

Lesson 3: Promise

Today's Bible Story

Abraham and Sarah were an elderly couple who lived in tents under the oak trees of Mamre (*MAM-ree*). One hot day, Abraham was sitting by the entrance to his tent, when he looked up and saw three men standing nearby. It was the Lord.

He quickly ran to meet the men, bowed with his face to the ground, and said, "Please come to my home where I can serve you. I'll bring water and you can rest under the tree. Let me also get you some food for you to eat before you continue your journey."

They answered, "Please, do as you have said."

Abraham quickly went to his tent and said to Sarah, "Hurry! We need to make dinner for our guests. You make some bread, and I will prepare some meat."

Abraham served these to the men, along with some cheese curds and milk. While the men were eating, they asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

"She is there in the tent," he answered. The Lord said, "I will come back about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent. She knew she was well past the age for having children. So she laughed and said to herself, "Now that my husband and I are old, will I really know the happiness of having a child?"

The Lord asked Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Is anything too difficult for the Lord? I promise: I will come back next year and Sarah will have a son."

Sarah tried to deny it, saying, "I didn't laugh." But the Lord replied, "Yes, you did laugh!"

Many months later, when Sarah did have the baby that God promised, they named the baby "Isaac," which means "laughter."



From Genesis 18:1-15

Bible Rhyme

By his tent sat Abraham.

He looked up and saw three men.

Abraham wondered: "Who is it?"

The Lord had come to pay a visit.

The old man had them stay to eat
and brought some water for their feet.

They asked where his wife Sarah went.

He said: "She's inside the tent."

The Lord told Sarah, to her joy,

"You will have a baby boy."

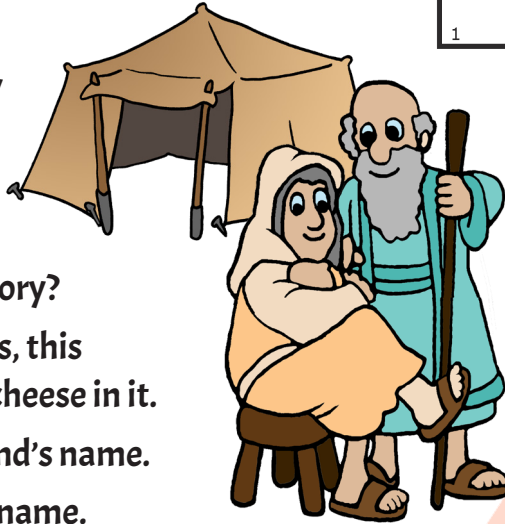
Sarah laughed to hear the news,

but in a year, it all came true.

Crossword Puzzle

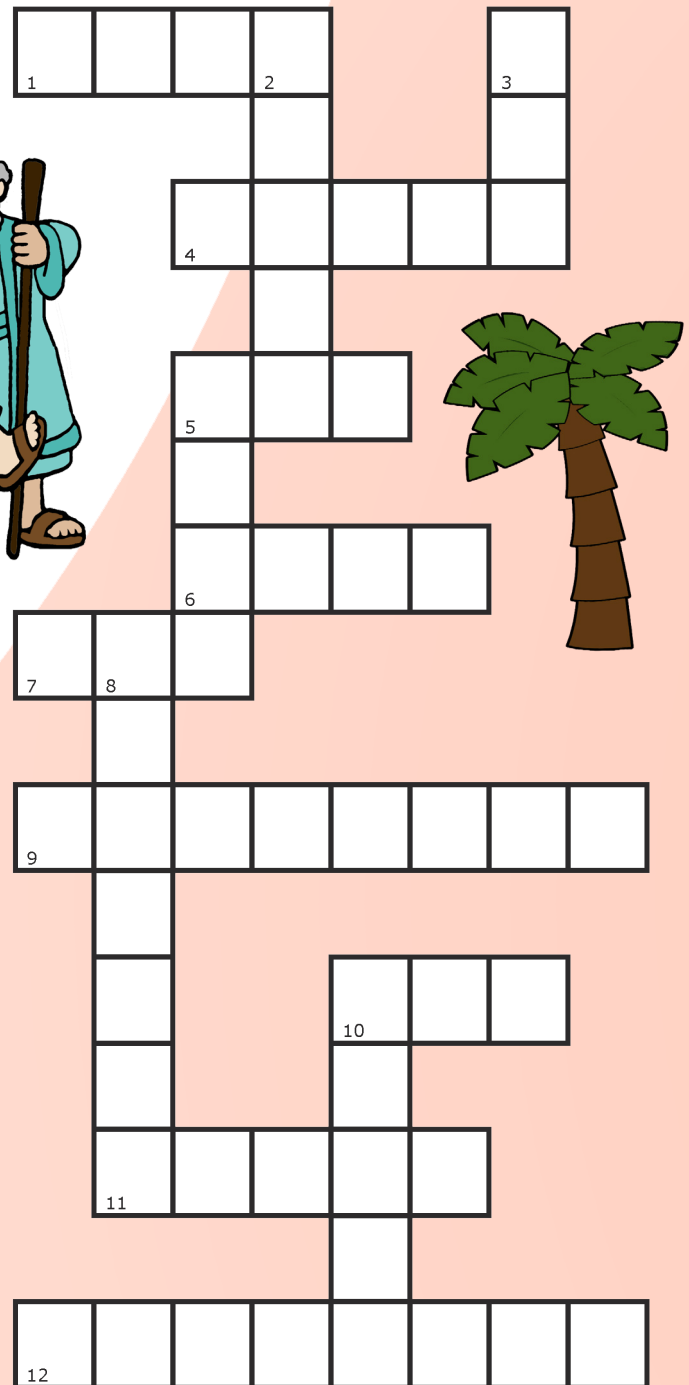
Down

- 2) This was how many men visited.
- 3) How would you describe the age of the couple in this story?
- 5) Served to the guests, this liquid had curds of cheese in it.
- 8) This was the husband's name.
- 10) This was the wife's name.



Across

- 1) Abraham was sitting outside this.
- 4) Sarah took flour and made some _____ for their guests.
- 5) Abraham saw three _____.
- 6) Abraham recognized that it was the _____ who was speaking to him.
- 7) In the place where Abraham and Sarah lived, there were many _____ trees.
- 9) The Lord _____ that Sarah would have a baby.
- 10) Sarah gave birth to a _____.
- 11) Abraham and Sarah were living under the oaks of _____.
- 12) This is what the name "Isaac" means.



- a) *In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul wrote: "Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith" (Galatians 3:7,9). Who do you think Paul was talking about? What does he mean?*
- b) *What is the difference between believing that God exists, and having faith and trust in God? What are some of the things we trust about God? How do we come to know we can trust him?*