

Lot and Abram Divide the Land

Genesis 13

Five- and six-year-olds have heard that it's good to get along with others—it's a focal point of early-childhood learning. They can grasp the importance of sharing and treating others with kindness. Lot and Abram are good examples for them of working out a tough issue facing kids this age—how to share well. Use this lesson to show children that getting along with others is something God wants them to do, not just a desire of their parents and teachers.



► Bible Point


God wants us to get along.

Key Verse

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart” (Proverbs 3:5).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will get along with others in daily life.

| LESSON | WHAT CHILDREN DO | SUPPLIES | EASY PREP |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1 Getting Started <i>about 10 min.</i> | Welcoming Song Sing or listen to songs to welcome everyone to church. | CD player Teacher Pack: CD | |
| 2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i> | A Valuable Trust Take turns holding a valued object. | Bible, cellphone | |
| 3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i> | Theo's News Find out what water and dirt have to do with the Bible. | Surprise Box (any box will do), Theo puppet, CD player, bottle of water, small bag of dirt or sand Teacher Pack: CD | Place the water and dirt in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible. |
| | Bible Time: Dividing the Land Pretend to go to the two lands and choose which place they'd rather live. | Bible, CD player, 1 cup of water per child, water and dirt from “Theo's News,” sticky notes, washable markers Teacher Pack: CD, “Abram's Journey” game board, “Lot Chooses” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)  | Make a “lush” area designated by the bottle of water. Then place the bag of dirt or sand in a different spot to make a “desert” area. |

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





| LESSON | WHAT CHILDREN DO | SUPPLIES | EASY PREP |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>4 Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p> | <p>Center 1: Dividing the Land Help Abram and Lot journey to new lands.</p> | <p>My Bible Playground, child-safe scissors, tape, 2 craft sticks per child</p> | <p>Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Playground student book, and cut the slits on the pages to indicate the directions Abram and Lot took.</p> |
| | <p>Center 2: You Choose First! Divide pretzels and popcorn.</p> | <p>pretzel rods (not sticks), popcorn, napkins, antibacterial gel (optional)</p> | |
| | <p>Center 3: Tight Squeeze Try to squeeze into a yarn loop.</p> | <p>one 4-foot yarn loop for every 5 children, CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p> | |
| | <p>Center 4: Layout of the Land Share supplies to draw the lands where Lot and Abram settled.</p> | <p>1 sheet of paper per child, washable markers</p> | |
| <p>5 Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i></p> | <p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.</p> | <p>My Bible Playground</p> | |
| | <p>“Others First” Prayer Watch a demonstration with the My Bible Playground page and say a prayer.</p> | <p>My Bible Playground page with the Abram and Lot figures cut out and taped to craft sticks</p> | |
| | <p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p> | | |

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Welcoming Song Supplies


CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: “Shake a Friend’s Hand” (track 22), “The Song of Abram” (#1) (track 21)


1 GETTING STARTED

Welcoming Song

 **Tip** Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You’ll Do

As the children arrive, greet each child and welcome him or her with a smile. When it’s time to begin, use your signal to bring the children together in a circle. Lead the kids in doing the actions and singing “Shake a Friend’s Hand” (track 22 on the CD) to the tune of “Found a Peanut.”


 **Shake a friend’s hand,** (*shake someone’s hand*)
Shake a friend’s hand, (*shake another person’s hand*)
Shake a friend’s hand—say “hello!” (*shake another friend’s hand, and say “hello!”*)
Thank you, God, for all our friends. (*pat someone on the back*)
Shake a friend’s hand—say “hello!” (*shake another friend’s hand, and say “hello!”*)

Give a big hug, (*hug someone*)
Give a big hug, (*hug another person*)
Give a big hug—say “hello!” (*hug another friend, and say “hello!”*)
Thank you, God, for all our friends. (*pat someone on the back*)
Give a big hug—say “hello!” (*hug another friend, and say “hello!”*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

Say: Today we’ll learn that ► **GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG.** We’ll hear about a man named **Abram** and how he shared and got along with his nephew. Let’s learn two verses in a song about Abram and Lot.

Lead kids in the actions as they sing “The Song of Abram” (#1) (track 21 on the CD) to the tune of “Jack and Jill.”

 **Time had passed for Abram and Lot** (*tap wrist as if tapping a watch*)
They both got very wealthy. (*cup hands*)
Animals and servants, too, (*sweep one hand to left and other hand to right*)
So crowded it soon got. (*bump gently against a friend*)

Abram said to nephew Lot, (*mimic hand-talking*)
“I’ll let you choose land first. (*point in two different directions*)





God wants us to get along—(*put arms around someone’s shoulders*)
That’s what our Lord has taught.” (*shake hands*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

Say: **Abram and Lot knew that ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG, so they did. They knew they could trust God’s directions and do what God told them to do. Let’s learn about trusting God.**



2

**KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY**

A Valuable Trust

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Have children sit in a circle. Open your Bible to Proverbs 3:5, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God’s special book.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible, Proverbs 3:5, says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart” (Proverbs 3:5). Let’s say our Key Verse together.** Lead the children in saying the Key Verse with you: **“Trust in the Lord with all your heart” (Proverbs 3:5).**

Say: **When you trust someone, you believe that person will do what he or she says. And you know that person will help you and take care of you. We can put all our trust in God, because God’s promised us that he’ll always love us and be with us. And God never lies!**

Show children the cellphone, and say: **This is very special to me.** Tell kids about the phone and why you value it. **I’m going to pass my cellphone around so all of you can see it up close. I trust all of you to take good care of it, because I told you how special it is to me.** After the children have each had a turn holding the phone, thank them for returning it to you safely and carefully.

Say: **I like my cellphone a lot and I trusted each of you to take care of it. I can trust you because I know you and I know you’ll be careful. The more we get to know God and learn about how much he loves us, the more we can trust him with all our hearts.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What did you like or not like about the way I trusted you to be careful with my cellphone?**

A Valuable Trust Supplies

Bible
cellphone





Theo's News Supplies

Surprise Box (any box will do)
Theo puppet
CD player
bottle of water
small bag of dirt or sand

Teacher Pack

CD: "Here, Theo"
(track 5)

Theo's News Easy Prep

Place the water and dirt in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.

- Why it is easier to trust someone you know well?
- What are some ways you can get to know God better?

Say: **We can trust God with our whole hearts! That means we can trust God with anything that's important to us. We can trust God because we know God, and we know God loves us and will take care of us. Let's say our Key Verse together one more time.** Lead children in saying the Key Verse with you: **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart" (Proverbs 3:5).**

3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Theo's News

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Friends, it's time for Theo's News!**

Have children sit in a circle. Then begin "Here, Theo" (track 5 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you've dug up about the Bible today.

Theo: I hid it in the Surprise Box.

Teacher: Let's look inside to see what Theo dug up for us today.

(Invite a child to open the Surprise Box, and have the kids pass the bottle of water and bag of dirt around the circle so everyone can see them up close. Give kids time to guess what they'll learn from the Bible today.)

Teacher: Friends, if you could have one of these things from the Surprise Box, which would you rather have? Why?

(Pause for kids to answer your question.)

Teacher: Theo, why did you hide these things in the Surprise Box?

Theo: I wanted to see what the kids would choose.

Teacher: The kids did have a choice to make.

Theo: And they chose well!

Teacher: That reminds me of what we're learning today. Abram and Lot had a choice to make. Sometimes, when people have a choice to make, they only think about what's best for themselves. But ► **GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG.** Friends, let's read the Bible to see what Abram and Lot chose.

Theo: Have fun, boys and girls!

Teacher: Friends, say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.



Bible Time: Dividing the Land

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to Genesis 13, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Today the Bible tells us that ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG. Let's find out how Abram got along with his nephew Lot.**

God told Abram to leave the home where his family lived and go to a new place that God would show him. So Abram packed his bags, took his wife, Sarai, and his nephew Lot, and followed God on a journey to a new place. Lay the game board where kids can see it, and point to the place where Abram started his journey.

Along the way, Abram and Lot became very rich and had lots of animals and people to serve them. Move your finger along the game board. **Soon it was too crowded for all the people and animals to live together in one place. Abram knew that ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG, so he pointed out across all the land they could see and asked Lot to choose where he would like to live. Abram let Lot choose first! Lot could choose either a beautiful land with plenty of water, or a dry land.**

Lead the kids to the lush area you prepared. Have children relax on the floor, and serve everyone a cup of water.

Play "River Sounds" (track 19 on the CD) in the background. Say things such as "Ahhh...this is the life!" and "What nice, cool water to drink and beautiful green grass." Stop the CD at the end of the track.

Then lead kids to the desert area. Play "Whistling Wind" (track 20 on the CD) in the background. Say things such as "Wow, it's hot" and "There aren't many plants or nice things to look at." Stop the CD at the end of the track.

Ask:

- **What land do you think is best? Why?**

Lead kids back to the lush area. Say: **Lot chose the beautiful land that had lots of green plants and fresh water.** Then lead the kids to the desert area. **Abram took the land that was left over.**

Have kids sit in a circle. Set out the "Lot Chooses" poster and markers, and give each child two sticky notes. Have kids draw a stick figure person on each. Collect the notes and put them in a pile.

Say: **When Abram and Lot split up, they each took their families and their things with them. Abram took his things and went with his family to the drier land. And Lot took his things and went with his family to the green land. Let's divide up this pile and put half on one side with Lot and half on the other side with Abram.** Help



Bible Time: Dividing the Land Supplies

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- Bible
- CD player
- 1 cup of water per child
- water and dirt from "Theo's News"
- sticky notes
- washable markers
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "River Sounds" (track 19), "Whistling Wind" (track 20)
- "Abram's Journey" game board
- "Lot Chooses" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

Bible Time: Dividing the Land Easy Prep

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Make a "lush" area designated by the bottle of water. Then place the bag of dirt or sand in a different spot to make a "desert" area.





kids divide the sticky notes into two equal piles and stick one pile onto the dry land in the picture and the other pile onto the green land in the picture.

Say: **Abram knew he'd made the right choice in deciding to divide the land, and Abram knew he'd done right when he let Lot choose first. ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG, and letting others go first is one way to do it!**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about the way Abram and Lot got along?
- What surprises you about Abram's decision?
- What makes it easy or difficult to allow someone else to choose first?
- What are some ways you get along with others?

Say: **► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG, and Abram and Lot gave us a great example of how to do that! We can do what God wants us to when we get along with others, too.**

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today's Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you're ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they'd like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center's description.

■ **CENTER 1:**
Dividing the Land

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Help kids write their names on their My Bible Playground pages. Set out scissors and tape, and give each child two craft sticks.

Say: **Cut out the figures of Abram and Lot and tape them onto your craft sticks. Then put Abram into the slit that leads to the dry land and Lot into the slit that leads to the lush land. As you move your Abram and Lot stick puppets, share with each other what you learned from the Bible today.**

Center 1: Dividing the Land
Supplies

- My Bible Playground
- child-safe scissors
- tape
- 2 craft sticks per child

Center 1: Dividing the Land
Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Playground student book, and cut the slits on the pages to indicate the directions Abram and Lot took.





Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about Abram allowing Lot to have the best land?
- What do you like or not like about the way Abram got along with his nephew, Lot?
- What are things you've shared with family and friends?
- Tell about a time you let someone choose first or go first in a game.

Say: Sometimes the best way to get along is to share, as Abram and Lot shared the land.

► **GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG** just like they did.

■ CENTER 2:

You Choose First!

What You'll Do ■■■■

Have children clean their hands. Then gather everyone, and have kids form pairs. Designate one child in each pair to pretend to be Abram and one child to pretend to be Lot.

Say: **Abram and Lot had many sheep. They probably used a staff, or rod, to help guide and steer the sheep. The rod looked like this.** Give each pair a pretzel rod. **You and your partner hold the pretzel rod between you, and on the count of three, break the pretzel rod into two pieces. If you're pretending to be Abram, allow your friend pretending to be Lot to choose from the pretzel pieces first.** Hand another pretzel rod to each pair, and have kids trade roles and play again.

Next, give each pair of kids a napkin with a pile of popcorn to represent Abram and Lot's sheep. Also give each child a napkin. Say: **With your partner, divide the popcorn pieces evenly. Then use your pretzel rods to "guide" your popcorn sheep from the pile to your napkins.** Allow time.

Pray: **God, thank you for helping us get along each day with our friends and family. Thank you for our snack. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- When you were pretending to be Abram, what did you like or not like about letting Lot choose first?
- When you were pretending to be Lot, what did you like or not like about choosing first?



Center 2: You Choose First! Supplies

-
- pretzel rods (not sticks)
 - popcorn
 - napkins
 - antibacterial gel (optional)

! ALLERGY ALERT





Center 3: Tight Squeeze Supplies

one 4-foot yarn loop for every 5 children

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Are You Going to Praise the Lord?" (track 8)

Center 4: Layout of the Land Supplies

1 sheet of paper per child
washable markers

Say: **Abram knew that God wanted him to get along with others. Abram was very kind to Lot and let Lot choose first. You were great Abrams and Lots! You now know how much ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG.**

CENTER 3:

Tight Squeeze

What You'll Do

Place one yarn loop on the floor for every five children. Have kids form teams of five.

Say: **Try to get everyone in your group standing in the loop on the floor by the time the music stops.**

Play "Are You Going to Praise the Lord?" (track 8 on the CD) while children are playing the game. Periodically stop the music, and let kids hold on to each other to fit as many as they can in their loop. Repeat the game if time allows.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What made it easy or difficult to get along in such a small space?
- What did you do to help each other?

Say: **Abram knew that ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG. When things got too crowded, Abram knew that he and Lot should live in different areas. Abram let Lot choose the land he wanted to move to first. Abram put Lot before himself and that helped him get along with Lot very well.**

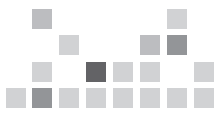
CENTER 4:

Layout of the Land

What You'll Do

Ask children to draw the land that Abram and Lot divided. Place two brown markers on one side of the drawing area and two green markers on the other—kids will have to share to be able to draw their pictures.

Say: **Share your supplies and draw green, well-watered land on one half of your papers and dry, brown land on the other half. After you draw the land, then you can draw the same number of people and animals on both lands.**



Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you do for your friends here so everyone could draw a picture?
- What good things happen when you get along with others?

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG** with family members, friends, teachers, and everyone. Abram treated Lot the way he probably wanted to be treated. We can treat other people the way that we'd like to be treated, too, and get along with others.



5

**LASTING
IMPRESSIONS**

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■

After the children have cleaned up the centers, bring everyone back to the circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: Today we learned that ► **GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG**. I'd like each of you to choose a way to get along with others this week.

Read these three ideas for children to choose from:

- When you're playing with someone, let that person choose which game to play.
- This week, ask someone you've never played with before to play with you.
- Share your snack or dessert with a family member or friend.

Have kids each whisper in your ear or tell you which idea they've chosen, and then circle it on each child's My Bible Playground page. Make sure you choose a challenge as well and tell kids which challenge you chose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as theirs!

**Daily Challenges
Supplies**

My Bible Playground





“Others First” Prayer Supplies

My Bible Playground page with the Abram and Lot figures cut out and taped to craft sticks

“Others First” Prayer

What You’ll Do

You’ll need one of the My Bible Playground pages and a set of Abram and Lot figures on craft sticks. Position Abram and Lot close together near the bottom of the page. Then guide kids through the following prayer.

Pray: **Dear God,**

When it comes to getting along,

Help us think of others first, *(move the Lot figure to the green area on the page and ask kids to name family members, friends, and any other people they can put first)*

Before we think of ourselves. *(then move the Abram figure to the other area)*

In Jesus’ name, amen.

Say: **God puts a lot of special people in our lives and ► GOD WANTS US TO GET ALONG with them. Whenever you’re having trouble getting along with anyone you named, you can ask God for help to put others first.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Playground pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the “Daily Challenges” activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.

