Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 1 Noah—God Blessing Noah and Noah's Children

Point to Emphasize: We as children are also included with our parents; God's promises to our

parents can also become promises to us.

Reference Reading: Genesis 9

Memory Verse: For to you is the promise and to your children... (Acts 2:39)

Story Sample

Until now, we have been talking about some special men. Can you name some of them? [Let the children answer.] Right! Adam, Abel, Enosh, Enoch and Noah. [Emphasize the name of each one as you speak.] It has been so awesome to hear how special these men were to God! But if you have been paying attention, you have seen that until now, God has been so happy with only **one** man at a time. But things are about to change! Listen up!

We've heard a little bit of the story of Noah, right? Noah built the ark just as God instructed him, and then Noah and his children were inside the ark while it was raining. When it stopped raining, they came outside of the ark. God had a special instruction for them when they came out of the Ark. He told them to multiply and to fill the earth. Now, let's look in the Bible to read what God told them. Genesis 9:8 says, "Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him..." Oh! Did you hear that? The Bible says that God spoke to Noah and his sons! WOW! This is very exciting! Until now, God had only spoken to Noah, but now, the Bible says that God spoke to Noah and his sons!! You see, Noah was the father of a family. He had three sons; Ham, Shem, and Japheth. So now, God spoke to Noah, the father, AND to Noah's children.

Let's see what God told Noah and Noah's sons. God told them that He will never bring that much water on the earth again. God will never flood the earth again, and as a promise to Noah and to Noah's children, God put a rainbow in the sky. Have you ever seen a rainbow in the sky? A rainbow is a precious, colorful arch that can sometimes be seen across the sky when it rains. When God set a rainbow in the sky, He was telling Noah and Noah's children that He is a faithful God. Everything that God promises is true forever! And did you know, that everything that God promised to Noah, He also promised to Noah's children? Noah's children followed their parents and participated in what God promised to Noah. Now the children were included with their parents in participating in what God has promised!

Just imagine if you were one of Noah's sons. And while you are growing up, you see your dad talking to God. You also see your dad building the ark and you even help him to build that ark. Then, when the earth starts to flood, you all go inside the ark with your dad and family. When it stops raining, you all come out of the ark and you see the rainbow in the sky. Wow, that rainbow is amazing! But, how would you feel if God said that the promise of the rainbow is not for you, but only for your dad?

Let me ask you something, have you ever walked near a Lord's Day meeting where all the young people and the adults are meeting? Well, where I grew up, children's meeting was right next to where the adults and young people were. There was a big window we could see through, and I remember how we would see them so happy and full of joy singing and praying. I certainly couldn't wait until the day I could join them. Maybe you have seen a big meeting or a home meeting. Well, everything that God has promised to your parents and to all the ones that are in those meetings, He has promised to you too! [Please, add a story of you wanting to

participate in what your parents are doing, i.e. passing out tracts, playing an instrument in the meeting, reading the Bible, learning some hymns...]

I am so happy that everything God promised to Noah, God also promised to Noah's children. This means that everything God has promised to your parents and to all of us serving with you in children's meetings, God has promised to all of you too! Don't think that God only speaks to your parents and that you are not included. You are your parents' continuation. God's promises are for you too! Just like Noah's sons had to wait for some time while they were growing, you also have to wait for some time as you grow among us. But, as you continue to grow with us, I want you to know that there is no better place to be; there are no better things to do than to follow your parents. Let's be like Noah's sons! We have been included in what God has promised to our parents! I hope you say to yourself today, "I want to hear all the promises that God has given to my parents! Everything they have will one day be mine too!!"

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 2 Abraham—God Having a New Beginning

Point to Emphasize: We can be those who respond to God and are open to something new.

Reference Reading: Genesis 11—12:1-3

Memory Verse: By faith Abraham, being called, obeyed to go out unto a place... (Heb. 11:8a)

Story Sample

Do you all remember how we learned about Noah and his three sons last week? Well, this week we will begin to talk about the important people that came after them. Many, many years had passed since Noah, and again there were many people on the earth. However, these people forgot about caring for God and cared only for themselves. They wanted to be in control, doing whatever they wanted and forgetting about God altogether. They even began to worship and pray to things other than God. How terrible!

Well, now what do you think God should have done? Here were the people He had created, and once again, they had become very bad. They didn't care for God's plan or purpose for their life. Should God cause another flood? No! He would never break His promise to Noah. Should He forget about these people entirely and just give up? Thankfully, He did not. God was not frustrated or angry. Instead, God was very wise in what He did.

God needed a new beginning. He would not give up on man. Rather, in His wisdom, He decided to start again in a whole new way.

In the land of Haran was a man named Abram. Later, we will hear about how his name was changed to Abraham. God decided to use this man. He told Abraham to leave the land he was living in and to go to a new land. God needed to have a new beginning, and He was going to use Abraham. God said to him, "Go from your land and from your relatives and from your father's house to the land that I will show you; and I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing" (Genesis 12:1-2). Now what if God called Abraham and Abraham did not listen to God? What if Abraham said, "Sorry, God, I am too old for You to use me. I don't want to follow You or move away from my comfortable home and everything I have. I think I will just stay here and not follow You." What if Abraham was not willing to let God use him? How sad that would be. But you know what? That's not what happened. Instead, Abraham listened to God and followed Him, and God was able to use Abraham to have a new beginning with a new race of people.

Just consider if you were Abraham. God called Abraham and told him to leave his home, but did not tell him where he would be going. Imagine you are busy playing in your room, and Mom and Dad come to tell you that it is time to get in the car and go somewhere. You want to know where you are going, but they don't tell you, even though you keep asking them. Will you listen to them even though they don't tell you where you are headed? Or will you refuse to go because you are not sure what their plan is? Well, imagine you willingly follow your mom and dad's directions and you end up going to the airport to pick up Grandma and Grandpa for a surprise visit. Wouldn't you be glad you were open to something new and followed them even if they didn't tell you where you were going? [Storyteller, add an age appropriate story of your own where you responded positively to something new.]

Well, this is like God and Abraham. God wanted to use Abraham for a really important job. So He came to Abraham and told him to follow Him to a new land. I'm so glad that Abraham listened to God and followed God's way. Abraham listened to God, and he was open to something new, so God could use him for a new beginning!

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 3 Abraham—Depending on God

<u>Point to Emphasize:</u> We should depend on our parents to make the right decisions.

Reference Reading: Genesis 12:1-8

Memory Verse: But I trust in You, O Jehovah; / I say, You are my God. (Psalm 31:14)

Story Sample

When I was only a little girl, my Dad made a big decision. We were going to move from North Dakota to California. Wow, I didn't know how to get all the way to California! We would have to leave our family and friends and go to a place we knew nothing about. I had no idea where California was, but I knew it would take many days in the car. So I depended on my Dad to get us there. When we all got loaded in the car, my Dad pulled out a map, and he followed that map until we got to California. [Insert your own story.]

Do you remember how we talked about Abraham last week? God was going to have a new beginning with a new race of people, and the father of these people was Abraham. So He spoke to Abraham and told him He wanted him to go to a new country. And God told him He would bless Abraham if he went. When God told Abraham to leave his old country, He did not give him a map. God did not say, "Abraham, here is a map for your journey. This map is very clear. If you follow every turn as it is shown, you will arrive in the land I have promised." God simply told Abraham to leave his country, kinsmen, and father's house. That means He told him to leave everyone and everything that he knew and trusted.

Why did God do this? God did not give Abraham a map or directions, because He wanted Abraham to depend on Him. God would be the One to direct him, lead him, and guide him.

So Abraham took his wife, his nephew Lot, his possessions and his people, and God led him to a land called Canaan, the land that God had prepared for him.

Do you think his family thought he was crazy to follow God, not knowing where he was going? No, just like Abraham depended on God to lead him, his family depended on Abraham and followed him to this new land.

We should depend on our parents too, shouldn't we? Sometimes they make decisions, and we just need to trust them. They may decide to follow God to another city or even country, and you may have to move, even though you don't want to leave your friends and all the things you know and love. But we need to depend on our parents to make the right decision. As they are following God, we need to follow our parents.

Eventually Abraham and all his people arrived in the new land called Canaan. And do you know what Abraham did first? He built an altar to worship God! He wanted to show God how thankful he was for God leading him there.

So this week, let's see if we can depend on our parents to take care of us in the best way, without asking, "Why?" Let's just thank them for taking such good care of us. And thank God for giving us such good parents!

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 4 Abraham—Receiving God as a Guest

<u>Point to Emphasize:</u> We can take good care of guests that we receive into our homes.

Reference Reading: Gen. 18:1-8

Memory Verse: Contribute to the needs of the saints, pursue hospitality. (Romans 12:13)

Story Sample

Today I want to tell you an amazing story about how God visited Abraham. Can you imagine such a thing? What if God knocked at your front door? Well, this is what happened to Abraham! One day Abraham was sitting at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing there. One of them was God. When he saw them, Abraham ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them. He bowed down to Jehovah and asked Him not to leave. Right away he wanted to take care of Him. What did he do? First, he got some water so that their feet could be washed, and they could rest. Then he asked Sarah to make some bread so that they could eat. After this, he ran to the herd to get a calf and asked his servant to prepare it for them. He took curds and milk and the calf, which he had prepared, and set them before them. He stood by them under the tree while they ate. He did everything he could to take care of them, making sure they had all that they needed.

Have you ever received a special guest into your home? When I was a child we would have special guests come to stay at our house. We would have to spend time getting ready for them. When guests come, we may need to prepare some things, right? We have to clean our room. We have to straighten up the house and pick up our toys that have gotten scattered all around. Sometimes I would have to give up my room and my bed. Who here has given up their room and their bed for a guest in their home? Then we have to buy food and prepare it for them so that they aren't hungry. Then after we prepare everything, we wait for them to come. It can be so exciting when guests come over to our house. I know of children that like to wait at the window and look out to see right when the guests first arrive. Then they run out the door to greet them. Isn't this a special way to treat our guests and let them know how happy we are to see them and have them stay at our house?

So what I want to do right now is write a word on the board. [Write the word HOSPITALITY on the board.] What does hospitality mean? Hospitality means to receive and treat guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, and generous way. The Bible speaks a lot about hospitality.

Romans 12:13 says, "Pursue hospitality." What does this word *pursue* mean? It means we look for chances to do it. We try to do it. We are always ready for it, and we do it as much as we can. Wow. Another verse, Hebrews 13:2, says, "Do not forget hospitality." This must be an important thing, right? And another verse, 1 Peter 4:9, says, "Be hospitable to one another without murmuring." What is murmuring? Murmuring is complaining. Are you helpful when your mom tells you guests are coming, or do you complain about the work that needs to be done to take care of them? We need to be hospitable without murmuring. We are not too young to take care of our guests. We can ask them, "Do you need anything? Did we forget anything?" If so, you can bring it to them. *[Discuss ways you can take care of guests.]* We can be just like Abraham, taking care of all the needs of our guests. He was so hospitable, and we can be the same way.

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 5 Abraham—God Keeping His Promise

<u>Point to Emphasize</u>: God keeps His promises in His own time; we can believe His Word.

Reference Reading: Genesis 15:1-7; 17:1-22; 18:9-15; 21:1-8; Acts 7:2-5; Romans 4:19-22

Memory Verse: But with regard to the promise of God, he did not doubt in unbelief...

(Romans 4:20)

Story Sample

Who can tell me what a promise is? [Encourage children to explain.] Today we want to talk about a special promise that God made to Abraham.

Remember how we talked about Abraham a couple of weeks ago? About how he followed God when He called him to go to a new place? Did you know that he was 75 years old when he did this? That is pretty old to start something so new. But he went! Just like God asked him to do.

Abraham and his wife Sarah had no children. They really wanted a child, but not even one was born. So God promised Abraham that he would have a son, and his name would be Isaac. And not only would he have a son, he would have a family so big that it would become a great nation. He promised Abraham a child, not once, not twice, but three different times! It seemed impossible that someone as old as Abraham could have a child, but God had promised him so surely it would be so!

Years went by and still Abraham had not had a child. He was 99 years old the last time God made this promise, and he was beginning to doubt God. He probably had many conversations with God, asking Him why He wasn't doing anything about it, reminding God that He had promised him this child three times now!

How many times has this happened to you? My parents promised me that they would buy me a bike when I was about 8 years old. But then they had to use the money to fix the car when it broke down. Of course, I complained, "But mom, YOU PROMISED!" And then, a little while later, another emergency came up. Once again, I complained, "But, YOU PROMISED." It seemed like this went on month after month. I complained every time, and eventually I gave up. I began to think that my parents did not keep their promises. I shouldn't have doubted in my parents and their promise to me. I had to wait, like Abraham waited for God to give him a child. But...when I was nine years old, my parents were able to keep their promise, and they bought me a bike! I was so happy! [Use your own personal story.]

Even when Abraham was not sure, he kept coming to God. God knew when the best time was for Abraham to have a child. Finally, at the age of 100 years, Abraham had his son Isaac. God came in and blessed Abraham with his first child, and the first of many descendants. This is how the nation of Israel began!

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 6 Abraham—Responding and Obeying God

<u>Point to Emphasize:</u> We can be those who respond and obey immediately.

Reference Reading: Genesis 22

Memory Verse: Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing in the Lord.

(Colossians 3:20)

Story Sample

One day, God came to test Abraham. Who in this room likes tests? In school, you are given tests. You have math tests, spelling tests, reading tests, all kinds of tests! All that the teacher wants to know when he gives you a test is to see how you respond to his questions. Well, God came to give Abraham a test. God wanted to see how Abraham was going to respond.

Let's take a look at the dialogue that God had with Abraham. First, God called Abraham. He said, "Abraham," and Abraham said, "Here I am." Wow! Abraham responded politely! I've seen some children who, when their name is called, don't respond at all. I've also seen children who when someone calls their name, they respond, "YEAH!" or "WHAT?" or "Huh?" Oh, if we would all respond like Abraham! I would love to hear you all responding politely every time your name is called! What other ways can we use to respond politely when someone calls us? [Help the children say, "Yes, Mom," "Yes, Ma'am," "Did you call me, Mom?"]

So, let's continue with our story. God was about to give Abraham a test like no other. Do you remember we learned in the previous story that God promised Abraham a son? This son Isaac, was Abraham's beloved. Abraham loved him so much! For Abraham, Isaac was not just his son, but he was the son promised by God. God's test for Abraham involved his son. Are you ready to hear God's test for Abraham? God asked Abraham to give Isaac back to Him. I told you it was a test like no other! How do you think Abraham felt? How would you feel if you had waited a long time for something, and when finally you have it, you had to give it back?

This happened to me one day. You see, I loved books. I wanted a particular book that was not in my local library. My mom promised she would buy it for me, but I needed to wait until she was able to get it. I waited for a full week. Finally, my mom gave me the book, and I was so happy. It was my book, and I treasured it. Weeks later, some friends came to visit, and my mom asked me if I could share my book and lend it to them. Oh, it was a hard decision. I think I felt just like Abraham! [Storyteller, please insert your own story.]

Well, even though this must have been a hard decision for Abraham, he responded to God's command. Abraham didn't just obey, but the Bible says that Abraham rose early in the morning to do what God asked him to do. Abraham responded immediately! Immediately means instantly, or right away. It also means fast, quickly. That is how we need to obey.

Abraham passed the test God gave him. I am happy to tell you that God was so pleased with Abraham's response. God did not take Isaac, Abraham's precious son, and Isaac stayed with Abraham for many years! Abraham responded politely and obeyed immediately! When I was young with my special book, I also passed the test. I responded politely and obeyed my mom, immediately lending my book to my friends! Will you pass the test when your parents call your name? Will you pass the test when you need to share or give what you treasure? I hope you do! I hope you are just like Abraham!!

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 7 Isaac—Having a Life of Inheriting, Resting and Enjoying

Point to Emphasize: We can be those who enjoy what God has given to us.

Reference Reading: Genesis 21, 24, 26

Memory Verse: Is anything too marvelous for Jehovah? (Genesis 18:14)

Story Sample

Do you remember from last week how Abraham responded to God after He asked for their son? What was his son's name and why was he so special to them and to God? That's right, Isaac was given to Abraham and Sarah by God, and Abraham offered his son Isaac back to God. As he grew and lived, Isaac's life was like no other, and today we will see why. There are three words that describe Isaac's life: **inheriting**, **resting** and **enjoying**. [Write them up on the board.]

Isaac received an inheritance. Who knows what an inheritance is? If you look it up in a dictionary, an inheritance is something someone receives from a parent or other family member. Isaac **inherited** everything that his father Abraham had! Abraham had a lot of possessions, and Isaac was Abraham's only heir who could receive it as an inheritance. Isaac just received everything that Abraham had. Isaac didn't have to do anything in order for him to inherit his father's riches. Isaac didn't have to work. He was born to just inherit! Can you imagine such a life? I want you to imagine for a moment that someone tells you that you are about to inherit a lot of money, and possessions, and land, and so much more! Wow! Can you just imagine! Well, this was Isaac's life. Isaac not only received all the material things Abraham had, but even more, Isaac also inherited the promise God gave to Abraham. We will talk more about God's promise to Abraham later.

Isaac was also a **restful** person. He was always resting. Don't get me wrong, Isaac did encounter troubles in his life. But despite the troubles he faced, he was always at rest, and he was not troubled. He was never worried. He was never anxious. He was always restful. Throughout my life I have observed how my dad is a restful person. I have never seen him anxious. While I was growing up we had many situations in which he should have been worried. But I would see him so calm and relaxed. He would always tell me, "Don't worry, God will take care of everything."

Isaac was also an **enjoyer**. His entire life was a life of enjoyment. He did not suffer. He did not strive. He simply enjoyed everything that God had provided for him throughout his life! [Storyteller, please insert your own personal story of inheriting, resting or enjoying.]

The more we talk about Isaac, the more I want to be like him! Don't you want to be like Isaac? You can have a life of inheriting, resting, and enjoying! What a life that can be! Well, let me tell you that you all can be like Isaac. We are all in this children's meeting. If you look around and consider, we have stories to listen to, songs to sing and snacks to eat. Who wrote the songs we sang today? Who put the tune to the songs we sang? Who made the transparencies? Who played the guitar for you to sing? In a sense, you are inheriting, receiving all that someone else has worked hard to give you. You all can come and just rest and enjoy because everything has been prepared for you! We all don't need to strive. We have the best! We can just live a life of resting and enjoying everything God has for us here, just like Isaac. We all can be Isaacs!

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 8 Isaac—Trusting in God's Ways

<u>Point to Emphasize:</u> We should be those who trust in God's ways.

Reference Reading: Genesis 23—24

Memory Verse: I...will greatly multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the sand

which is on the seashore... (Genesis 22:17)

Story Sample

As Isaac grew up, he continued to trust in God's ways. When Isaac was thirty-seven years old, his mother Sarah passed away. She was only one hundred and twenty-seven. Only? Why do I say only? Actually, back then this was considered quite a young age to die. Abraham lived to be one hundred and seventy-five. It must have been quite a hardship for Abraham to lose his wife and for Isaac to lose his mother. Undoubtedly, she loved both of them very much. They must have suffered a lot.

At this point Isaac was still not married. This was a problem. A few weeks ago we learned that God had promised that Abraham would inherit a great land, and He would make Abraham a great nation of chosen people. Isaac needed a wife and children to carry on Abraham's family and to fulfill God's promise. What would God do? How would Isaac find a wife? Abraham wanted very much for Isaac to have a wife. He wanted to take care of his son. So Abraham gave his servant Eliezer some very specific instructions for finding a wife for his son Isaac.

Abraham asked Eliezer to go to his country, where Abraham was from, to find his relatives and a wife for his son Isaac. This was not an easy task. To get to his country Eliezer had to cross two rivers and a stretch of desert. That must have been really far. There were no cars, trains, or planes back then, and this was quite a journey. Once he arrived, Eliezer also had to find a woman willing to come back with him to marry Isaac. Eliezer set out to the land where Abraham was from, asking God to grant him success and to show kindness to his master Abraham. He fully trusted in God to take care of Abraham and his son Isaac.

Now what do you think Isaac thought of this plan? Would a woman who had never met him leave her family, come to where he was, far away, and marry him? Why would anyone do this? Isaac must have wondered if this would really work, but he accepted his father's arrangement and trusted him.

Do you think it would be easy to trust in God's ways? I know about a boy who was not allowed to play rough sports in school. His mom would only allow him to play certain sports like basketball and tennis. She did it because his bones were still growing, and she didn't want him to get hurt playing rough sports. At first he didn't understand why and thought this was really unfair. Many of his friends were allowed to play rough sports, but he trusted his mom's care for him and accepted this arrangement. When he was older, he realized that his mom's arrangement was very wise, and he was glad he had accepted it as a youth. We need to be those who trust in our parents like Isaac trusted in Abraham. When we trust the arrangements of our parents and those caring for us, it means that we trust in God's ways.

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 9 Rebekah—Being Kind and Diligent

<u>Point to Emphasize</u>: We can be those like Rebekah who are kind and diligent.

Reference Reading: Genesis 24

Memory Verse: And be kind to one another, tenderhearted... (Ephesians 4:32a)

Story Sample:

Last week we learned that Abraham wanted to find a wife for his son Isaac. He told his servant to travel a great distance back to the land of his relatives to look for a wife among his people. The servant did as Abraham requested. He looked to God to lead him to the right young woman and God was faithful. This task he was given was actually according to God's arranging and plan to fulfill His word about making Abraham a great nation. For many weeks the servant traveled through the desert back to Abraham's homeland.

In this land lived a young woman by the name of Rebekah. She was the granddaughter of Abraham's brother. The Bible tells us the story when the servant met Rebekah for the first time. We will see how Rebekah was the perfect wife for Isaac. Rebekah was kind and diligent.

Rebekah went to draw water from a well as she always did. Before she came to the well, Abraham's servant was already there. The servant asked Rebekah for a drink from her pitcher of water. She immediately gave it to him and then generously drew water from the well for all of his camels. It was hard work for her to draw water for ten camels to drink, but she willingly offered to do it. She was so kind to take care of this servant and his many camels.

Today if we want water, we go to the refrigerator or we go and grab a water bottle, right? In those days, you needed to go to the well to draw water from a well and then take it home. Rebekah was very considerate and generous. She not only drew water for her own use, but also for Abraham's servant and for all his camels as well!

If you look closely, you will see that what Rebekah did was amazing! She was only asked to do one thing. But, she not only did the one thing, she did another thing for him! And the second thing she did required much more effort than the first! She was kind, considerate and generous! She did beyond what she was asked!

I remember the many times when my mom called me to do something for her. She asked me to pick up my notebook and crayons from the dining table as we were about to eat. Sometimes, it was hard to obey. But sometimes, I would willingly go and do it. Even more, when she called me to pick up my things, do you know what I would do? I would not only pick up my things, but I would pick up my sister's things that were on the table as well. I would then help my mom set the table! I was not asked to do all of that, but I would do it willingly as I knew how busy she was preparing the food for us to eat. I was being kind and considerate towards my mom, just like Rebekah! [Storyteller, insert your own example.]

Abraham's servant found the best wife for Isaac. She was truly the best match for him. Rebekah was one of the relatives of Abraham. She was not sloppy; rather, she was diligent, kind, generous and considerate, doing beyond what she was asked to do. She cooperated with what the servant and Abraham wanted and followed the arrangement of her family. Ultimately, she went with the servant willingly and married Isaac. Isaac surely got the best wife!

This story of Rebekah really makes me want to be such a person who is kind and diligent and that at the end makes the best choice. In her doing so, she afforded God a way to fulfill His promise in making Abraham a great nation.

Beginner Level, Block 2, Week 10 Isaac—Keeping Peace and Being Blessed for It

<u>Point to Emphasize:</u> We can be those who keep peace when others want to cause trouble.

Reference Reading: Genesis 26

Memory Verse: Seek peace and pursue it. (Psalm 34:14b)

Story Sample

Last week we heard about how God arranged the best wife for Isaac. Actually, God cared for Isaac in so many ways. Isaac had a restful, happy life of enjoyment.

Eventually, Isaac began to move from place to place. Who can tell me what he would need in every place, not only for himself and his household, but also for his herds of animals? What is one thing we cannot live without? Right—water. So, whenever they would move to a new place, they would dig a well. With a well of water, they and their animal herds never had to be without water.

Eventually though, there was trouble over the wells of Isaac that were dug by his men. Men that lived nearby complained and said that the wells belonged to them. But, rather than fight with the men about who owned the wells, Isaac would move his household to another place. He had a very good attitude about this and did not want to cause trouble. This happened twice!

Now, I might give in and let them have their way once, but I just don't know if I would let someone get away with it twice. I had a friend who came to my house after school one day to play. When she was ready to leave, she had one of my dolls. I told her it was mine and she said, "Oh no. This is my doll." My mom had always taught me to be nice to my friends when they came, so I let her take it. Then the following week, she came again, and she did the same thing! This time I was really mad! I wanted so much to grab it out of her hands! [Storyteller, add an example of your own.]

I wonder if Isaac felt this way too when they claimed to own the well. Here they had done all the work of digging the wells, and now they would have to move on once again. And Isaac did it. He didn't argue or fight. He just moved on. He stepped right out of the way of trouble.

Sometimes we have to do this in order to avoid an unhappy situation. When I wanted to grab my toy back, I remembered my mother's words, and I just stepped back and let her take it. My mom saw it and later on told me how proud she was of me for keeping the peace. It made me feel so good to have my mom say that to me!

Isaac was blessed by doing the right thing. He would move and have his men dig a new well in a new place. And do you know what happened? It turned out that he ended up exactly where God wanted him to be all along. God had a particular place where he wanted Isaac to go, and Isaac was happy to get there by keeping the peace.

Because he was a part of God's household and didn't care so much about having the best well, he received the blessing from God and was able to keep the peace. I want to be like Isaac too, not caring for other things but only for what God wants.