**Abraham and Sarah Go on a Trip**

Today we are beginning a Bible story about a couple named Abram and Sarai.  They are both very, very old – when our story starts off, they are about 75, about the usual age of grandparents.  Abram and Sarai were faithful, so faithful that they followed what God told them to do, even when it was hard.  More than anything, Abram and Sarai wanted to have a child.

Next week, July 5, I will be preaching on the next part of this story which is when Abraham and Sarah find out they are going to have a baby.  The activities for next week will go along with that part of the story.

**Today’s Scripture:**

Genesis 12:1-19

Discuss the definition of:

Respected - everyone thinks nice things about it or to think nice things about a person

Haran – the original home of Abraham and Sarah

Possessions – things they owned

Descendants – all the people in your family born after you

Altar – in Bible times they would take rocks, sticks and stones and build a small tower to show a

 special place where they had been with God

**Discussion Questions:**

* Where is the original home of the adults in your home?
* What do you think it would have been like to have heard the voice of God?
* What were some of the reasons Abram and Arai could have used to not do what God was asking of them?
* God lead Abraham and Sarah on their journey. How does God lead us today?

Activity Options:

**Play a Memory Game**

Announce you are going on a trip and you need everyone’s help deciding what to pack. Starting with the first person, they say, “I’m going on a trip and I’m going to take (something that starts with an A.”)

If you only have younger children just go down the alphabet, repeating the “I’m going on a trip and I’m going to take…..” statement. With older children, they can repeat all the things that have been said, and then add something for the next letter of the alphabet.

**Make a Family Tree**

Make a family tree, letting everyone help come up with the names to go on it. You can either make a tree and put all the names of your family on it, or make an actual historical tree with the names going back in generations. There are all kinds of trees you can google.

**Music**

Learn the words for a new song – “ The Twelve Blessings of Abraham” (based on the 12 Days of Christmas song).

Traveling in Bible times was very different from traveling today. They couldn’t stop at a restaurant or a store or even stay in a hotel! They couldn’t ride in a car or an airplane. Think of the very long (many, many years) trip that Abraham and Sarah made. They would have had to make their own fires, pack their own food, pack all of the clothes they would need, bring animals to provide for their many needs, and utensils, pots and pans for food preparation. Think of the many things they would have had to pack!

**The Twelve Blessings of Abraham**

On the 12th day of the journey, God gave to Abraham:

Twelve­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tents for sleeping

Eleven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_stones for stacking

Ten \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ camels drinking

Nine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_servants serving

Eight \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_bags of laundry

Seven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_pots with handles

Six \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bags of barley

Five\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_sleeping bags

Four \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_furry sheep

Three \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_brown goats

Two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pairs of sandals

And an awesome plan to give him a new land.

Here’s the words to the original 12 Days of Christmas. I shortened it by taking out all the repetition. (You don’t have to do anything with this, I just know I would sit there and get frustrated by trying to remember what all the twelve days were from the original song.)

**The Twelve Days of Christmas**

[Harry Belafonte](https://www.bing.com/search?q=harry+belafonte&filters=ufn%3a%22harry+belafonte%22+sid%3a%223ec453dc-472a-ff33-1ca2-67819a5e9a99%22&FORM=SNAPST)

On the first day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me

Two turtle doves.
Three French hens,

Four calling birds,

Five golden rings,
Six geese a-laying,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Eight maids a-milking,
Nine ladies dancing,

Ten lords a-leaping,
Eleven pipers piping,
Twelve drummers drumming,
And a partridge in a pear tree!