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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM  
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX  
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam  
Sunday School  
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the  
Father, and the Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, one God.  
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to Your Word today.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

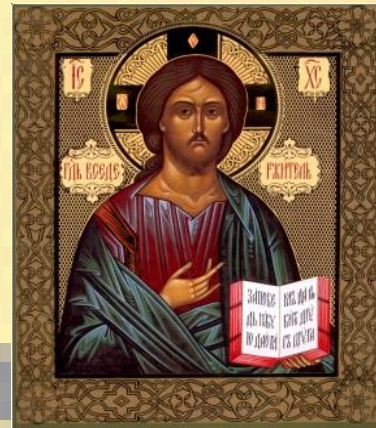
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.





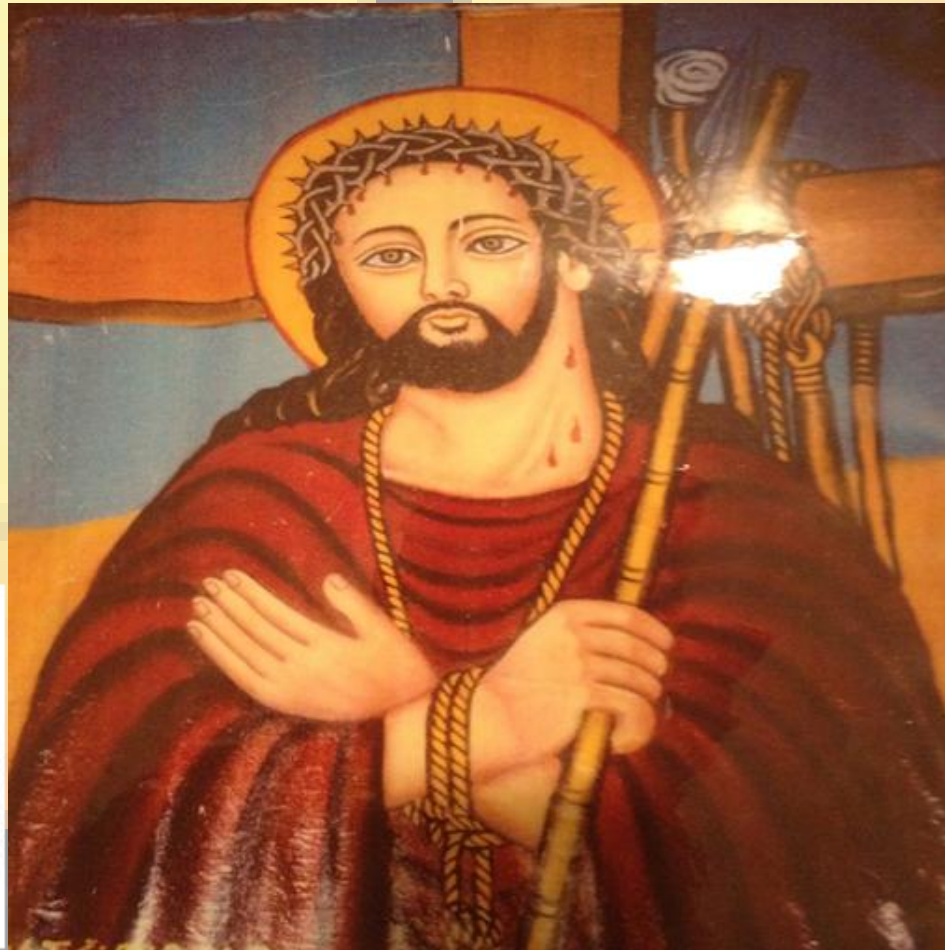
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



**Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times**

**O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



# Review

1. What did the Lord ask Noah to do?
2. What happened when rain fell?
3. For how many days did the rain fall?
4. What kind of bird did Noah send out?
5. What does the dove symbolize?
6. Why did God make the rainbow?
7. The ark is a type of who?
8. The olive branch is a sign of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

# MEMORY VERSE




**Can anyone tell me  
last week's  
memory verse???**



# Recite Last week's memory verse

- “The rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights”.  
(Genesis 7:12)

# Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,  
my  in control,  
my s on God's Word;  
knowing God is my goal.

# God Calls Abraham



February 17, 2013

# Memory Verse

- "For nothing is impossible with God."  
(Luke 1:37)





# Objective

- God's care for us when we go from one place to another.
- God's promises are sure. And nothing is too hard for God.

This lesson is based on the Scripture found in Genesis 12 - 20.



One day, God told Abraham to do an unusual thing. God asked Abraham to leave his family and friends to travel to a new place. The Lord called him and said: “Abraham, leave your country, your relatives and your family and I will send you to a new land”.



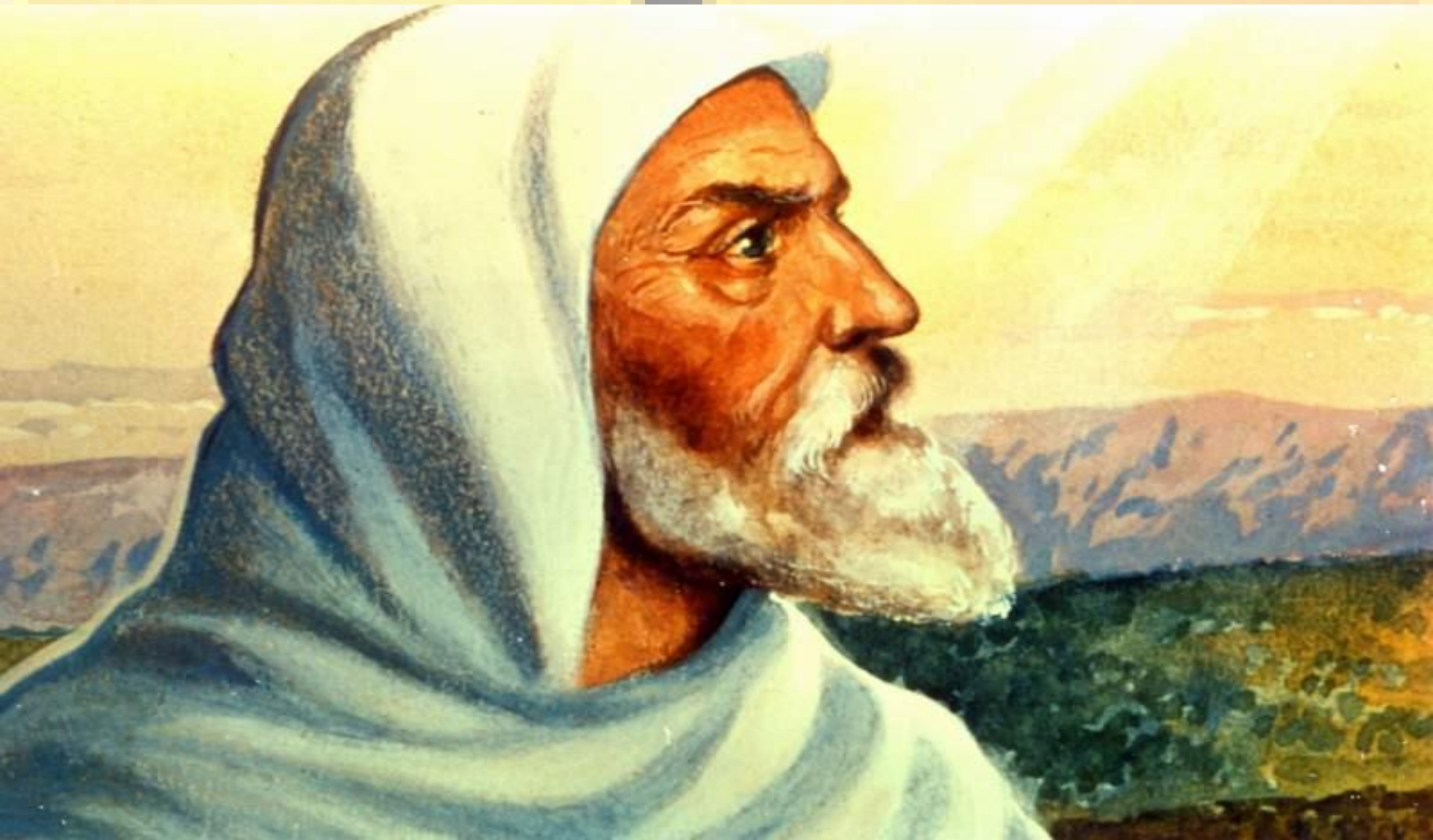


God told Abraham that He would make his people a great nation. God told Abraham that He would bless him and he would have many children. Abraham listened to God and obeyed Him. Abraham was 75 years old when God told him to move. Abraham took his wife, Sarah, his nephew named Lot, and all his possessions and traveled where God led them.





Abraham was not even sure where God was leading him, but he followed and obeyed God. Abraham knew that God would protect them and bless them. He knew that God would keep His promises.



Abraham arrived at the Land of Canaan. The Lord appeared to Abraham and said, “I will give you and your children this land. I am with you”. Abraham was happy because the Lord was with him.





To express his thanks, he built an altar. He gathered big stones, put them in order one upon the other. He prepared a sacrifice and put it on the altar. The natives knew that Abraham worshipped God and did not worship idols.



Now there was a famine in the land, and Abraham went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was bad.





# Map: Haran, Canaan and Egypt



As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarah, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you." So they agreed to lie. We all know that God does not like lying.





When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarah was a very beautiful woman.





And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, she was taken into his palace. He treated Abraham well for her sake, and Abraham acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.





But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abraham's wife Sarah. So Pharaoh called Abraham. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!"





So Abraham went up from Egypt with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. Abraham had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.





Abram worshiped God in Bethel by building an altar. Even today we have a Holy altar at every Ethiopian Orthodox Church. The sacrifice we prepare today is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the form of bread and wine. It is one of the 7 sacraments of our Church called Holy Communion.





Abraham and Lot became very rich. Abraham had lots of gold, silver and cows. Lot his nephew also had lots of cows, sheep and tents. Then the guards of Abraham's cows and the guard of Lot's cows were unable to keep the cows belonging to each of them separated. There was not enough land and room for both of them. So, the guards started to fight.





Abraham was a very good man and a very righteous man. He did not like the fights between the guards. So, he went and talked to his nephew Lot. He told Lot I do not want any more fight between your guards and my guards. So the best thing is to separate the land between you and me. So if you, Lot, choose the land on the left I will go to the land on the right and if you go to the right I will go left.



Lot wanted to get the best for himself, because he was greedy. So, he looked around throughout the land. Then, he chose the greener land with more water, which included Sodom and Gomorrah. So, Abraham stayed in the land of Canaan.





After Lot left, God spoke again to Abraham. “I give all the land of Canaan to you and your children forever.



But Abraham and Sarah did not have any children when God made them the promise. How could God keep His great promise?





God took him outside and showed Abraham the night sky and asked him to count the stars. Of course, there were too many to count. God told Abraham that in the same way he would have more children than all these stars.



Remember, Abraham was over 75 years old and had no children. He had to believe that God had a plan and was able to help them have children even in their old age. Abraham trusted God and believed in Him.





Abraham's tent was near some shady oak trees. It was a hot day. Abraham sat in his tent door. Maybe he hoped to feel a cool breeze from the trees.



Abraham looked up to see three men standing by. He quickly ran to meet them. Abraham bowed in a friendly greeting. Abraham was friendly to his three special guests.





Please do not leave me,” Abraham said. “I will get some water to wash your feet while you rest under the tree. I will bring some food for you to eat.” The men sat under the tree to rest. Abraham hurried to the tent to prepare food. Sarah, Abraham’s wife, made fresh hot bread for the guests.





The three guests are a type of Father, Son and the Holy Spirit also called The Holy Trinity.





Soon Abraham returned to the men with meat, bread, butter and milk. His guests ate the good food. Then they gave Abraham some wonderful news.





“Sarah will have a baby boy”, they said. Sarah heard what they said. She laughed to herself. “I am too old to have a baby,” she thought.





Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.” Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.” But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”





God also told Abraham He would destroy the two wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.





Only Lot and his two daughters made it to safety. Fire and brimstone fell upon the wicked cities. Sadly, Lot's wife disobeyed God's warning and looked back as she ran. She turned into a pillar of salt.



But the three special guests were really messengers from God called angels. They came that day to tell Abraham the good news about his coming baby boy. After this the three men went on their way.





The Lord kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah. They had a child in their old age, just as God had said. How they rejoiced when Isaac was born.





They named him Isaac which means He laughs. God had promised to give Abraham a son. God kept His promise.





# Conclusion

There is a great blessing when we obey God. We receive all God's promises when we obey Him.

When we believe God's promises, we feel happier. We can always depend on His promises. He does what He says He will do.

God keeps His promises even when a situation looks hopeless.

God keeps all His promises in the Bible. We can hear His Word and believe what He tells us in it.

# Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.





# Questions

1. Whom did the Lord call to leave his country?
2. What is the name of the country?
3. What did the inhabitants of the land worship?
4. Who of Abraham's relatives went out with him?
5. What type of table is used to make sacrifices to God? Altar
6. Whom did Abraham see? 3 messengers of God called angles in the form of men.
7. Who does the three guests represent? The Holy Trinity
8. What did he do for them? Served them food and washed their feet.
9. What promise did they tell Abraham? Sarah will have a baby boy.
10. What is the meaning of the name Isaac? It means He laughs

The End

# Next Week

We will learn about  
Isaac.





# JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)



Any question?

Close with prayer.

