

# FOOTPRINTS

## STUDY GUIDE

For Parents & Mentors

### Lesson 8

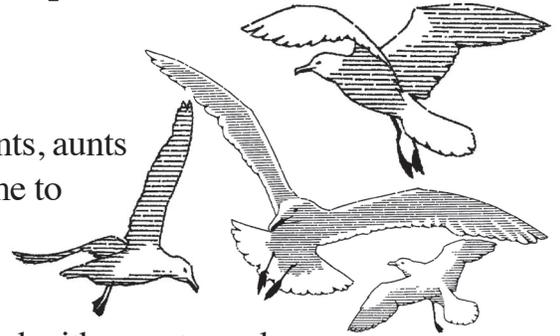
## Lead Your Family in Worship – Abraham

### CONNECT

Christian discipleship doesn't just happen. Parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles, and other mentors must be intentional and take the time to plan what they can do to help their children go deeper with Jesus.

A family of four strolled barefoot down the beach, enjoying the sand beneath their feet. Each one clutched a few slices of bread and with eyes turned upward searched the sky. Suddenly the quiet of sunset exploded with the laughing, screaming cries from a sky full of hungry sea gulls. With great excitement the family members tossed the bread up into the air, and watched amazed at the startling acrobatic stunts the gulls maneuvered in order to connect with a surprise supper. Within seconds hundreds of gulls were following the family down the beach. In whispers of awe, the two children exclaimed, "Daddy! Mommy! They're following us! They must really love us!"

With a little planning this father and mother made a memorable moment for their children. With a little planning parents and mentors today can create memorable moments for their children. At the core of Christian discipleship is an often forgotten blessing – family worship – a strategic way to call the family circle to focus on Jesus and create memorable moments. Let's explore the life of Abraham – a highly cultured businessman with hundreds in his employ – and discover what he did to have a lasting impact on his children.



*Christian discipleship is trusting in Jesus Christ every day while He shapes my life and sends me to disciple another.*

In this lesson I will grow to trust Jesus more as I:

- **Know** the importance of family worship in connecting my child to Jesus.
- **Feel** motivated to make family worship a priority in my home.
- **Respond** by planning and implementing a specific family worship this week.

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## DISCOVER

- 1** Read Genesis 12:8. Identify the first three things that Abraham did when he arrived at Bethel.
- 2** Read Genesis 12:6, 7 and 13:18. a) What did Abraham build each time he moved to a new place?  
b) Why is this significant?
- 3** Read Genesis 12:1-4. To lead your family in worship, you must first worship God alone. How do we know that Abraham had a personal relationship with God?
- 4** Read Genesis 15:1-6. a) What was Abraham comfortable enough to do with God?  
b) What is significant about verse 6?
- 5** Read Genesis 18:22-26. What does this passage tell us about Abraham's relationship with God?
- 6** Read Genesis 22:1, 2, 5-14. a) Which words of Abraham's reveal his complete trust in God?  
b) What impact did Abraham's relationship with God have on his son?
- 7** Read Genesis 26:23-25. How do we know that Abraham spiritually mentored Isaac?

## CHOOSE

Abraham made the worship of God a high priority for his family. His intentional spiritual leadership impacted his son Isaac and his later descendants.

**A** Is worship a high priority in my home?

**B** In what ways would family worship benefit my family?

**C** When is the best time for my family to have worship together?

**D** Which place in my home would lend itself to a worshipful atmosphere?

**E** What does Jesus want me to do about family worship in my home?

## APPLY

There is no one right way to do family worship. The goal is to help your child connect to God in a meaningful way. Here are some helpful worship tips:

1. Make it **simple**. Family worship doesn't need to be complex or complicated.
2. Keep it **short**. Start with 5-15 minutes; the younger the children, the shorter the time.
3. Make it **sweet**. Make sure the worship time is free from discipline or criticism.
4. Keep it **focused**. Identify one main message from the Bible passage for each worship time and keep the focus on Jesus.
5. Keep it **varied**. Don't get "stuck" with one outline plan or only one place. Have variety: a worship that's entirely prayer, a worship that is a craft activity; vary the location -- meet outside or under a blanket-covered table by flashlight.
6. Make it **active**. Involve each member of the family.
7. **Share**. Take time to share your own stories of how God has worked in your life when it relates to the worship theme.

Take a few minutes right now and plan a worship to use this week. Read the parable of the Lost Sheep in Luke 15:1-7 then complete the chart.

What's the main message of this passage?
What activity would help the main point come alive for my child?
What questions would help my child understand this passage?
What practical things can we do to apply this lesson to our daily lives?
Are there songs that we could use?

### Helpful Resources:

[www.adventsource.com](http://www.adventsource.com)  
[www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com)  
[www.childrensministries.gc.adventist.org](http://www.childrensministries.gc.adventist.org)  
[www.sabbathschoolpersonalministries.org](http://www.sabbathschoolpersonalministries.org)  
*Families at Worship* by John & Millie Youngberg  
*Family Worship with Preschoolers* by Judy Dunn  
*The Colors of Grace* by Stuart Tyner  
*10 Ways For All Ages to Worship*  
*100 Quick and Easy Worship Ideas for Kids*  
by Karen Holford

**F** When will I use this worship for my family?

## GRACE POINT

This coming week call your family together for worship and ask God to bless your experience.