

Abraham Listens to God

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 4**.

Abraham and Sarah had been married a long time, but they had no children. Yet God told Abraham that he would have as many descendants as there were stars in the sky.

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Three visitors, sent from God, came to Abraham and Sarah. They said that in a year Sarah would have a son. Sarah gave birth to Isaac one year later.

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God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. Killing a firstborn child was common practice in this area at the time. Abraham trusted God and obeyed, but a messenger from God appeared and stopped Abraham.

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Abraham and Isaac are listed among the patriarchs, or founders, of the Hebrew people.

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Patriarchs, along with prophets and other Old Testament characters, are honored as saints by the Church.

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Hope is an important Christian characteristic. We hope because we believe that God is committed to us and shows us how to live.

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The three visitors to Abraham and his wife and the messenger that stopped Abraham were angels. Angels are God's messengers. They give people the courage to follow God's instructions.

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Ever since God's covenant with Abraham, Abraham's descendants have been known as God's Chosen People. Jesus is one of Abraham's descendants.

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Catholics have customs that tell the world that we are God's people, such as the Sign of the Cross. When we pray the Sign of the Cross, we pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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