

Abram and Sarai

Scene Summary	1
Scripture	1
Players	2
Special Props	2
Script – Abram and Sarai	3
Supplemental Information	6
Reflection Questions	6
Extra Time	6

Scene Summary

This is the exciting story of Abram and Sarai leaving their homeland and traveling to the land Canaan. The scenes include God blessing Abram...travel to Canaan...the famine in the land...the journey to Egypt...the lie told to Pharaoh...the sickness in the Kings household...Abram and Sarai leave Egypt.

Scripture

(Gen 12 NIV) The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. {2} "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. {3} I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." {4} So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. {5} He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. {6} Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. {7} The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. {8} From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. {9} Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev. {10} Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. {11} As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. {12} When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. {13} Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you." {14} When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. {15} And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. {16} He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants, and camels. {17} But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai. {18} So Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why

didn't you tell me she was your wife? {19} 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!" {20} Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright©1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

Players

- **Narrator** – The play's "catechist" or teacher should be a good reader with a clear voice.
- **God** – Powerful offstage voice.
- **Abram** - The father of many nations.
- **Sarai** - Abram's wife.
- **Pharaoh** - King of Egypt
- **Servants** - Attendants to Pharaoh

Special Props

- A staff for Abram
- A crown, scepter and kingly garments for Pharaoh.
- A bag that contains small plates, glasses and napkins for camping.
- A large chair to be Pharaoh's throne, or place the chair on a small table.
- Normal clothing and headdress from the prop box.

Script – Abram and Sarai

Opening scene: Abram and Sarai walk slowly from stage right to left. Abram is carrying his staff and the bag of camping supplies. As they reach center stage they pause. The narrator steps in from stage right.

Narrator: This is Abram and his wife Sarai. They are traveling.

Sarai: Abram, where are we going?

Abram: Sarai, we are going to Canaan.

Sarai: Why are we going so far away.

Abram: God said to leave our home. He said I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

Narrator: They traveled a great distance and finally came to the land.

Abram: Let's stay here. We can build an altar and worship the Lord God.

Sarai: [begins working to setup a place to camp]

Abram: [kneels down to pray] Thank you God for bringing us to this new land.

God: [offstage voice] To your offspring I will give this land.

Abram: Let's rest this evening. [lays down]

Sarai: [lays down nearby]

Narrator: For many days it did not rain. There was a famine in the land.

Sarai: [getting up and searching through the dishes and belongings, then excitedly waking up Abram] Abram! Abram! We have nothing to eat!

Abram: Have you looked everywhere?

Sarai: This famine has killed all of the crops. There is nothing left to eat. What are we going to do?

Abram: Lets pack up and go down to Egypt. Maybe there is food in that land.

Scene change: Abram and Sarai pack up their belonging and slowly leave the stage. The Pharaoh comes out with his servants on stage left. The king sits on his throne with servants standing around the throne. Abram and Sarai come slowly in from stage right, and then pause.

Narrator: The king of Egypt is called Pharaoh. [pause] Abram and Sarai travel for many days and arrive in the land of Egypt.

Abram: [turns to Sarai and speaks in a whispered but loud voice] 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.

Sarai: [worried] What shall we do?

Abram: Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.

Sarai: [still worried] OK, we are brother and sister.

[They continue walking towards Pharaoh]

Pharaoh: [stands up and in a loud voice] Who are you?

Abram: [bows down low] My name is Abram. This is my sister Sarai.

Sarai: [bows down low]

Pharaoh: [speaking to Sarai] You are very beautiful. Come and stay in my house.

Sarai: [looks worried and walks over to Pharaoh] OK

Pharaoh: [takes her hand and they walk slowly offstage]

Abram: [sits down, stage right]

Narrator: But the LORD made Pharaoh and his household sick because of Abram's wife Sarai.

Pharaoh: [comes back on stage, but bent over and holding his stomach. Sarai is following behind. Loud but coughing voice] Call Abram, quickly.

Abram: [A servant comes over, gets Abram and bring him back to Pharaoh.]

Pharaoh: [mad, and coughing] What have you done to me? Why didn't you tell me she was your wife?

Abram: [bowed low] I was afraid you would kill me.

Pharaoh: God is punishing me! Here, Take her and go! [to his servants] Make sure no one harms Abram or Sarai. [back to Abram] Go and hurry.

Abram: [with Sarai walk away and offstage]

Narrator: They sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

The End

Supplemental Information

These early narratives provide foundations that echo throughout the entire scripture. The blessing of Abram and the promise that "all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you" finds complete fulfillment in the Lord Jesus Christ. "For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs..." (Romans 15:8) Christ is the final "Yes" and through Him we add the "Amen" to the glory of God. (2 Corinthians 1:20) The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. (Galatians 3:16) That Person is Christ. Using the light of the New Testament to shine back on the promises of God in the Old Testament illuminates the prophesy of Christ.

Abraham was looking for a better land. Hebrews 11, the great chapter on the heroes of faith, describes Abraham as a stranger in a foreign country "for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God." (Hebrews 11:10) That heavenly land is the Kingdom of God. In the Lord's Prayer, we pray that Kingdom to come on Earth. The heavenly land is what we call living in the Spirit. It is through faith, to those who are of the faith of Abraham. (Rom 4:13ff) This is what Genesis is all about. Christ is the end of all the promises. All prophecy is fulfilled in Christ.

Reflection Questions

- Who was Abram's wife?
- When they left there home where did they go?
- Why did they go to Egypt?
- What did they call the king of Egypt?
- What did Abram tell Sarai to call him instead of his wife?
- Why was Abram afraid?
- What happened to Pharaoh?
- What did Pharaoh do?

Extra Time

Speak to your students about lying. In this story Abram tells a lie resulting in negative consequences. Discuss with you students the importance of always telling the truth, even when it sometimes hurts. "The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful." (Proverbs 12:24)

Point your students to Christ. Help them memorize "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes on him shall not perish by have eternal life." (John 3:16)