

Children's Church at home 21 June 2020

Genesis 21:8-21 and Matthew 10:24-39

Craft ingredients: card, wool (if you have any!), pens, scissors, Pritt stick, Sellotape, maybe a hole punch, lolly stick or similar.

Ask the children if they remember last Sunday's story (some surprise visitors came to Abraham and Sarah's tent and gave them some amazing news)

Introduction: discuss with the children: do you sometimes have disagreements with your friends? Or with your brothers and sisters? Do your parents sometimes ask you to wait patiently but you go ahead and do something anyway?

Story: Today we are reading more about Abraham and Sarah in the Old Testament. (This story is from before the three visitors came to see them.) Abraham had two families: when Sarah was getting old and didn't have any children, instead of waiting for God to put his plan into action, she suggested to Abraham that he could have another family with Hagar, who worked for them. Abraham and Hagar had a son and called him Ishmael. This story is not in the Lion First Bible, but you can find the Easy-to-Read Version here

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+21%3A1-21&version=ERV>

Video: This is a fun song! You might want to change sons to kids! But do dance and sing along!
https://youtu.be/5o_J30x6E6s

Quiz: What was the name of Sarah's baby? When did Abraham give him a big party? Why did Sarah want Hagar to leave? (Was that a nice thing to do?) How did Abraham feel about that? What did God say to him? What did Abraham do next? Why did Hagar and Ishmael cry? What happened then? What happened when Ishmael grew up?

Think: When things go wrong, do you sometimes feel all alone? Hagar certainly felt that way, didn't she? And Ishmael just sat in the shade of a bush and cried. But God knew where they were, what had happened, and what he had planned for them, too. And he gave them just what they needed!

Craft: see video.

Game: Simon says is good! It's about doing the right thing at the right time! Try touch your nose, scratch your ear, stick your tongue out, make a silly face, stand up, jump about, shout alleluia! ...

Prayer: Oh Jesus, lots of things happen which make us sad. Let us know that you have a plan for us and cheer us up. Sometimes we say things that make other people sad. Please forgive us and show us how to make things better. Thank you for mums and dads and grandparents and aunts and uncles and cousins and all the people who care about us. Amen.

We have learned the grace, and we can ask for your blessing on ourselves and all our friends and family when we pray it: may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.