Focus Points

"Focus Points" are short activities that draw students into the lesson. They take only a few minutes to do. Many can be used as quick-start activities to engage the students and focus their attention at the beginning of class. Others may fit well during the lesson to reinforce a point and drive it home. Still others may serve as good wrap-up activities. "Focus Points" come in many forms. Choose and use them as you see fit.

Focus Point - Children of Promise

Genesis 21:12 But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

Give everyone a blank file card. Have your students open their Bibles to Genesis 21:12 and write this verse on their cards. Be sure they understand the context of the verse.

Challenge them to (1) find where the last part of this verse is cited in the New Testament, and (2) find out why it is cited there.

"... through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

Allow four or five minutes for them to answer the question in writing. Then discuss their answers. What offspring has come through Isaac and not through Ishmael? What makes us part of this offspring?

If necessary, remind your students that they need to use cross-references.