskets or boxes. Set the baskets in a line, making each one a little farther away from the tossing line. Label the baskets with 5, 10, and 25 points so the farther away it is the higher the score.

Divide the class into two or more teams depending on size. Have the teams line up at the tossing line. Take turns asking the first students in line from each team a review question. When a student answers correctly, he will have a chance to toss a beanbag into a basket then go to the end of the line. If the

beanbag misses, there are no points scored. If someone does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Keep track of the scores for each team on the board. Continue until all the questions have been answered. Repeat questions if necessary.

## Board Game

Teams will answer questions and make their way to the finish on the Game Board.

### Materials

- Review Questions
- Game Board (provided in the Teacher Kit)
- Dice, numbered cards, or spinner
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams.

Team members will take turns answering the review questions. If they answer correctly, they will roll the dice, spin, or draw a numbered card and move that number of spaces on the Game Board. Follow the directions on the spaces to move ahead, fall back, or switch places with another team. If someone does not know or does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Alternate between teams as long as time permits, repeating questions if necessary. The first team to make it all the way to the Finish wins.

## Bible Baseball

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

### Materials

- Review Questions
- Three chairs set out for bases
- Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

## Bowling

What do you do with extra water bottles and softballs? Go bowling, of course. Students will answer questions then bowl for points.

### Materials

- Review Questions
- Six to ten empty water bottles
- Softball or other small playground ball
- Masking tape
- Optional: dried corn or beans

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. If available, pour a small amount of dried corn or beans into the bottom of each water bottle (to add weight) and tighten the lid. Set out the bottles on one end of the room. Use masking tape to form a "lane" from the bottles to where the students will line up across the room.

Divide students into teams. Have students line up. Ask the first student a review question. If he answers correctly, let him roll the ball down the lane toward the bottles. Each bottle that is knocked down is worth 1 point. A strike (knocking down all the bottles) is worth 20 points. Take turns asking questions of each team. If a student gives an incorrect answer or does not know the answer, he can ask his teammates for help. Keep track of scores.

## Goofy Golf

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

### Materials

- Review Questions
- Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers
- Rolled up socks
- Masking tape
- Ten sheets of paper
- Markers

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

## Racetrack

Who will reach the checkered flag first? Teams will race to the finish by answering review questions.

### Materials

Review Questions  
White board or chalkboard  
Markers/chalk  
Optional: paper cutouts for each team (cars, animals, circles, etc.),  
tape/poster putty

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Draw a racetrack on the board. It may be as simple as a straight horizontal path or a curvy circle. Label “Start” and “Finish” (with a checkered flag) at either end of the track. Add numbers along the track (e.g., 1–10) at equal intervals between Start and Finish. The numbers will be used as placement points for the racers as they progress along the track.

Divide the class into teams. You may draw a different symbol (e.g., stick figure, circle, X or O) to represent each team at the Start, or use paper cutouts as team markers and stick them to the board with tape/poster putty.

Ask the first team a review question. If they answer correctly, move their marker or redraw their symbol along the track at #1. If they answer incorrectly, give the next team a chance to answer and move to the first number. If they do not know, give the answer and ask that question again later. Continue to alternate asking review questions and moving teams’ markers along the racetrack according to the numbers along the track. The first team to reach the Finish wins!

## Toss for It

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

## Materials

Review Questions

A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and “wild” written on index cards

One beanbag

Masking tape

Two baskets or containers for cards

## Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team’s basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team’s turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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