

Sharing our Bible Story for Today

This week we have another story from the Book of Genesis, the first book in our Bible library. We have provided a shorter telling of the story. If you want to find the full story in a Bible at home or online, look at Genesis chapters 17 and 18:1-19 and 21:1-7. Last week we remembered that the people saw the rainbow as a sign of God's promises. This week God's promises make people laugh because they are so surprising!

A Mother of Nations – please see the attached story

Copied with permission from The Family Story Bible, Ralph Milton and Wood Lake Books.

Thinking and talking about the Story

Names are important! Has anyone ever called you by the wrong name?
Has anyone ever called you a name you do not like?
What might cause someone to decide to change their name?
If you changed your name, what might be a good new name for you?

An acrostic is a poem or word puzzle that uses each letter of a word to begin a line. Using the first letters of your name, make an acrostic to celebrate who you are or who you want to become!

Putting the Story into Action

1) Being outside is a great way to remember that we are part of God's creation. Check out the new resource "*Take a Sacred Pause*" in our Sunday School at Home resources and enjoy a walk outside together.

Do you know the names of at least 3 trees that you see where you live?
Can you name at least 3 animals? See if you can learn 2 more of each!

2) Do you know someone who is having a birthday soon? Maybe you would like to make a handmade card, using an acrostic based on their name to celebrate who they are! Or send a "just because" card to someone you miss seeing in person!

3) Enjoy this song by one of our United Church musicians, Linnea Good "Ha Ha (In the Beginning Was the Word)" Listen to this song on YouTube – if the link doesn't work, just try searching for the song by the artist and title.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6V_FATsNTO4

Or here is another funny name song you could enjoy: "*John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt*"

4) Do you have a question about the story? Send us an email and we will respond!
We love questions – the harder the better!

Did you have fun telling the story in another way – by acting it out or drawing pictures or some other creative idea? We encourage you to share what you are learning with your church family! We miss being together in person!

Carman United Church and St. Andrew's United Church families - to share your responses to this week's story visit Carman United Church Face Book page or email the church office Karen.mcgill@crossroadsunited.com. Visit www.crossroadsunited.com and see Sunday School At Home to view previous lessons and stuff people are sharing.

Immanuel United Church families –If you are willing to have your art shown before or during worship, please ask your grown-ups to take/help you take a picture of your drawings and send the picture(s) to Ha Na to be shared before or during the service on Sunday.

5) Here is another story about names that you might enjoy:
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge Written by Mem Fox, Illustrated by Julie Vivas

Praying at Home

Chapathi, Chapathi
Puri and rice!
Burrito, taquito
Spaghetti and spice
Dim sum, egg foo yung
Two all beef patties,
Special sauce on a bun.
Hands across the table,
Hands across the sea,
Sharing in the banquet of the earth!
Thanks!

Sunday School at Home Resources for the season of Lent and Easter Sunday (2021) prepared collaboratively by Immanuel United Church in Winnipeg and Crossroads United Pastoral Charge (St. Andrew's United Church in Elm Creek and Carman United Church)