

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 – The Birth of Isaac

Genesis 21:1 *The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. ² And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.*

Ask your students where the birth of Isaac is recorded in the Bible. Can they give the book and chapter?

Have everyone open their Bibles to Genesis 21:1-12 and read it together.

Then have your students work in pairs and find as many ways as they can that Isaac foreshadows Christ in this passage. Give them four or five minutes to make a list.

Ask them to tell you what they have found and compile a class list of all the parallels.

Why do they think so many details, pointing forward to Christ, show up in the story of Isaac in Genesis? Do they know what a "type" is? Isaac is one of many Old Testament types of Christ. Details of his later life point forward to Christ as well.