

Abraham

Making The Bible Come Alive

The Believer

Who was this person?

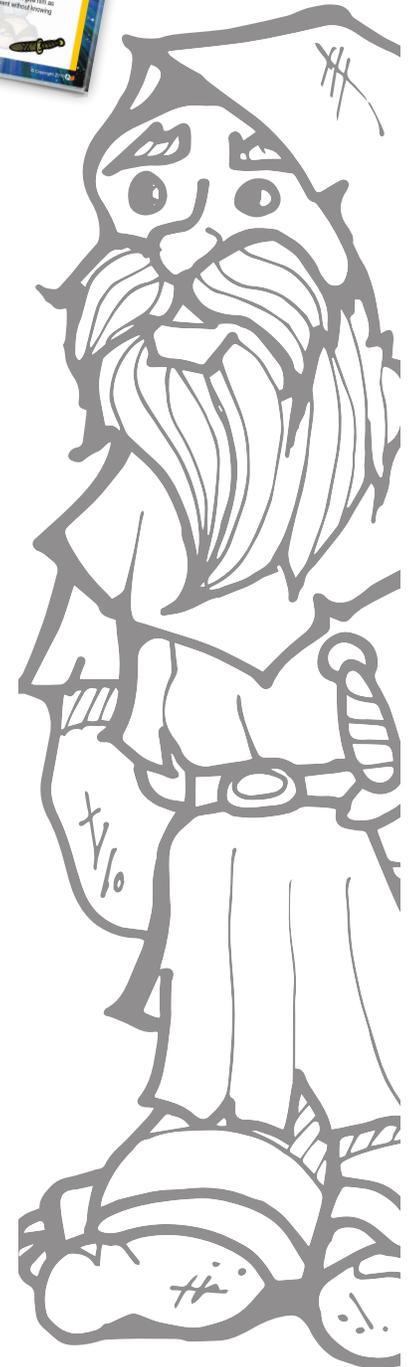
- Abraham was a wealthy land and livestock owner.
- He spent most of his life in the land of Canaan.
- He was the husband of Sarah. He never had children until God chose to give him a son, Isaac, when he was 100 years old.
- He was not only a caring father to his own family, but he practiced hospitality to others.

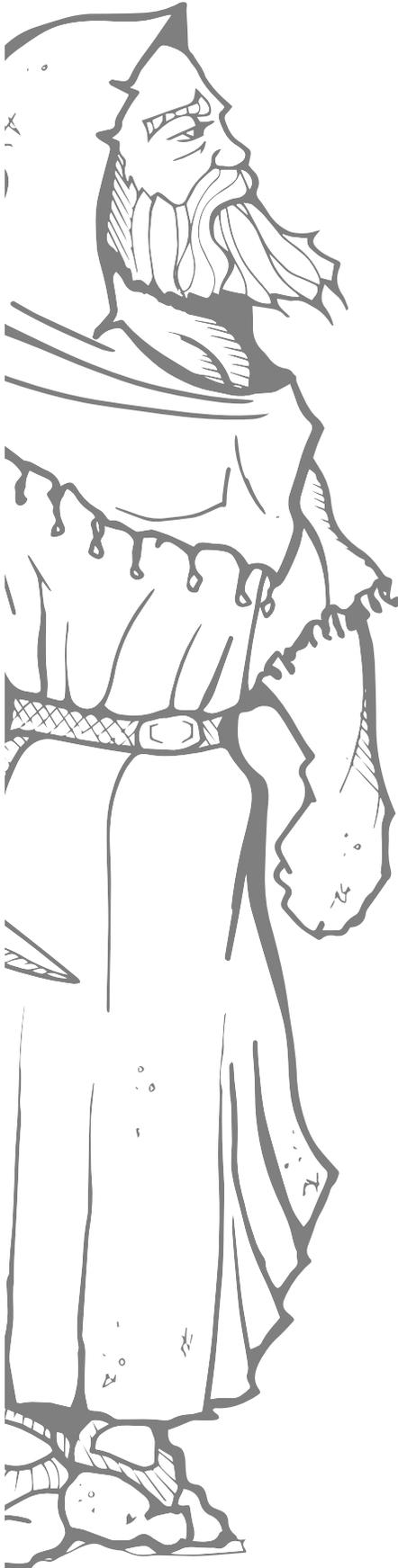


What is this person known for?

- Being obedient. His faith was pleasing to God. Because of this, he was known as a friend of God.
- Abraham's original name was Abram, but God changed his name to Abraham, and his wife's name from Sarai to Sarah. This change of names showed how their relationship with God had changed. They were now in covenant with the Lord.
- When he was 99 years of age, the Lord made a covenant with him, that he would be the founder (father) of many nations. Abraham's name means "father of many".
- Abraham had to make a choice to follow God's direction, not knowing where God would take him or what was ahead. He chose to leave the comfort and security of what he knew to take his family and go where God was leading him. All he knew was that God promised to bless him and guide him. God led him to a territory which became the Jews' promised land.
- God promised to give him descendents "as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sands on the seashore." All nations of the earth would be blessed because of Abraham's obedience.
- God provided a ram for Abraham when he was tested. (Gen. 22)
- To show us that when we choose to go our own way there are consequences. And, when we choose to follow God, even though we don't know the full picture of what lies ahead, He will take care of us and bless us, and may even use us to shape nations.

WHY DO YOU THINK THIS PERSON HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN GOD'S STORY?





- **To remind us that God has a plan for each person.** There are times we don't feel qualified to do something. Other times we feel we are too young or too old to make a difference for God. It is important to remember that God will use us if we are available to Him. God truly has a plan for each person. And, their age doesn't really matter, only their obedience. (Jeremiah 29:11; Hebrew 13:21)
- **To remind us to trust God.** Sometimes we look at a situation and all we think of is the impossible task in front of us. We get worried and immediately think there is no way that the details will fall in to place, but they will. We need to trust God even when there doesn't seem to be a way through a difficult situation. God provided a ram for Abraham when he was tested. (Gen. 22; Isaiah 55:8; Proverbs 3:5-6)
- **To remind us that there are consequences to our actions.** When we choose to go our own way there are consequences. And, when we choose to follow God, even though we don't know the full picture of what lies ahead, He will take care of us and bless us, and may even use us to shape nations. (Ephesians 6:1-3; Luke 11:28)
- **To remind us that choices we make now do matter later.** The decisions we make today can have a positive effect, or a negative effect, on future generations. If we follow God and are obedient to Him, we can influence the lives of those who come after us. (Micah 6:8; Joshua 24:15)
- **To remind us that good things happen when we obey God.** Many years later, Jesus was born into the line of Abraham. God chose to bless the whole world through Abraham's family line. (1 Peter 2:9; Deuteronomy 11:1)

LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

Pose the following two questions to your children, one at a time. Allow for interaction and discussion, letting them share their thoughts while you guide the conversation.

- What life lessons can I learn from this Bible character about how I should and should not live?
- Based on what I have learned from this Bible character, how can I live in a way that is pleasing to God.

MORE IN GOD'S WORD

To unpack more about the life of Abraham, encourage children to dig deeper in God's Word. Challenge them to read

Genesis 11 to 25. This is a lot of reading but can help them see how the life of one obedient person who follows God, can change nations. Encourage your children to strive to follow God so they can be nation-changers too!

Abraham is mentioned throughout Scripture. His life and obedient ways are a big part of God's story. God not only promised land for Abraham's descendants but even more importantly, God promised blessing and redemption for the people of Israel. Consider these New Testament chapters...

- Galatians 3
- Acts 7:2-8
- Romans 4
- Hebrews 2, 6, 11

