

LESSON 15

A SPECIAL VISIT

Genesis 18: 1-16

One day the Lord appeared to Abraham in the plains of Mamre.

Abraham was sitting in the door of his tent during the heat of the day. As he looked out onto the plain, Abraham saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them standing there, he quickly got up and ran out to greet them.

Abraham bowed to the men as he welcomed them, saying, "My Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, please do not leave. Let me have some water brought to wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. I will get some bread. Rest here, and be comfortable. Then when you are ready, you may leave."

So the three men agreed to stay with Abraham and rest awhile. They said, "Do as you have said."

Abraham hurried into the tent and said to Sarah, "Quickly get ready three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes on the hearth."

Abraham himself ran to the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good. He gave it to his young servant who dressed it and made it ready to eat. Then Abraham took butter, and milk, along with the meat and set it before the three visitors so that they could eat. He stood by them, under the tree, while they shared the meal that he had prepared for them.

The men asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

Abraham answered, "She is in the tent."

The Lord said, "I will certainly return to you this time next year, and your wife Sarah will have a son."

Sarah heard what the man said for she was listening in the tent door behind him.

Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and Sarah well was past the time when she could bare children. So when she heard what the man said, she laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have this pleasure, my husband being old also?"

The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I really bear a child, being as old as I am?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed I will return to you, as I have said, and Sarah shall have a son."

Then Sarah denied that she had laughed, for she was afraid.

But the Lord said to her, "Yes, you did laugh."

After this the three men got up to leave, and Abraham went with them to walk as ways with them on their journey.

It is a good lesson for us all to remember that, as Sarah found out, God knows everything that we say or do. Sarah thought that no one but herself knew that she had laughed at God's promise. She thought it was too difficult for him to do to give her a child at this point in her life. She had given up hope of ever having a baby, despite God's promise to Abraham. She believed that the circumstances of life were more powerful than God. The Lord confronted her lack of belief and rebuked her for it. Sarah learned that day that we can not hide what is in our heart from God, for he knows all. The Lord wants us to realize the same. God knows what is in our heart. He also wants us to know that nothing is too hard for him to accomplish.

PRINCIPLE: We can not hide anything from God.

Nothing is impossible for God.

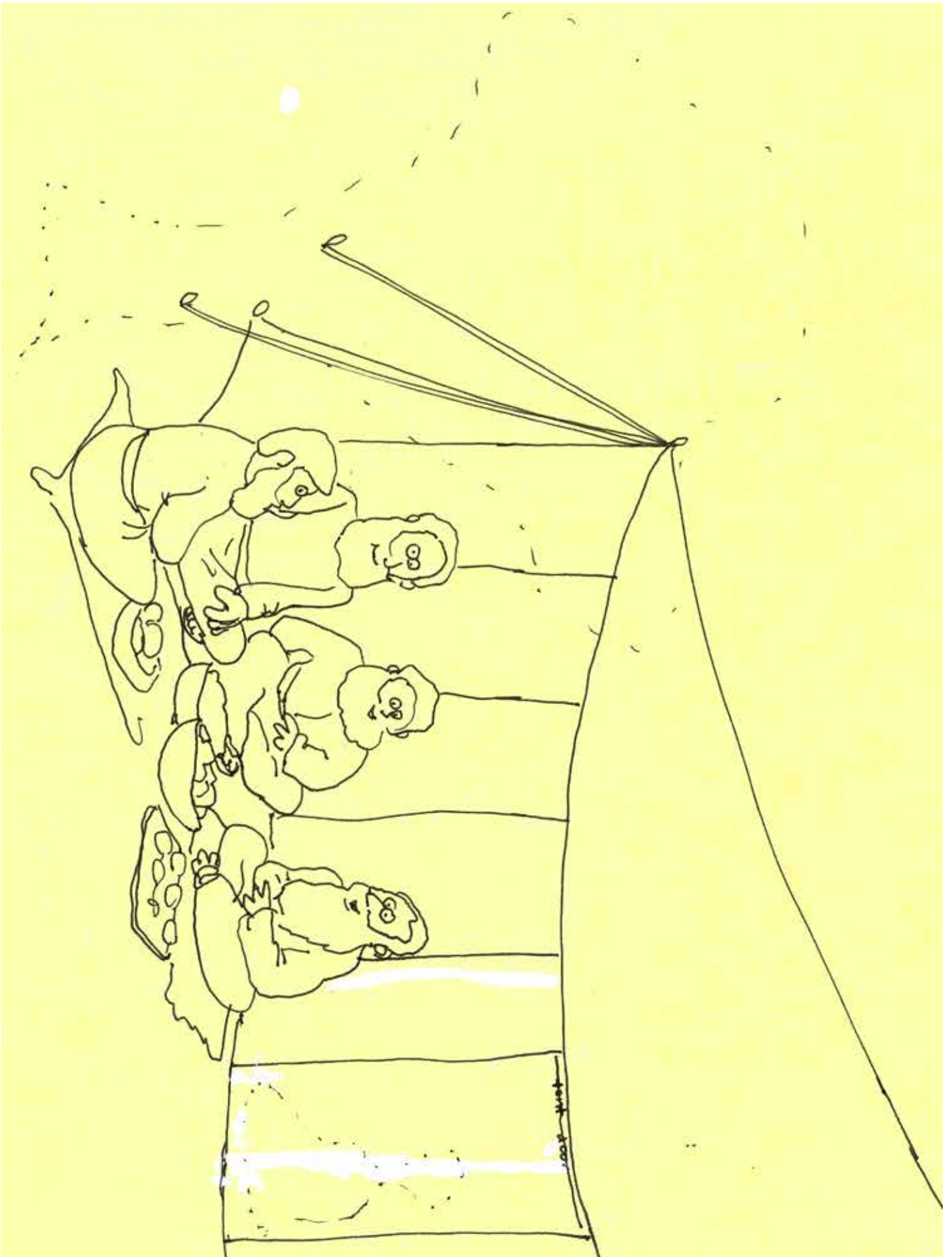
LEARN: For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12







Needed:
small cloth piece to
make tent door to hide
Sarah

1. Color tent scene, tree and Sarah.
2. Cut tree and Sarah out.
3. Paste tree as indicated on scene
and Sarah in tent door.
4. Hot glue top of cloth tent door
to place indicated - covering Sarah.
5. Lift door to show Sarah laughing

