

Home Time is Holy Time

week of May 16th

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FATHER ABRAHAM, OUT OF ONE, MANY



A BIG STORY IN 5 PARTS!

✿ Videos:

✿ [Abraham's Tent](#)

✿ And [Abraham – A Man of Faith](#) (15 minutes, but vintage!!)

✿ Or: maybe you'd just like to read in your children's bible the story of Abraham, in Genesis, books 12-25



QUESTIONS TO PONDER (YOUNGERS):

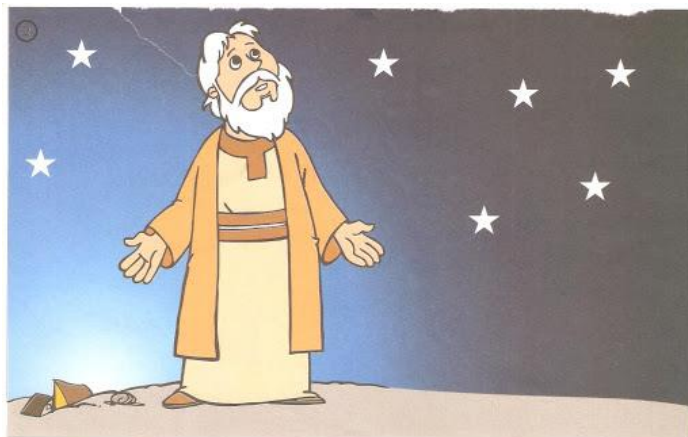
- ✿ There are a lot of characters in this story: God favors Abraham and Sarah with their new names. In the earliest part of the story their names are Abram and Sarai. Have you ever named anyone or anything? Did you feel like you were giving a special blessing when your name was chosen over any others?
- ✿ Who is Abraham?
- ✿ Who is Sarah?
- ✿ Who is Lot?
- ✿ Who is Isaac?
- ✿ Sarah dies when she is 127 years old, and Abraham buys a cave for her burial place. How do you think it would feel to be 127 years old?



QUESTIONS TO PONDER (OLDERS):

The story of Abraham can be divided into five parts. Which part of the story seems to fit each of these categories?

1. **LIVING AS A PILGRIM** _____
Do you think that following God's plan for you is like living as a pilgrim? Can you give an example?
Does living as a pilgrim mean trying to understand others' points of view?
2. **WELCOMING THE STRANGER** _____
Do you ever have the chance to show kindness to strangers? Is everyone you meet a child of God?
3. **SACRIFICIAL LOVE** _____
What is the biggest thing you have ever given up for someone else? Would it be easier to give up something for yourself?
4. **COMPASSION** _____
What does compassion mean? When do you think you show it the most to the world? To your friends or family?
5. **A FRIEND OF GOD** _____
How can you be God's friend on earth? How can you share that with others?



MORE QUESTIONS FOR OLDER



- ✿ What did you find out about God by learning this story?
- ✿ How did you feel about the possible sacrifice of Isaac?
- ✿ The three strangers told Sarah to name her son Isaac. Can you find out what Isaac means? ([here's a hint](#))
- ✿ All five of these themes are explored in the Caravan Father Abraham art show, Out of One, Many. Check this out to see how three different artists have shown each theme [by clicking here](#)
- ✿ Living as a Pilgrim, p. 7; Welcoming the Stranger, p-. 15; Sacrificial Love, p. 23; Compassion, p. 31; Friend of God, p. 39; and yet more discussion questions on pages 46-48. Which is your favorite picture for each theme? Which is your favorite of all 15 pictures?

✿ And there are yet more activities you can find [by clicking here](#)

✿ The faiths of Christian, Jewish and Muslim people all share the story of Father Abraham. At the end of the video the narrator says "In your descendants, all the people of earth will be blessed." Does this include all Christians? Jews? Muslims?



THINGS TO DO:

- ✿ *Listen to and jump up and down [with a song](#)*
- ✿ *Think about living in a tent*, like Father Abraham. Abraham was fairly wealthy, so if you were he, how would you decorate your tent? (There are some ideas in the videos above.)
- ✿ And then, on the right, design a stylin' caftan for yourself! And what kind of beard do you imagine on Father Abraham???

Abraham's tent:

Stylin' caftan:

✿ *Go outside at night and count the stars:* God tells Abraham that he will have as many descendants as there are stars in the night sky. Go outside. Make the shape of a V with two of your fingers. Try to count the number of stars inside the v. As you look harder and harder, do you see more stars? How many of those V shapes do you think you would need to make to count the stars in the heaven?



- ✿ *Ask the oldest person in the room:* Would they be surprised to find out that they are about to have a baby?
- ✿ *Spend some time at the table asking Abraham questions:* Has anyone been a pilgrim? Has anyone made a great sacrifice? Has anyone had to wait a very long time for the delivery of a promise?
- ✿ *Play a game at the table:* Name a food you would like to sacrifice (my suggestion would be Brussel sprouts, but this is your game). If anyone else would be willing to eat that, then they must come up with another food to sacrifice. The person who names a food that no one is willing to eat gets a point. Player with the most points at the end of the game wins a terrific prize – like a nice mayo-peanut butter-banana-pickles sandwich with mustard on top.

✿ **Think of your own home's hospitality:** When guests come to visit, are there any special things that your family does to get ready? Are there any symbols of hospitality that are put out? Any special foods? How could you make visitors feel most welcome in your home-tent?

✿ **Make some beautiful star pastries:** (You will need a star-shaped cookie cutter or a cardboard template of a star that you have made to trace around on the dough.)

Ingredients:

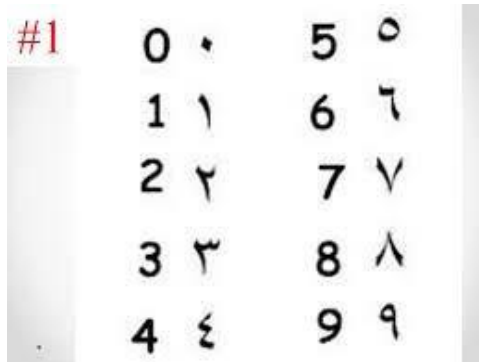
- Puff pastry cooking sheets ¼ cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla 1 pint heavy whipping cream

Instructions:

Defrost and gently roll out pastry sheets. Cut into star shapes. Bake using package directions. Whip heavy cream with sugar and vanilla. Make sandwich of stars with whipped cream in the middle. Sprinkle (lightly!) with more powdered sugar. This recipe can be [found here](#).



✿ **Learn about Arabic numbers** – these are the numbers that started our own number system. Copy each numeral. Would these be faster or slower to write than the symbols that we use?



0	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9

Two of the features that made these numerals so useful were the included symbol for zero, and the use of base 10. Much trading was done in the Middle East, and folks needed a good system for buying and selling of goods.

BOOKS FOR LISTENING AND READING:

- ✿ **A is for Abraham**, by Richard Michelson (an alphabet book for Jewish children, beautifully illustrated, with only occasional rhyming lapses, like blessed her/ ancestor!)
- ✿ **Number the Stars**, by Lois Lowry



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:
 Heavenly Father, Let us always remember that although we are many, we are all one people in your sight. Let us learn to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Have a Wonderful Week Taking Care of Each Other! Hugs, Nancy

FINE ART TO ENJOY:

COMING TO WYOMING!

An artistic exploration on living harmoniously featuring three celebrated Middle Eastern artists.

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ABRAHAM
OUT OF ONE, MANY
אַבְרָהָם

**March 20 -
May 28, 2021**

Rock Springs
March 20 - April 3

Laramie
April 9 - 23

Lander
May 14 - 28

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CARTOONS:



STAINED GLASS TO COLOR:



St. Hilary's Church, Wallasey