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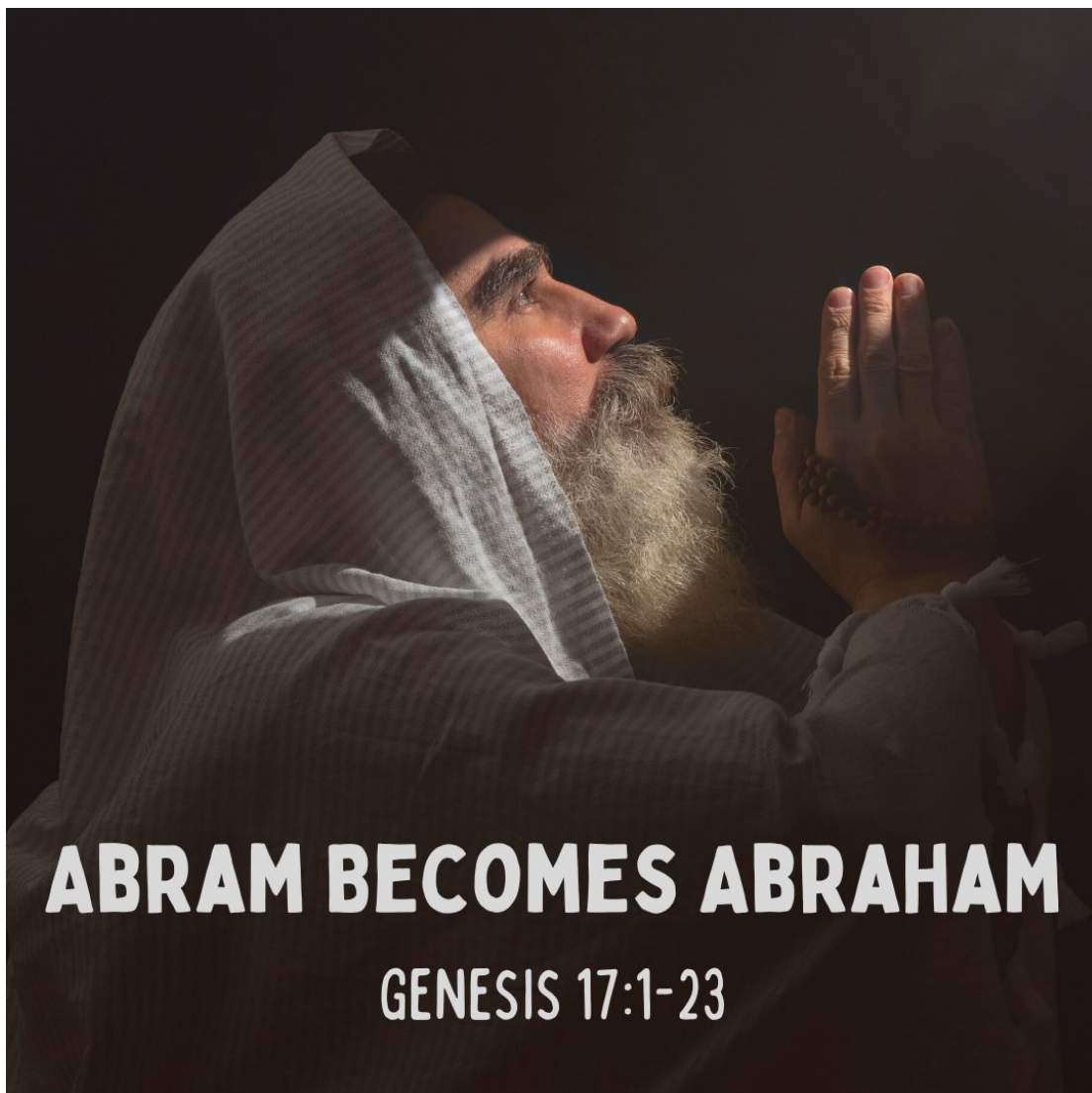
## Lesser Known Bible Stories

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Dear God,

Thank you for stories that help us understand our world  
and your dream for us.

Amen.



This book belongs to

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## ***The Story***

God came to Abram and said, I am God Almighty (El Shaddai); walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.

Abram bowed down before him (fell on his face). And God said, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. And God changed Abram's name ("exalted father") to Abraham ("father of many").

And God asked that each male in Abraham's household mark their skin as a way to show they kept faith with God.

Then God told Abraham that he was going to give his wife a new name, Sarai (variant form of Sarah) to Sarah (princess) and that she would bear a son. (Name change signals her new destiny as the mother of a promised child). But Sarah was 90 years old – far too old to have a baby, so Abraham laughed, so God said he would name the baby Isaac (which means "he laughs"). God said he would establish a covenant with Isaac and "he shall be the father of 12 princes, and I will make him a great nation.

After God left, Abraham made the mark on every male of his household, including Ishmael (who was 13) and slaves, and those who were bought by foreigners, and even Abraham himself and he was 99.

## ***Questions to ask***

Why do you think God choose Abram?

What did Abram do when God chose him. What made him act that way?

What did God tell Abram?

Is that believable?

Have you ever had a time when someone told you something that sounded too good to be true?

What did you do? Did you believe them? Why or why not?

What does your name mean?

## ***Words to Know***

Covenant – a promise

El Shaddai - Almighty God

Abram – exalted father

Sarai – My princess

Abraham – father of many

Sarah - Princess

Righteousness- always making the right choices - in God's eyes – Doing the right thing, the right way, and for the right reasons.

Exalted - very very very important, noble or glorified and given special treatment

## ***Story Map***

Characters:

Settings:

Beginning:

Middle:

End:

What is your favorite part of the story?



## **The Story**

17 When Abram was 99 years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am El Shaddai. Walk with me and be trustworthy. <sup>2</sup> I will make a covenant between us and I will give you many, many descendants.” <sup>3</sup> Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup> “But me, my covenant is with you; you will be the ancestor of many nations. <sup>5</sup> And because I have made you the ancestor of many nations, your name will no longer be Abram but Abraham. <sup>6</sup> I will make you very fertile. I will produce nations from you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup> I will set up my covenant with you and your descendants after you in every generation as an enduring covenant. I will be your God and your descendants’ God after you. <sup>8</sup> I will give you and your descendants the land in which you are immigrants, the whole land of Canaan, as an enduring possession. And I will be their God.”

<sup>9</sup> God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants in every generation. <sup>10</sup> This is my covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Circumcise every male. <sup>11</sup> You must circumcise the flesh of your foreskins, and it will be a symbol of the covenant between us. <sup>12</sup> On the eighth day after birth, every male in every generation must be circumcised, including those who are not your own children: those born in your household and those purchased with silver from foreigners. <sup>13</sup> Be sure you circumcise those born in your household and those purchased with your silver. Your flesh will embody my covenant as an enduring covenant. <sup>14</sup> Any uncircumcised male whose flesh of his foreskin remains uncircumcised will be cut off from his people. He has broken my covenant.”

<sup>15</sup> God said to Abraham, “As for your wife Sarai, you will no longer call her Sarai. Her name will now be Sarah. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and even give you a son from her. I will bless her so that she will become nations, and kings of peoples will come from her.”

<sup>17</sup> Abraham fell on his face and laughed. He said to himself, Can a 100-year-old man become a father, or Sarah, a 90-year-old woman, have a child? <sup>18</sup> To God Abraham said, “If only you would accept Ishmael!”

<sup>19</sup> But God said, “No, your wife Sarah will give birth to a son for you, and you will name him Isaac. I will set up my covenant with him and with his descendants after him as an enduring covenant. <sup>20</sup> As for Ishmael, I’ve heard your request. I will bless him and make him fertile and give him many, many descendants. He will be the ancestor of twelve tribal leaders, and I will make a great nation of him. <sup>21</sup> But I will set up my covenant with Isaac, who will be born to Sarah at this time next year.” <sup>22</sup> When God finished speaking to him, God ascended, leaving Abraham alone.

<sup>23</sup> Abraham took his son Ishmael, all those born in his household, and all those purchased with his silver—that is, every male in Abraham’s household—and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that same day, just as God had told him to do.

