

IMPOSSIBLE

God Story:

Abram's Covenant with God | Genesis 15:1-21

Big Idea:

We can trust God when things seem impossible.

Key Verses:

"I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make your name great...All nations on earth will be blessed because of you." | Genesis 12:2-3 (NIRV)

Leader Tip:

Pray for the students in your group before they arrive.

Ms My Story

- 1. Conversation Starter** **7 minutes**
Talk about times when the students have found it difficult to trust someone or have experienced broken trust. Discuss whether they trust God and how they show it.
- 2. Intro Activity** **5 minutes ***
Challenge everyone to do something that seems impossible at first. Introduce this week's Big Idea.

Gs

God Story

Ls

Life Story

- 3. Weekly Video** **12 minutes**
Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

Ms

My Story

- 4. Application Activity** **12 minutes ***
Review the Key Verses for this series. Divide into teams for a quiz game to reinforce today's lesson.
- 5. Wrap-Up Activity** **10 minutes**
Write or draw prayers to God about a situation that feels impossible.

Os

Our Story

- 6. Dismissal** **2 minutes**

* Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



1. CONVERSATION STARTER

Supplies:

- None

Leader Tip:

- Use the Conversation Starter to help everyone feel welcome, build community, and set the tone for your group's time together.

Instructions:

- As the students arrive, greet them and gather everyone together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week went.
- Remind the students that you started talking about trusting God last week.
- Review what trust is.
- Ask:
 - When is it difficult to trust someone?
 - Have you ever lost someone's trust? Has someone lost your trust?
 - Did it feel impossible to regain that trust? Why or why not?
 - Do you trust God? If so, with what? How do you show it?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2. INTRO ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Paper
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Hold up a sheet of paper for the students to see.
- Ask them if they think it's possible for you to stick your head through it.
- Tell them that it is possible!
- Offer paper to anyone who would like to figure it out on their own.
- If the students give up, lead them to:
 - Fold the paper in half lengthwise.
 - On the fold, starting about two centimetres (about three-quarters of an inch) from one end, cut a series of long parallel lines approximately two centimetres apart. Leave a little space at the edges, so you don't cut the paper in half.
 - Cut along the middle fold, being sure to leave two end strips intact to create an outer border.
 - Unfold the paper and stick your head through it.
- Point out that what seemed impossible was definitely possible!
- Introduce the Big Idea: **We can trust God when things seem impossible.**



3. WEEKLY VIDEO

Supplies:

- Video file

Instructions:

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Abram's Covenant with God | Genesis 15:1-21)
 - Life Story (Lize van der Bijl trusts God after being diagnosed with fibromyalgia)
- Invite the students to give a quick recap of the God and Life Stories.
- Ask:
 - How do these stories and today's Big Idea (**We can trust God when things seem impossible**) connect?
 - Do you have a story from your own life that also connects?



4. APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Key Verses sign
- Buzzers
- Bibles
- Prizes

Leader Tip:

- To help get everyone involved, don't allow the same person to answer questions two times in a row.

Instructions:

- Hang or hold up the Key Verses sign.
- Read Genesis 12:2-3 together.
- Explain that learning Bible verses can be hard for

some people. However, it's worth doing! Having them saved in our minds is helpful as we journey through life.

- Divide the students into two teams.
- Give each team a buzzer and a Bible.
- Let them know that teammates must work together in this quiz game. Encourage them to refer to the Bible as needed.
- Ask the following questions, pausing after each one to prompt the teams to buzz and answer:
 - In today's God Story, what seemed impossible to Abram? (having children and becoming a great nation as God promised him)
 - God told Abram that he would have as many children as there were what? (stars in the sky)
 - What was the agreement God made with Abram called? (a covenant)
 - Who was the lead actor in the Mission Impossible movies? (Tom Cruise)
 - What else did God do—in any Bible story!—that seemed impossible? (e.g., closed lions' mouths in the story of Daniel; Jesus turned water to wine; people were raised from the dead)
 - What book and chapter of the Bible was today's God Story from? (Genesis 15)
 - What did God promise to Abram that day? (land)
 - Look up and read aloud Matthew 19:26.
 - Look up and read aloud Luke 1:37.
- Award prizes to the team that answered the most questions correctly.

5. WRAP-UP ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Paper
- Pens

Leader Tips:

- Ensure a tone of quiet and stillness as the students write or draw their prayers.
- If anyone doesn't want to write or draw, encourage them to sit quietly and pray. If they distract other students, remind them that this is a set apart time for people to talk with God.

Instructions:

- a. Encourage everyone to consider whether anything feels impossible in their lives right now. What do they need to trust God with? It could be dealing with a family relationship, a friendship, a worry, or a fear.
- b. Give each student a sheet of paper and a pen.
- c. Explain that they'll have a brief quiet time in which to write or draw a prayer. Let them know this is just between them and God. They don't need to share it with anyone else if they don't want to.
- d. Allow time for the students to write or draw.
- e. Close in prayer. Invite the students to pray, too.



6. DISMISSAL

Supplies:

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

Instructions:

- a. Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- b. Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- c. Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
- d. Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.