

# LESSON ONE: THE TALE OF TWO BROTHERS

**Bible Story:** Cain and Abel Genesis 4:3-16; Hebrews 11:4

**Bible Point:** Faith makes us want to please God.

**Bible Memory Verse:** Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

Cain and Abel brought their offering to God. However, only Abel's offering pleased God. After Cain was confronted with an unacceptable offering, he became angry instead of having a desire to please God. Of the two men, Able is remembered for a faith that sought to please God.

## LESSON OVERVIEW

### -LIGHTS-

Theme Slide

Name that Movie Treat-

Junior Mints

**The Director-** Stephen

Spielword and Two

Melodramatic Actresses

### -CAMERA-

The Screen Play-

The Tale of Two Brothers

**Walk of Faith-** Abel

**On the Set-**

Storyboard and Script

**Movie Science Laboratory-**

Instaworms

### -ACTION-

Faith in Action

Role Playing

Design Studio

Movie treats

Action Games

Storyboard



# LIGHTS



## THEME SLIDE

(Start powerpoint)



## NAME THAT MOVIE TREAT

Supplies: Box of Junior Mints

And now it is time for “Name That Movie Treat.”

At movie theaters, you will find different kinds of treats to eat as you watch the movie. I am going to show you a puzzle. As each piece is taken away, see if you can guess the movie treat.

(As each piece is revealed, have the kids yell out guesses.)

It is a box of Junior Mints. (Show the box of Junior Mints to the kids.)

How many of you have ever eaten Junior Mints? There are two parts to a Junior Mint. You can see the first part, the chocolate on the outside. However, you cannot see the inside of the Junior Mint. What do you think is inside it? (Allow the kids to answer.) There is a white cream on the inside that tastes minty. How do you know something is inside? You cannot see it.

Faith is like this. It is believing something that we cannot see. We cannot see God but we can still believe that He exists. Even though we cannot see Him, we can still have faith in Him and in His promises. When we have faith, we show with our actions that we believe. One of the ways we show with our actions that we believe in God is that we want to please Him. Today we are going to talk about how our faith makes us want to please God.



## THE DIRECTOR

**Characters:** Director Stephen Speilword, Actress 1,  
Actress 2, Stagehand

**Props:** Clapboard\*, director’s chair, director’s megaphone\*

Everything the actresses do should be melodramatic with huge gestures.

Director is sitting in the director’s chair. Sighs, wipes brow.

Director: **Let’s do this again. And this time please get it right.**

Stagehand: **Take 489**

One actress waltzes in. She is singing off tune.

Actress 1: **Today is the beginning of the rest of my life.  
For my dear friend is coming to visit. And I must see my dear friend.**

Actress 2: (comes in and sees her friend) **Alexis!** (Both actresses squeal with delight and dramatically, in slow motion, run toward the other. They fake kiss each other on the cheeks.)

Director: **CUT! What are you doing?**

Actress 1: **We are acting. What do you think we are doing?**

Director: (Shakes head) **That is not what I told you to do.**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**

Director: **But I am the director.**

Actress 2: **We still think this is best.**

Director: **I told you to come in the door and act NATURALLY. This, this kissy on the cheeks and this leaping in the air and this squealing is NOT how friends naturally say hello.**

Actress 1: **We believe it adds an element to the movie that is missing.**

Director: **And what element is that?**

Actress 1 and Actress 2 together melodramatically: **DRAMA!**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**

Director: **I am the director. I am not pleased with the way you are acting. You have to trust me for what is best. And I am telling you to do it naturally.**

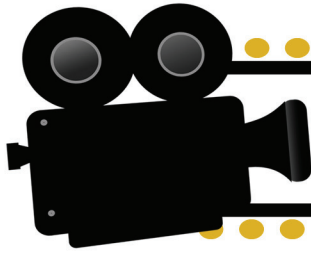
Actress 1: **That is not possible.**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**

Director: (extremely frustrated) **You are going to have to have faith that I know what I'm doing. You are going to have to trust me. You are going to have to do the part the way I've told you to do it.**

Actress 2: **But we think our way is best.**

Director: **Today is a wrap. Everyone go home. I've got a headache.**



# CAMERA



## THE SCREEN PLAY

Genesis 4: 3-16  
Cain and Abel

**Props:** Staff, stuffed sheep, gardening tool, straw hat, basket of fake vegetables or grains, clapboard\*

**Actors:** Cain, Abel, Stagehand

**We are going to learn about two brothers today. One showed his faith by pleasing God. The other one showed his lack of faith by not pleasing God.**

**I will need some help with sound effects during this story. Whenever we talk about sheep, you will need to baa.** (Have kids practice baa.)

**Whenever we talk about anger, you will need to make an angry face and sound.** (Have kids practice being angry.)

### SCENE 1

Stage hand: **Scene 1 Take 1** (shuts the board)

**Abel took care of sheep.** (Crowd baas. Abel walks in with staff and sheep in his arms.)

**Cain worked the ground.** (Cain walks in with a gardening tool and straw hat.)

**After some time, Cain gathered some of the things he had grown.** (Cain pretends to garden.)  
**He brought them as an offering to the Lord.** (Holds out basket with vegetables in it.)

**But Abel brought the fattest parts of some of the lambs from his flock. These were the firstborn males.** (Abel holds out lamb.)

**The Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering.** (Abel smiles.)

**But he wasn't pleased with Cain and his offering. So Cain became very angry.**  
(Crowd makes angry sounds and Cain shows anger on his face.)

**The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why are you looking so sad? Do what is right. Then you will be accepted. If you don't do what is right, sin is waiting at your door to grab you. It longs to have you. But you must rule over it."**

**The Lord was telling Cain that he needed to do what was right. He was giving him a second chance to do the right thing. Would Cain change? Would Cain do what pleased God?**

## SCENE 2

Stage hand: **Scene 2, Take 1**

**Cain went and found his brother.** (Cain crosses room to where Abel is standing.)

**Cain said to his brother, “Let’s go out to the field.” Together they went out to the field.**  
(Have the two leave the room.)



**Then a terrible thing happened. Cain attacked his brother. In fact, he not only attacked him but he killed him.** (Sad music plays)

## SCENE 3

Stage hand: **Scene 3, Take 1**

(Cain comes in with his gardening tool. He looks around nervously.)

**The Lord asked Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?”**

(Cain shrugs his shoulders.) **“I don’t know. Am I supposed to look after my brother?”**

**The Lord knew what Cain had done. He told Cain that for the rest of his life he would be a person that wandered the earth. That he might work the ground but he would not be able to grow crops. He did put a mark on Cain so that no one would hurt him. Then Cain left and went to live in a different place.**

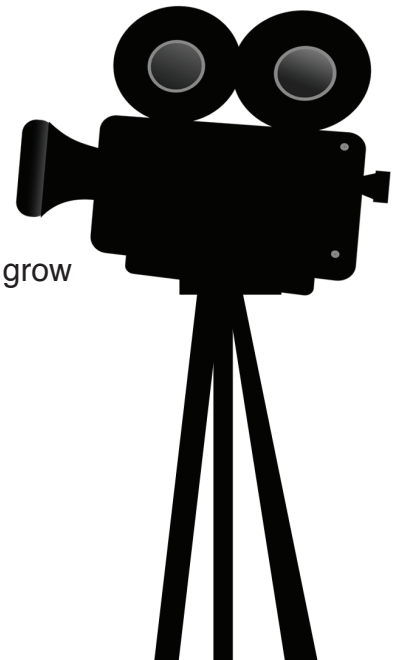
**Both Cain and Abel had a choice. Would they please God with their offerings? Abel made the choice to please God. Cain did not make that choice. Even after God gave Cain another chance, Cain was not willing to do so.**

**Who had faith? Who trusted God to know what was best for him?  
Who trusted God with what he had?**

**What about you? Do you please God? When we have faith in God and trust Him, we want to please Him. We know that He knows what is best for us.**

## PRAYER

Ask Jesus to help the kids want to please Him. Ask Him to help their faith grow so that wanting to please Him will become easier.







## WALK OF FAITH

**Supplies:** Large gold star with “Abel” on it

Each week we are going to add a star to our Walk of Faith. Hebrews 11 gives us a list of people that had faith. We will learn how their faith made a difference in their lives and why it is important to us.

Today we have the name “Abel.”



Hebrews 11:4 says, “Abel had faith. So he offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain did. Because of his faith Abel was praised as a godly man. God said good things about his offerings. Because of his faith Abel still speaks. He speaks even though he is dead.”

Abel’s faith made him want to please God. He gave the sacrifice that God wanted. And because of this, he was considered a godly man. Even today we read about him in the Bible.

What about you? Does your faith make you want to please God? When people see the choices you make, do they know that you are a follower of Jesus? Would people say that you love God?

If not, we can change that. We can make choices to please God. We can ask Him to help us please Him. We can ask Him to grow our faith so that we will want to please Him.

Let’s put this star on our Walk of Faith. When you see Abel’s name on the star, remember that Abel made the choice to please God. And you can make that choice too.



## ON THE SET

### STORYBOARD AND SCRIPT

**Supplies:** Foam board, script of a play

**Preparation:** Draw six boxes on the foam board. Draw pictures in each square to tell a story

If you were an actor in a movie, how would you know what you are supposed to say? How would you know where you are supposed to move on the set?

When making a movie, the directors will start with a script. The script (show an example) tells everything that is supposed to happen. It tells the actors what to say and when to say it. It will let the actors know exactly what they are supposed to do.

Another way that actors and camera people know what to do when making a movie is the storyboard. The story board is made after the final script is made. The story board tells the movie director and the crew what the movie will look like. It helps them to imagine the movie before it is made. It looks a lot like a comic strip (show the storyboard).

People making the movie know what they are supposed to do because of the script and the story board.

How do we know how we are supposed to live our life? Do we have a script that tells us what to say and how to stand? We do not have a script but we do have a guide. The Bible is our guide to help us learn what pleases God. The Bible is God's word. It is the place we go when we want to learn about God. It is the place we go when we want to learn about what He thinks of us. It tells us about the choices He wants us to make.

**Can you name some things that please God?** (Give the children an opportunity to give suggestions. Make sure that it does not turn in to a "do not" session but that they also think of positive things. Read the bible. Share Him with others. Worship Him. Emphasize the children growing their faith by doing things that deepen their relationship with Him.)

**Remember that when we have faith it makes us want to please God. When we spend time in our Bibles, in God's word, it helps us to know how to please God.**



## MOVIE SCIENCE LABORATORY

### INSTAWORMS

**Supplies:** Instaworm Kit\*, water

\*(Note- You can use cooked spaghetti noodles placed in warm water instead of Instaworms.)

Follow the directions in the kit to do the experiment.

**Some movies use ooey, gooey props like these worms. Special effects might use something like this experiment instead of using real worms. This works well if the worms are in a science fiction or fantasy type movie where they might be a different color than real worms.**

(Play with the worms a bit, pulling them out of the solution. Allow the kids to touch them.)

**Today we are learning that faith makes us want to please God. One way to please God is to get rid of stuff in our life that gets in the way of our relationship with Him. We have to pull those things out of our life just like we pulled the worms out of the solution. Whenever we realize that we are doing something that does not please Him, we need to act. We need to quit doing that thing and change. We need to tell Jesus we are sorry and ask Him to help us to not do it anymore.**

**Can you think of some "worms" you have asked Jesus to help you get rid of? Maybe you have some "worms" that you need to get rid of now. Remember that we can make the choice to please God.**





A long time ago there was an athlete named Eric Liddell. He was fast. Very fast. And he loved to run. But he ran for the glory of God. He said, “I believe that God made me for a purpose, but He also made me fast. When I run, I feel His pleasure.”

Eric wanted very much to please God. He loved God and lived a life that would please Him.

Eric was so good at running that he actually made it to the Olympics. They made a movie about him going to the Olympics that is called Chariots of Fire.

When Eric arrived at the Olympics, he found out when the races were scheduled. He found that his best race was on a Sunday. He felt that it would not please God for him to run the race on his Sabbath. So he withdrew from the race even though people were not happy with him and tried to pressure him to change his mind.

One of his teammates, gave him his place in a race on Tuesday of that week. Eric agreed to run for him. It was not a race that he usually did well in but at least he would get to race at the Olympics. As he prepared for the race, a runner from America gave him a note that said, “Those who honor me I will honor” from 1 Samuel 2:30. This runner recognized that Eric had honored God.

Eric ran with all of his might. He ran in a way that honored God. He ran in a way that pleased God. He ran giving the glory to God. And in that race that was not his best kind of race to run, he won. Not only did he win and receive a gold medal, he also broke the world record.

## ROLE PLAYING

**Supplies:** Copy of “Role Playing Cards” - One card for each group

Divide the kids into small groups. Have them either talk about solutions to the scenarios or act out the solutions.

What could each kid do in the following situations that would show a faith that pleases God?

1. Zach’s parents have asked him to clean his room. He goes into his room and gets distracted playing with Legos. When his parents come to check to see if his room is clean, he



considers telling them that he is sick and that is why he hasn't cleaned his room. What should he do?

2. Grayson loves to read. He has a great fort in a tree outside that he will climb up in and spend hours reading. One day as he starts to leave his room with his book, he sees his Bible beside his bed. He hasn't read his Bible in weeks. But this book he is reading is so good and he only has one chapter left. He so wants to find out how the book ends.

3. Zoe's friends are talking about something she wants to hear. But the kid's church teacher is telling a story about Jesus that she wants to hear too. It is so hard to listen to the teacher when the girls are talking at the same time. She can always read the story in her Bible but she can't always hear the secrets the girls are sharing.

## DESIGN STUDIO

### THAUMATROPE

**Supplies:** Two plain index cards, pencil, tape

**A thaumatrope is a simple animation machine that was used in the early days of film making. Half of a picture is on one side of the machine and the other half is on the other side. As the machine is twirled the pictures seem to come together into one.**

On one index card draw part of a picture such as a cage while drawing a bird on the other index card. Make sure the drawings are in the same position on both cards

Tape the cards back to back with room to slide the pencil in at the bottom. Slide the pencil in with the top and bottom poking out of the taped index cards.

Twirl the pencil between fingers making the thaumatrope spin. The two images should become one.

**When our faith grows, we want to please God. Instead of life being a choice between what I want and what He wants, it becomes one want- only what He wants. Our lives should start to look like these pictures. Not two different pictures, but one working together.**

## MOVIE TREATS

### FAITH BOARD

**Supplies:** Graham crackers, graham sticks, string licorice

Make a clapboard out of graham crackers. Place the graham cracker on a plate. Use the graham stick to make the top part of the clapboard. Use the string licorice to write the word "FAITH" on the board.

# ACTION GAMES

## SIMON SAYS?

**Supplies:** None

Play a game of Simon Says. One person stands in front of the other kids. If the person says, "Simon says..." followed by an action such as hopping on a foot, all the kids follow. If the person calls out an action without saying Simon Says, no one should do the action. If anyone does, they sit down. Play continues until everyone is sitting.

**One choice that we have to make is often between pleasing God and pleasing others. Our friends may want us to do something that we know would not be pleasing to God. We need to have faith enough to know that God knows best for us and will give us the strength to not follow along. We need to make sure that when someone says to do something we ask ourselves if it would please God. If not, we need to "sit down."**

# STORYBOARD

## THE TALE OF TWO BROTHERS

**Supplies:** Copies of "Brothers Storyboard" for each child.

**Instructions:** Make up a story about two brothers. One wants to please God. The other one does not. Draw the action in the boxes.

# SUPPLY CHECKLIST: LESSON 1

NAME THAT MOVIE TREAT: ☐ Box of Junior Mints

THE DIRECTOR: ☐ Clapboard\* ☐ Director's chair ☐ Director's megaphone\*

THE SCREEN PLAY: ☐ Staff ☐ Gardening tool ☐ Straw hat ☐ Basket of fake vegetables or grains  
☐ Clapboard\* ☐ Stuffed sheep

WALK OF FAITH: ☐ Large gold star with "Abel" on it

ON THE SET: ☐ Foam board ☐ Script of a play

MOVIE SCIENCE LABORATORY: ☐ Water ☐ Instaworms kit\*

ROLE PLAYING: ☐ Copy of "Role Playing Cards" - One card for each group

DESIGN STUDIO: ☐ Pencil ☐ Tape ☐ Two plain index cards

MOVIE TREATS: ☐ Graham crackers ☐ Graham sticks ☐ String licorice

ACTION GAMES: ☐ None

STORYBOARD: ☐ Copy of "Brothers Storyboard" for each child

FAMILY FAITH STUDIO: ☐ Copy of "Family Faith Studio" for each child to take home

\*Denotes item available in optional kit from RiversEC.



# **ROLE PLAYING CARDS**

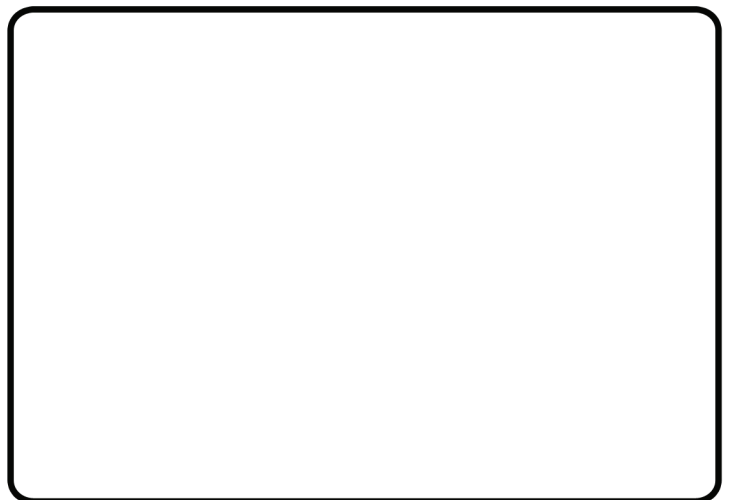
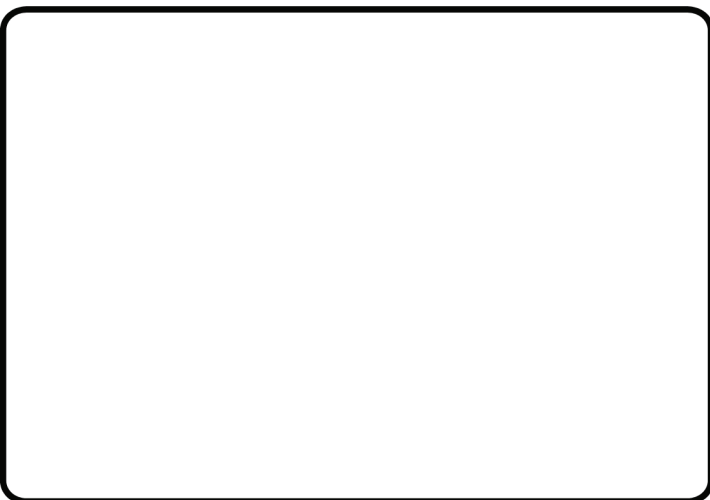
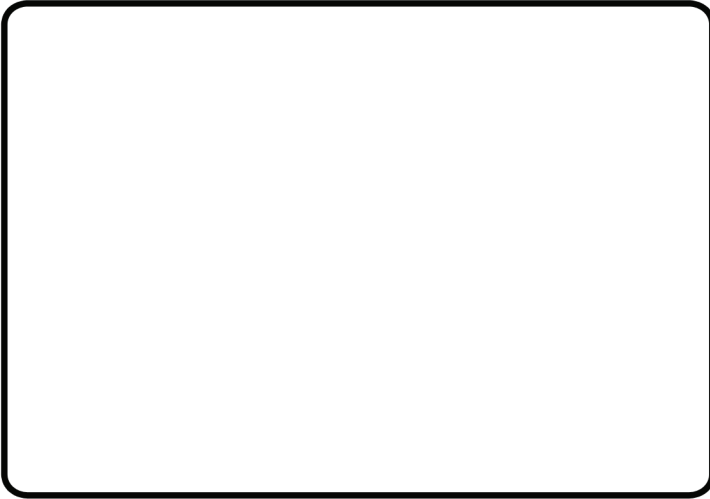
**1. ZACH'S PARENTS HAVE ASKED HIM TO CLEAN HIS ROOM. HE GOES INTO THIS ROOM AND GETS DISTRACTED PLAYING WITH LEGOS. WHEN HIS PARENTS COME TO CHECK TO SEE IF HIS ROOM IS CLEAN, HE CONSIDERS TELLING THEM THAT HE IS SICK AND THAT IS WHY HE HASN'T CLEANED HIS ROOM. WHAT SHOULD HE DO?**

**2. GRAYSON LOVES TO READ. HE HAS A GREAT FORT IN A TREE OUTSIDE THAT HE WILL CLIMB UP IN AND SPEND HOURS READING. ONE DAY AS HE START'S TO LEAVE HIS ROOM WITH HIS BOOK, HE SEES HIS BIBLE BESIDE HIS BED. HE HASN'T READ HIS BIBLE IN WEEKS. BUT THIS BOOK HE IS READING IS SO GOOD AND HE ONLY HAS ONE CHAPTER LEFT. HE SO WANTS TO FIND OUT HOW THE BOOK ENDS.**

**3. ZOE'S FRIENDS ARE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING SHE WANTS TO HEAR. BUT THE KID'S CHURCH TEACHER IS TELLING A STORY ABOUT JESUS THAT SHE WANTS TO HEAR TOO. IT IS SO HARD TO LISTEN TO THE TEACHER WHEN THE GIRLS ARE TALKING AT THE SAME TIME. SHE CAN ALWAYS READ THE STORY IN HER BIBLE BUT SHE CAN'T ALWAYS HEAR THE SECRETS THE GIRLS ARE SHARING.**

# STORYBOARD

INSTRUCTIONS: MAKE UP A STORY ABOUT TWO BROTHERS. ONE WANTS TO PLEASE GOD. THE OTHER ONE DOES NOT. DRAW THE ACTION IN THE BOXES BELOW.



# SCRIPT: THE DIRECTOR

**Characters:** Director Stephen Speilword, Actress 1, Actress 2, Stagehand

Director is sitting in the director's chair. Sighs, wipes brow.

Director: **Let's do this again. And this time please get it right.**

Stagehand: **Take 489**

One actress waltzes in. She is singing off tune.

Actress 1: **Today is the beginning of the rest of my life.**

**For my dear friend is coming to visit. And I must see my dear friend.**

Actress 2: (comes in and sees her friend) **Alexis!** (Both actresses squeal with delight and dramatically, in slow motion, run toward the other. They fake kiss each other on the cheeks.)

Director: **CUT! What are you doing?**

Actress 1: **We are acting. What do you think we are doing?**

Director: (Shakes head) **That is not what I told you to do.**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**

Director: **But I am the director.**

Actress 2: **We still think this is best.**

Director: **I told you to come in the door and act NATURALLY. This, this kissy on the cheeks and this leaping in the air and this squealing is NOT how friends naturally say hello.**

Actress 1: **We believe it adds an element to the movie that is missing.**

Director: **And what element is that?**

Actress 1 and Actress 2 together melodramatically: **DRAMA!**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**



Director: **I am the director. I am not pleased with the way you are acting. You have to trust me for what is best. And I am telling you to do it naturally.**

Actress 1: **That is not possible.**

Actress 2: **We think this is best.**

Director: (extremely frustrated) **You are going to have to have faith that I know what I'm doing. You are going to have to trust me. You are going to have to do the part the way I've told you to do it.**

Actress 2: **But we think our way is best.**

Director: **Today is a wrap. Everyone go home. I've got a headache.**

# FAMILY FAITH STUDIO

COVER STORY: THE TALE OF TWO BROTHERS



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE:

NOW FAITH IS BEING SURE OF  
WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND  
CERTAIN OF WHAT WE DO  
NOT SEE. HEBREWS 11:1



## BIBLE POINT:

FAITH  
MAKES US WANT  
TO PLEASE GOD.

# ABEL

## FAITH WALK

Have a faith walk. Do you have faith that if you are blindfolded your mom or dad will lead you through the house without bumping into anything? Take turns with each person in the family blindfolded. Try doing this with only verbal directions- no leading the person. Was it hard to have faith?

## OVERVIEW

Cain and Abel brought their offering to God. However, only Abel's offering pleased God. After Cain was confronted with an unacceptable offering, he became angry instead of having a desire to please God. Of the two men, Abel is remembered for a faith that sought to please God.



## THE SCREEN PLAY



Read the Bible story together with your family. (Cain and Abel: Genesis 4:3-16; Hebrews 11:4)

Discuss with your family:

- Who wanted to please God?
- Why was his faith different than his brother's faith?
- Did his brother have an opportunity to change his behavior? Why do you think he didn't?
- Why is Abel remembered today?



## MOVIE TREAT TRIVIA

JUNIOR MINTS WERE NAMED AFTER A BROADWAY SHOW CALLED JUNIOR MISS. THEY WERE CREATED IN 1949.

REMEMBER- JUNIOR MINTS REMINDS US OF FAITH BECAUSE WE CANNOT SEE THE MIDDLE OF A JUNIOR MINT JUST LIKE WITH FAITH WE HAVE TO BELIEVE WITHOUT SEEING.