

Abraham | Lesson Plan

Why is Abraham considered the father of three of the world's major religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam?

Students will understand how Abraham from the Bible is considered the father of three of the world's major religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Students will also understand how Abraham trusted in God to keep His promises and fulfill His plan, despite uncertainty. Students will understand the importance of trust and obedience to authority.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the true meaning of God's covenant with Abraham.
- Explain how Abraham is considered the father of three of the world's major religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- Analyze how Abraham trusted in God to keep his promises and fulfill his plan for Abraham's life.
- Identify examples in which Abraham overcame fear or doubt and trusted in his covenant with God.
- Evaluate Abraham's character and the qualities that helped him remain faithful to God.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Covenant:** a sacred agreement or promise between God and His people, where God commits to bless and protect them in return for their faithfulness and obedience to His commands.
- **Descendant:** Someone who comes from a line of ancestors, usually in a direct line of descent.
- **Faithful:** Being loyal, reliable, and trustworthy in keeping promises or commitments.
- **The Abrahamic Covenant:** The covenant between Abraham and God in which God promised that Abraham's descendants would be abundant.
- **Monotheism:** The belief in one God.
- **Polytheism:** The belief in many gods.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4

Academic Subject Areas: Biography, Bible, Judeo-Christian Values

What You'll Need

- Video: *Abraham: The Father of Many Nations* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Abraham: The Father of Many Nations* (Click [Here](#))



Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

Warm-Up: (15 minutes)

1. Initiate a class discussion on religion and what students know about three of the world's major religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
2. Display a copy of the "Abraham Worksheet" and pass out worksheets to students.
3. Instruct students to list everything they know about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam on the Venn Diagram in the Warm-Up Activity. Teacher may need to model an example for students.
4. Once completed, engage students in a discussion about what these three religions have in common. Instruct students to write any similarities they can think of in the middle intersections of the Venn Diagram.
5. Transition the discussion to focus on the Bible character and historical figure, Abraham. Invite students to share what they already know about Abraham and his story. Ask students which religion includes Abraham in their beliefs.
6. Read over the rest of the worksheet as a class so students know what to listen for during the video.
7. Set the stage for the upcoming video by highlighting the themes of patience, trust, and obedience. Encourage students to look for ways throughout the video how Abraham overcame fear or doubt and instead trusted in God and remained patient while God's plan for him was fulfilled. Additionally, prompt students to look for one specific similarity that all three world religions share.

Watch and Complete: (20 minutes)

1. Watch the video.
2. Assist students with completing the worksheet alongside the video, encouraging note-taking and active listening.
3. Pause throughout the video to allow students to answer questions, especially short answer responses. If necessary, model short answer responses by restating the question and writing a complete sentence.

Wrap-Up: (10-15 minutes)

1. Allow students 10 minutes to complete the worksheet independently.
2. Collect as formative assessment or discuss in class.
3. Ask students to read aloud their answers to short response question #9. Encourage students to add any new and relevant information they learned from the video to their Venn Diagrams in the Warm-Up Activity, in particular, a similarity between all three.
4. Ask students to read aloud their responses to the Making Connections section, reflecting on what they have learned from Abraham's story and ways they can overcome fear or doubt during uncertain times. Conclude with an open-ended prompt on the importance of trust and obedience to authority:
 - How do you think Abraham's trust in God's promises can be applied to situations in our lives today?
 - In what ways did Abraham's faithfulness impact the development of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam?

- What qualities do you think are important to have when faced with uncertainty or doubt? How did Abraham demonstrate these qualities?
- Why do you think obedience to authority is emphasized in Abraham's story, and how can this principle be important in our daily lives?

Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 minutes)

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.