

WEEK 2: God's Promise to Abraham and Sarah

Big Idea: God keeps his promises.

HANGOUT

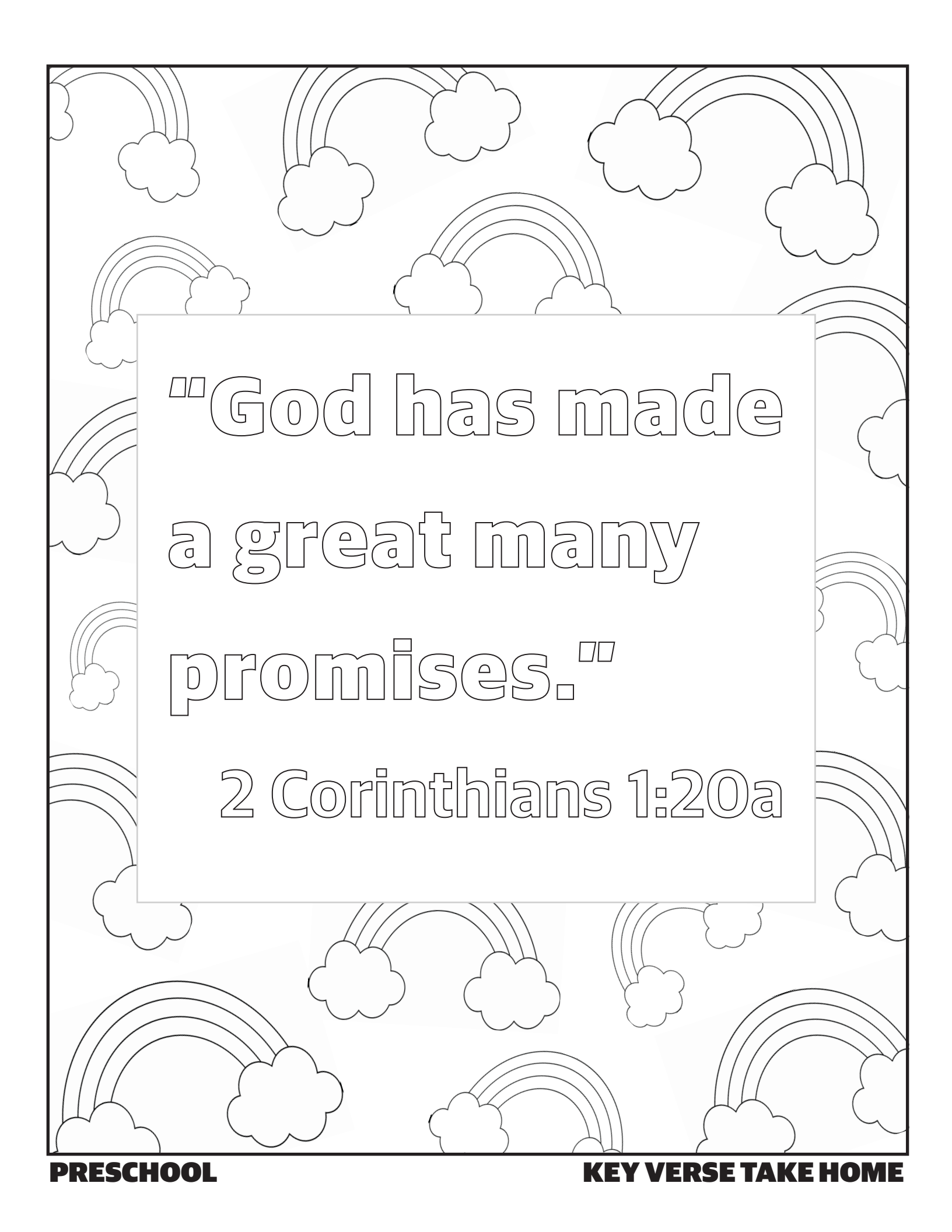
1. In advance, gather plenty of dried beans (or similar items), a piece of heavy paper or cardboard and white glue for each child, and a marker.
2. Ask: How many people are in your family? Can you name everyone? (Challenge older children to name their grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, etc.)
3. Explain that in today's story from the Bible, God makes a promise to a man named Abraham. His family will be so huge that he won't be able to count how many people are in it!
4. Hold up a bean and let the children know that it stands for a member of Abraham's family. Give each child a piece of paper and some glue. Place the beans where everyone can reach them. Direct the children to glue as many beans on their papers as they can! Write the Big Idea (**God keeps his promises**) on their papers, too. Try counting all the glued-on beans together.

HEAR

5. Remind the children that in today's story, God makes an incredible promise to Abraham and his wife, Sarah. Ask everyone to listen carefully to find out what God showed Abraham to let him know just how big his family would be!
6. Read about God's promise to Abraham in a children's Bible (from Genesis 15, 17-18).
7. Discuss:
 - What did God show Abraham to help him understand how many people would be in his family? (stars in the sky)
 - What did God promise Abraham's family would be? (a great nation and a blessing to the whole world)
 - What did God promise Sarah? (she would have a baby)
 - Does God always keep his promises?
 - Have you ever seen the night sky full of stars? Could you count them? Is there anything else you think might be impossible to count?

HUDDLE

8. Review the Key Verse for this series (God has made a great many promises. | 2 Corinthians 1:20a, NIRV). Guide everyone to spread out around your group's space and lie on the floor. Let the children know that when you say the verse, they should stretch out their arms and legs to look like stars. Demonstrate for them as needed. Say the verse and prompt everyone to make star shapes, then relax again. Repeat a few times.
9. Let the group know that it's time to talk to God. Model how to sit in a prayer posture, with closed eyes and folded hands. (It's okay if anyone doesn't want to do this.)
10. Pray, "Dear God, thank you for keeping your promises! Thank you for sending Jesus and for loving [say each child's name] so much. It's fun to learn about you! Amen."



"God has made
a great many
promises."

2 Corinthians 1:20a