

Great Men of God

Roundup Time

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All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version unless otherwise noted.



You Can Be Great for God!

As I edited these lessons on the patriarchs, I realized once again that these were normal human beings—just like me—who endured hardships and frustration—just like me—as well as joy and blessings—just like me. We tend to glamorize their lives because we see only the highlights, and we dismiss our lives as unworthy because we see all the details. However, the same promises God made to Abraham and that were passed down to each generation are ours today! God promised him land (possessions), a nation (family), and blessing (unlimited forms). Don't we enjoy those same promises today?

Abraham didn't start out great, and neither did any of his descendants (no matter how wealthy they might have been). What is great in our eyes is far different in God's eyes. When we love Him and keep His commandments, He is faithful in keeping His promises (covenant) and showing mercy (new

every morning) to us for a thousand generations. I certainly do not expect a thousand generations to rise up after me (Jesus will return long before then!), but I do expect Him to keep His Word if I keep my word—loving and obeying Him.

This is why we teach beginners. These young children are just starting to accept the abstract, to really understand truth and consequences, and to make decisions that could affect the rest of their lives. We need to guide them and help them realize that even in first and second grade, they can be great for God. They can dream dreams, hear from God, and be a blessing to their families.

Teacher, I pray that as you teach these truths, you will also realize how great you are as one of God's children! You are certainly great in my eyes!

How to Download Word Aflame Teacher's Manual Web Material

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Teacher Resource Packet Downloadable Resources

To access the reproducible items from the resource packet (TRP), see the resource packet instruction sheet. If you have not purchased a packet, you can do so by going to www.pentecostalpublishing.com or calling 866-819-7667.

NOTE: Not all lessons offer downloadable resources.

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Our archive of teacher training articles is available online without access codes. Click the "Teacher Training" link at the bottom of the Pentecostal Publishing website home page. Other resources at this link include a classroom Standard Supply List, Childhood Characteristics, and Student Information Form.

ROUNDUP TIME

A Look at the Curriculum

What is it about the Wild West that so intrigues us as children on into adulthood? Western birthday parties, stick horses, western clothing, western room décor . . . every party store carries a surplus of western items. And Pinterest . . . one can go into overload looking at all their options!

You may wonder what the West has to do with great men of God. The patriarchs of Genesis were wanderers, never settling into a particular spot for long, but knowing this was their destiny as promised by God. Wanderers—people looking for a better life, wanting more than what they had, and believing they could get it—settled the Wild West. As we highlight the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, we will highlight the fun aspects of the West.

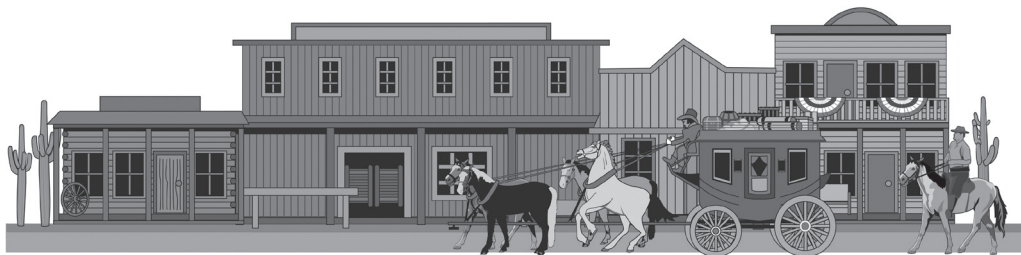
Note: We are avoiding any mention of Native Americans as this can be a sensitive subject in decor. And of course we are not using guns in any form.

The Wild West

Each wall will focus on a part of western life. Use the transparencies (TRP), theme art (TRP), and theme art ideas 📌 to build each wall.

The Town

Draw a western town on one wall. For a 3-D effect, add a hitching rail in front of the buildings and place some stick horses at the post. Provide a blue sky, and add a tumbleweed in the road in front of the buildings. Paint each building a different color. Most western buildings were brown with some buildings whitewashed, because paint was a luxury. However, your western town can be more colorful.

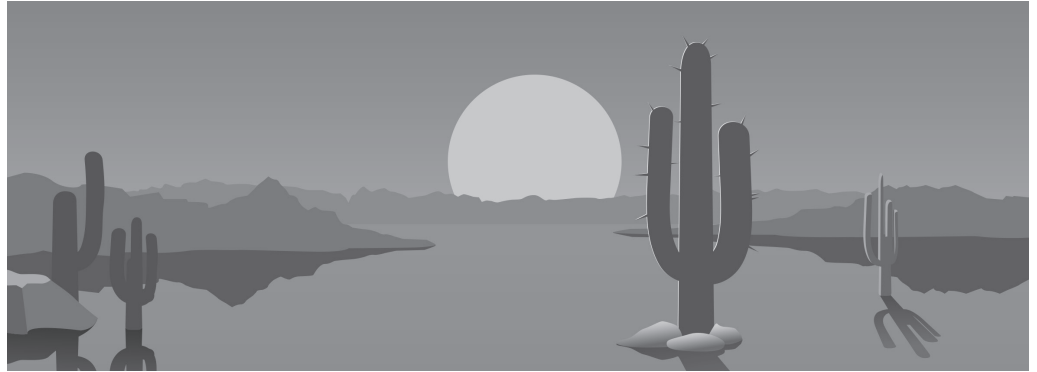


Make your own tumbleweed:

Inflate the largest balloon available and hang it so you can access all sides. Cut an 8-foot length of brown twine and saturate it in white glue. Haphazardly wrap this around the balloon, zigzagging back and forth over the entire balloon. Leave spaces between the twine so that it will be hollow. Add more twine as needed until the desired tumbleweed effect is achieved. Allow it to dry for at least twenty-four hours before popping the balloon and removing the pieces. You may choose to clip some twine to achieve your final tumbleweed look.

The Roundup

Use the transparency to draw a western skyline on wall 2. Cut several cattle and horses from brown or cream paper and group them to form a herd settling down for the night. Shop different stores to look for different shades of brown paper. A teacher supply store may carry two shades of brown craft paper. Home improvement stores carry brown drop cloth paper for painters. Add green cacti, including those with colorful flowers. Add shades of red, pink, and orange to the blue sky to create a sunset. Add cowboys to the horses and place some among the cattle and near the campfire. In one corner add a chuck wagon. For a 3-D effect, place a campfire on the floor.



The Church

As wild as the West was, the church was an important structure in town. Historically, saloons were among the first buildings erected for the cowboys, but once women settled in the town, the push began for a church and a schoolhouse. Build a large white church complete with a bell on wall 3. Mount the salvation poster (**TRP**) to the door. Add a large tree with a swing, because the church was often used as the schoolhouse. Add a hitching rail or two, some horses, and a couple of wagons nearby. A gentle creek flows by from behind the church, offering several pretty flowers. Add a checkered tablecloth to the wall with some picnic basket items. The picnic area could be on the floor for a 3-D effect.



The Teaching Wall

Décor is generally minimized on this wall (the wall with the writing board) so the children can focus on memory posters, attendance charts, and lesson props. Mount the memory verse and special memory passage posters at children's eye level. On one side, mount the attendance/memory charts (activity paper wrappers) for the children to easily access each week. Mount the *Kids in Missions* map of North America so you will remember to pray for North American Missions.

Additional Pieces

Be creative in transforming your room into a western setting. Blue tin dishes and coffeepots, spare cowboy boots and hats, stick horses, tumbleweeds, wooden signposts, and cacti can be placed about the room for added effect. Search Pinterest (western classroom décor) for ideas on how to use items as well as ropes and neckerchiefs.

Make your own stick horses and hitching posts:

Use pool noodles to create a variety of stick ponies, one for each child. Color does not matter. Cut a 36-inch length of twine. Fold the end of the noodle down (to form the head), wrap the twine (working from the center of the twine) around the folded head/body twice and tie

securely. Tie the dangling ends of the twine to make the reins. Cut two triangle ears from felt and use a low-temp glue gun to secure them in place. Attach a 1" x 10" length of fun fur for the mane. Add large wiggly eyes.

Option: Tie down the noodle end with a shorter length of twine. Cover with a wide piece of western-style ribbon long enough to be the reins. Glue the ribbon in place over the twine, and tie the ends to make the reins one piece.

To create a hitching post to secure the ponies, cut a pool noodle in half and insert PVC pipe into each half. Mount these in buckets filled with rocks. Insert a PVC pipe in a full noodle and use twine to secure it to the tops of the two upright halves.

Bulletin Boards

If at all possible, decorate entire walls for more impact. If you must decorate bulletin boards and not entire walls, any of the above ideas will work. If you have a bulletin board outside your classroom, mount head shots of your students for passersby to see. Add a cowboy hat to each child. With western letter cutouts, label the board, It's Roundup Time for Jesus!

Door Poster

Mount the door poster at children's level to greet them.

Staff

Continue the Wild West fun by having your staff dress up as cowboys and cowgirls. A simple vest, neckerchief, and a cowboy hat will do the trick. Of course, jean skirts/jeans and cowboy boots will enhance the outfit.

Offering

Select a western item such as a child's cowboy boot or hat to serve as your offering container.

Bible Points

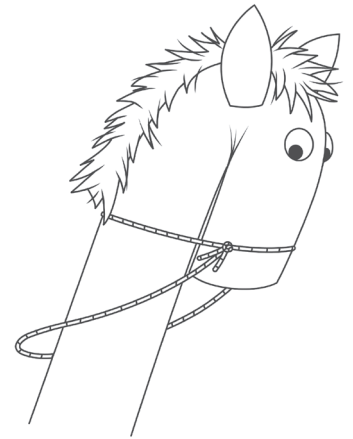
Every week the children learn a short take-home phrase summarizing the lesson objective. Use a western item, such as a lasso or neckerchief, to wave each time the Bible point is said.

Volunteers

Copy the western icons onto the heaviest cardstock your printer allows, one icon per child. Write a child's name on each cut-out icon and place them in a small cowboy hat or a tin coffeepot. Draw from it whenever you need a volunteer to role-play, read a verse, take up the offering, praise sing, and so on. This will ensure every student has opportunity to volunteer and the same students are not always used.

Attendance and Memory Charts

The charts are combined on the activity paper wrapper. **Remove the staple and separate the papers for weekly distribution.** On the first Sunday, give each child a charts page and let him write his name on the line. Each week the child attends, he colors one western item. Each time he practices the memory verse in class, he adds a small jewel or foam stick-on to the appropriate western item. Order enough activity papers for each student to have a set, plus a couple extra sets for class growth.



If you choose to provide cowboy hats or neckerchiefs for the students to wear each week, be sure to label them. At the end of the session, spray each item with a lice spray.

Did you know, after accounting for all maintenance and supply expenses, it costs a church more to make boring gray-scale copies of the activity paper than it does to buy a full-color activity paper? Churches sometimes think they are saving money by buying one activity paper and making copies, but in reality it is costing them more! (Not to mention that copying the activity paper violates copyright laws.) One exception would be to accommodate visitors. Make copies using the master 📄.

Bible Verses

A unit Bible verse is studied for multiple weeks each unit. The multiple-week study will explain the verse as well as encourage memorization. An additional Bible lesson verse that connects to the Bible lesson is mentioned in the story and is included in the activity paper.

The special memory passage is Psalm 23. Mount the poster (TRP) with the unit memory posters on the teaching wall. A small version is on the weekly activity paper. Refer to the SMP Ideas (DR) for ways to teach the passage during class.

Kids in Missions

The focus this quarter is North American Missions. Ideas and information are included on the *KiM* newsletter (TRP). The large map of North America (TRP) shows the area that NAM serves with church planters and development. Consider spending time the first Sunday of the month to pray for the home missionaries and do the suggested activities.

A suggestion is given to adopt a church planter in your district. Check with your pastor and select a family, preferably one with children. Contact the family and ask for specific prayer and physical needs, and bring these to the children. You might want to do a school supply drive to bless the missionary's children for the upcoming school year. Print pictures of the family to distribute so the children will know for whom they are praying.

Music

Worship is an important part of each lesson. Several children's CDs are available at www.pentecostalpublishing.com, including Word Aflame's *Kids in Praise* volumes 1 and 2. Many worship CDs include today's choruses that are popular in church and are usually sung by children. Let students help lead worship time by using inflatable mics and musical instruments.

Teacher Training Helps

Our website offers several teacher training articles as well as other items to enhance your teaching experience: a child information form, childhood characteristics, how to build a tree, and a standard supply list detailing items that should be regularly available.

pentecostalpublishing.com/t-teacherstraining1.aspx

A teacher training article (TRP) is 3-hole punched for placement in your personal or classroom resource notebook.

Facebook



Join us on Facebook and share exciting news, ask questions, offer suggestions, and most important, post those room décor pics! Your pictures inspire others as well as offer options for turning rooms into WOW! rooms. Search for Word Aflame Beginner Curriculum Teachers.

Note: Before posting pictures of children, be sure to get parental permission. The child Model Release form on our teacher training link offers a place for their approval.



Lesson 1

God Saves Lot

Week of June 5, 2016

Welcome to the Word

- Welcome** Attendance charts (AP or 📄), crayons or markers, offering container, Bible Point prop (see page 5), hats or neckerchiefs
- Activity** Several photographs of your family members, paper plates, glue sticks, markers, 1" x 2" blocks of assorted colored paper
- Worship**
- Prayer** Bible Point prop, family paper plates from activity

Open the Word

- Memory Work** Bibles, unit 1 memory poster (TRP), memory charts (AP or 📄), jewel or foam stick-ons ; word cards (TRP): HOLD FAST, PROFESSION, FAITH, WAVERING, FAITHFUL

Reveal the Word

- Bible Lesson** Bible, Cause and Effect story cards (TRP), reusable adhesive

Do the Word

- Life Application** Sketch praying hands on a paper plate. (See page 11.)
Music, Bibles, Bible art: Lot Flees Sodom (TRP)
- Activity Paper** Activity papers, colored pencils
- Kids in Missions** Kids in Missions map (TRP) and newsletter (TRP)

Optional Activities

- Option 1** Cause and Effect story cards from lesson
- Option 2** Construction paper folded in half (one per student), markers, art supplies
- Option 3** SMP poster (TRP), Bibles

Items marked with (TRP) can be found in the teacher's resource packet. Items marked with 📄 are available as a downloadable resource from our website. Please refer to the resource packet instruction sheet.

Unit 1:

God's Friend, Abraham

Unit Bible Verse:

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)" (Hebrews 10:23).

Scripture Text:

Genesis 13:1-12; 18:17-33; 19:1-16

Key Words:

family, faith, prayer

Bible Point:

I can talk to God about my family.

Bible Lesson Verse:

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways" (Psalm 91:11).

Children will:

- Investigate how Abraham's unwavering faith in God affected his life.
- Discuss how Abraham asked God to save Lot, and God did so.

Bible Background

Abram and Lot lived in a patriarchal society. Men held the authority, and the oldest male had the right to make final family decisions. When Abram allowed Lot to choose where he wanted to live, Abram gave up his right as head of the family.

Abram's actions reflected his great faith in God's promises and his deep love for his nephew. Lot was the son of Abram's brother Haran, who died before their own father, Terah. It is easy to imagine that Abram and Lot must have been very close. It was only because of Abram's persistent faith that Lot's life was spared.

Teacher Insight

At first, Lot simply pitched his tent toward Sodom (Genesis 13:12), but eventually he moved into the city. His choice to make Sodom his home must have seemed simple at first. Yet his quick decision had a devastating effect on his entire family.

Just as Lot's choices had an effect on his family, your choices have affected your students. Children notice many things, such as the color of your shoes, your moods, and how you talk about others. Take inventory of your life to make sure you are setting an example that will lead your students closer to Christ.

WELCOME TO THE WORD

Welcome students with a "yee-haw!" and show them the offering container. (Having students deposit their offering upon entering the class will lessen the chance of losing it.) Allow them a few minutes to explore the western roundup décor. If you are using hats or neckerchiefs, distribute them now. As students work on their attendance charts, ask questions.

- What was the first thing you said to your family this morning?
- What did you say to God about your family this morning?

Show your Bible point prop. **I can talk to God about my family. When you see me show (item), say that aloud in your best cowboy voice.**

Activity: Show the photos, identifying the people and their relationships to you. **I talk to God about my family.** Share the ways in which God has answered your prayers. **Just as I pray to God about my family, you can talk to God about your family. I know He hears and answers my prayers because of some of the amazing things that have happened in my family.**

Distribute paper plates and paper squares, and have students write family members they want to pray for on the squares. On the back of their paper plates, they write "I can talk to God about my family." Students glue the squares onto the plate front to take home as a reminder to pray this week.

Welcome supplies:

- Attendance charts
- Crayons
- Offering container
- Bible Point prop
- Hats or neckerchiefs

Consider letting students decorate their hats or neckerchiefs. Be sure each is clearly marked with the child's name.

Activity supplies:

- Photos of your family
- Paper plates
- Glue sticks
- Markers
- 1" x 2" squares of assorted colored paper

Worship

Suggested songs:

- “Angels Watching over Me”
- “If You Can Use Anything Lord, You Can Use Me”
- “My God Is So Big”

Prayer

Instruct students to form a circle. Show the Bible point prop so students say the phrase. As students hold their paper plates, ask them to select one person to pray for today. Begin the prayer by mentioning someone in your family who needs prayer, and then allow the students to take turns doing the same. **We have faith that God can help our families.**

OPEN THE WORD

Memory Work

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;
(for he is faithful that promised;)” (Hebrews 10:23).

Gather at the poster. Help students find the verse in their Bibles before reading it aloud together (or echo style). **There are some new words in this verse, so let’s learn what they mean.**

Review the word cards to explain the words. **This Scripture is saying, “Let us hold tightly the announcement of the hope that we have without going back and forth, because God is loyal and will do what He promised.”**

Use these motions to help teach the verse.

Hold fast	clasp hands
Profession	hands around mouth
Faith	hands over heart
Wavering	face left, then right
Faithful	stand at attention
Promised	point to God, then to self

Let students add a jewel or foam stick-on to their memory charts.

Prayer supplies:

- Bible Point prop
- Family paper plates from activity

Memory Work supplies:

- Bibles
- Unit 1 memory poster
- Memory charts
- Jewel or foam stick-ons
- Word cards: HOLD FAST, PROFESSION, FAITH, WAVERING, FAITHFUL

Teaching Tip

Reusable adhesive is a must-have tool for mounting visuals. Pinch off small portions, secure to the prop, and attach item to the wall. Remove the item, roll off the adhesive, and store it in a sealed container. It can be used over and over again as long as it does not dry out. Name brands include Dap BlueStik, Dap Fun-Tak, Elmer’s Tak ‘N Stik, and Scotch Restickable Strips.