

FAITH

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ON LINE HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Full-size and ready-to-print handouts, coloring pages, memory verse tokens and posters for this volume are available online. Visit www.biblevisuals.org and search for S2002 for ready-to-print PDF downloads.

Lesson 1

THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

Scripture to be studied: Genesis 11:31; 12:1-9; Acts 7:2-4; all verses in the lesson.

The aim of the lesson: To show that the result of true faith is obedience to the Lord.

What your students should know: That God commands and honors obedience.

What your students should feel: A desire to obey the Lord.

What your students should do: Seek to know God's will and do it.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. The home of Abram.
2. The command of God (Genesis 12:1-3; Acts 7:2-3).
3. The response of Abram (Genesis 11:31; Acts 7:4).
4. The altar of worship (Genesis 12:4-9).

The verse to be memorized:

But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6)

THE LESSON

God created Adam. But sin spoiled Adam's life. Sin spoiled the lives of Adam's children and his grandchildren. People became so wicked that God had to destroy all living creatures except the few who obeyed Him: Noah and his family. God began again with Noah, but as the years passed people forgot God and went their own way again.

Instead of worshiping God, they began to worship the sun and moon which God had created. Using wood and stone, they carved images that looked like themselves. Then they set them up and worshiped them. They called the images "gods." How foolish! How sinful!

Could gods of wood and stone hear them when they prayed? Could such gods answer their prayers? Could the sun and moon help them when they cried for help? Never! Only the living God, whom they refused to worship, could hear and answer prayer.

As men forgot God, they began making plans to become powerful and famous. Those who were leaders called an important meeting to promote a new idea. (See Genesis 11:3-4.)

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

The back cover has a map showing Ur, Haran, Canaan, Mediterranean Sea, Euphrates River and Chaldea.

The Word of God is the living seed that brings everlasting life. We are born again, nurtured and prepared for service by the power of the Word of God. Encourage your students to study the Word for themselves. Remember that "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

"We'll build a city with a tower that will reach to Heaven," the spokesman said. "The tower will be seen for miles around. We'll become famous. Everyone will admire us and fear us. In this way we can control all the people on earth."

"A tremendous idea!" they agreed. "When shall we begin?"

"Immediately," was the answer.

God had commanded them to scatter over the earth and populate it. (See Genesis 9:1.) Instead, they disobeyed God and began to build a tower that would unite them in one place.

As God looked down on all they were doing, He said, "Will men ever obey Me? Will they ever pray to Me and ask Me to show them what to do? I'll show them that I am the Lord God, the ruler of Heaven and earth. Now they all speak the same language. I'll cause them to speak different languages so they won't be able to understand each other." (See Genesis 11:5-9.)

The next day the foreman gave orders as the men gathered to work.

"What did you say?" the workmen asked. "We can't understand you. What language are you speaking?"

Those who laid bricks couldn't understand those who carried the bricks to them. Those who carried water to mix the mortar couldn't understand the ones who were mixing.

The leaders called another meeting. "How can we continue our project with so much confusion?" the spokesman asked.

But even those in the meeting couldn't understand each other. Finally they simply had to give up and stop building the city and the tower!