



WEEK 1: Genesis 1-3 (Sept 6th - 11th)

SUMMARY

The Hebrew word we translate as “Genesis” literally means “Beginning.” The book of Genesis tells the story of how human history began (Gen 1-11) and then focuses in on one specific family line (Gen 12-50) in order to tell of God’s ultimate plan. The author of the book of Genesis is often viewed as Moses, writing sometime after the Exodus (which took place in either 1440 BC or 1260 BC), though there is some debate about this authorship. Genesis 1-3 specifically gives us the initial story of creation, how mankind first disobeyed God, and the results of that initial disobedience. The book of Genesis is written in the genre of narrative. The first two chapters of Genesis could even be characterized as narrative poetry.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on “Genesis.” As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Sept 6th

Text: There is no text to read for today. Instead, take some time and watch the first video on the book of Genesis (“Genesis 1-11”) listed in the above “Additional Resources.”

1. What did you think about the first video on the book of Genesis?
2. According to the video, what are some of the dominant themes that you noticed in chapters 1-11 of Genesis?
3. What are some things you are hoping to get out of this study in the book of Genesis this semester?

DAY 2: Sept 7th

Text: There is no text to read for today. Instead, take some time and watch the second video on the book of Genesis (“Genesis 12-50”) listed in the above “Additional Resources.”

1. What did you think about the second video on the book of Genesis?
2. According to the video, what are some of the dominant themes that you noticed in chapters 12-50 of Genesis?

DAY 3: Sept 8th

Text: Read Genesis 1

1. According to Gen 1:2, how is the earth described at the start of Creation?
2. Think about the words “formless, darkness, empty, void.” In your opinion, what sort of feelings do these words bring up?
3. According to Gen 1:27, how did God create human beings? According to Gen 1:28, what did God command these human beings to do?
4. *Application.* In your opinion, does God still call us to care for and rule over all creation? What might this look like in your own life?

DAY 4: Sept 9th

Text: Read Genesis 2

1. According to Gen 2:17, what did God say would happen if the man ate fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
2. According to Gen 2:25, how does the author describe the man and the woman?
3. In your opinion, why do you think the author emphasizes this idea of 'not feeling any shame?'

DAY 5: Sept 10th

Text: Read Genesis 3

1. According to Gen 3:5, what does the serpent tell the woman will happen if she eats the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
2. According to Gen 3:7, how did the man and the woman feel as soon as they ate the fruit?
3. According to Gen 3:15, what does God tell the serpent will happen in the future?

*If you're interested, take some extra time and look into the significance of this verse (Gen 3:15) using some of the resources listed above.

4. Imagine that you were reading Genesis 3 without knowing anything that came after it (i.e. The rest of the book of Genesis, or the remainder of the Old Testament, or even the New Testament). What would you be thinking right now? What thoughts or questions might be coming to your mind?

DAY 6: Sept 11th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 2: Sept 13th - 18th

SUMMARY

Genesis 4-7 begin the depiction of the downward spiral humanity takes following their decision to turn away from God's plan for them. This begins with bloodshed between two brothers, but ultimately leads to human kingdoms being established on principles in exact opposition to God's desire for humanity. As a result, ch 7 concludes with the almost absolutely destruction of all that God created.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Sept 13th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 1-3?

DAY 2: Sept 14th

Text: Read Genesis 4

1. According to Gen 4:3-5, how was Cain's gift to the LORD different than Abel's gift to the LORD? How did God respond to both of their gifts? How did Cain respond to God?
2. According to Gen 4:7, why did God reject Cain's gift?
3. According to Gen 4:15, how did God respond to Cain's fear that he would be killed?
4. In your opinion, what kind of man does Lamech (in Gen 4:23-24) seem to be (support your opinions with Scripture verses)? What does this seem to say about mankind in general at this time in history?

DAY 3: Sept 15th

Text: Read Genesis 5

*Anytime you come across a genealogy in the Bible, one thing to look out for is anything that seems to stick out as unique or different from the standard pattern of recorded names.

1. As you read through the genealogy that's recorded in Gen 5:3-32, what sticks out to you as unique? Why?

*If you have some time, take a look at pp. 80-84 in the PDF commentary (located in the above resources) and read what it says about genealogies in the Bible.

2. According to Gen 5:29, what did Lamech hope Noah would bring?

DAY 4: Sept 16th

Text: Read Genesis 6

*The identity of the "sons of man" is something that no one truly knows for certain. Look at pp. 84-86 in the Genesis PDF Commentary (listed in the above resources) for some popular views on who these individuals may have been.

1. According to Gen 6:5, what does God say about humanity on the earth?
2. According to Gen 6:8-9, what do we know about Noah?

DAY 5: Sept 17th

Text: Read Genesis 7

1. What do you think about God wiping out all of creation (except for those in the Ark)?
2. What does this tell us about the seriousness of sin and how God handles it?
3. Do you think the story of the Flood looks similar to the Gospel in any way? How might it be similar? How might it be different?

DAY 6: Sept 18th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 3: Sept 20th - 25th

SUMMARY

Genesis 8-11 continues the depiction of the downward spiral humanity takes following their decision to turn away from God's plan for them. Ch. 8 picks up the story with the aftermath of the Flood and a glimmer of hope for humanity. However, the downward spiral soon continues as Noah finds himself drunk and embarrassed. The downward spiral finally concludes with the construction of Babel and God's decision to scatter the people.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Sept 20th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 4-7?

DAY 2: Sept 21st

Text: Read Genesis 8

1. Read Gen 8:15-17. Do these words from God sound familiar at all? Where have you heard it before? (Hint: Go back and read Genesis 1)
2. Why do you think God repeats the exact same command to Noah that He gave to Adam and Eve in Gen 1:28?

*Many different cultures/religions throughout history have also held to their own version of a 'Great Flood' story that contain clear similarities to the story in Genesis 7-8. This has lead many people to believe that Israel merely copied their story from the stories of other religions. However, one major problem with this belief is that all of those other religions believed in multiple gods. The story of Noah is the only one centered on a single all-powerful and loving God.

3. (OPTIONAL) If you would like, take some time to research the Sumerian account of Atrahasis and/or the Babylonian epic of Gilgamesh. What similarities do you find with the Genesis 7-8? What differences do you find?

DAY 3: Sept 22nd

Text: Read Genesis 9

1. Read Gen 9:1-17. Bible scholars refer to this as the Noahic Covenant. What does God promise in His covenant with Noah?

* All throughout Scripture we see God making "covenants" (or "promises") with His people (i.e. The Adamic Covenant (Gen 1:28), The Noahic Covenant, The Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 12:1-3), The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19-24), The Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:5-16), and The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34))

2. Read Gen 9:20-21. What do we see Noah doing here? How does this compare with Lamech's hopes for Noah (see Gen 5:29)?
3. Read Gen 9:22-27. Do you see any similarities between Noah here and Adam and Eve in Gen 3:7? What similarities do you see?

*This situation with Ham and Noah may seem odd to us, but in that patriarchal society, to see another person's nakedness like this was a major offense. Then, instead of immediately

covering Noah up, Ham goes and tells his brothers. The point here is that Noah found himself in a place of extreme embarrassment and shame because of Ham's actions.

DAY 4: Sept 23rd

Text: Read Genesis 10

*As we stated earlier, anytime you come across a genealogy in the Bible, one thing to look out for is anything that seems to stick out as unique or different from the standard pattern of recorded names.

1. As you read through the genealogy that's recorded in Gen 10:2-30, what sticks out to you as unique? Why?
2. Why do you think the author chose to highlight those specific people (the ones you mentioned in Question #1) in the genealogy?

DAY 5: Sept 24th

Text: Read Genesis 11

1. Read Gen 11:4. What was everyone's goal in building this tower?
2. In your opinion, why do you think God decided to confuse everyone's language and scatter the people? Support your opinion with specific verses.
3. What similarities do you see between humanity before the Flood and humanity after the Flood? What differences do you see?
4. Read Gen 11:10-32. What stands out in this genealogy?

DAY 6: Sept 25th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 4: Sept 27th -Oct 2nd

SUMMARY

Genesis 12-15 is the launching point for a radical shift in focus. Where Gen 1-11 focused on all of humanity, the remainder of the book of Genesis shifts the reader's focus to one specific family: The family of Abraham. In Gen 12, God speaks to a man named Abram and calls him to leave his family and move to a land God will give him, where He will bless Abram and make his name great. Abram obeys God and leaves for the land of Canaan. Abram and his nephew end up needing to separate, though are reunited following a war near where Lot had moved to. After this, God visits Abram again and reaffirms His covenant promise with him.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Sept 27th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 8-11?

DAY 2: Sept 28th

Text: Read Genesis 12

1. Read Gen 12:1-3. This is what's known as the "Abrahamic Covenant" (or 'The promise to Abraham'). What does God promise Abraham in these verses?
2. Read Gen 12:2. Look at what God promises to do for Abram just in this verse. Read Gen 11:4. What similarities or differences do you see between what God was promising for Abram and what the men of Babylon were trying to achieve?
3. Read 12:3. Why does God say that He will bless Abram? What is the ultimate outcome of God blessing Abram?
4. Read Gen 12:10-20. Do you think Abram did the right thing to tell his wife to say she was his sister? Why? (Support your answer with Scripture verses)

DAY 3: Sept 29th

Text: Read Genesis 13

1. Read Gen 13:6-7. What does this text say occurred between Abram and Lot? Why did this occur?
2. Read Gen 13:8-9. How does Abram settle the dispute between him and Lot?
3. In settling the dispute with Lot, Abram chose to place Lot's preferences before his own. When was a time in which you had the opportunity to put someone else's desires before your own?
4. Read Gen 13:14-18. How does God respond to Abram here?

DAY 4: Sept 30th

Text: Read Genesis 14

1. Read Gen 13:12-13 again. What do these verses say about where Lot decided to live?
2. What does Gen 14:12 say happened to Lot?

3. Have you ever been in a situation where you suffered in some way because you were in the wrong place at the wrong time? You may have done nothing wrong, but because of the people you surrounded yourself with, you ended up in trouble.
4. Read Gen 14:18-20. In these verses, we have this random character named Melchizedek all of sudden show up. Who does the text say Melchizedek is?

*Melchizedek's identity is ultimately unknown to us. His appearance in Scripture only occurs a few times (Gen 14:18-20, Psalm 110:4, Hebrews 5:6-7; 6:20; and Hebrews 7). For some more reading on Melchizedek, look at what the net.bible.org commentary (listed above) says over Gen 14:18-20.

DAY 5: Oct 1st

Text: Read Genesis 15

1. Read Gen 15:1-3. What does God say to Abram here? How does Abram respond to God?
2. In our relationship with Jesus, honesty with Him is what He wants. In Gen 15:1-3, Abram was honest with God about where his heart was at. Abram didn't care about all of the blessings that God said He would give him. Abram wanted a son. In the same way, God doesn't get upset with us when we speak honestly with Him. God wants a relationship with us, and for any relationship to work, there must be honesty. How does the thought of being honest with God make you feel (especially when you're upset at Him or confused about your life)? Do you ever feel as though you have to "put on a face" for God and pretend like everything is ok and you're happy with the way He is running your life and the world? Why or why not?
3. Read Gen 15:6. Why does it say that God considered Abram to be "right" in His eyes?

*Being "righteous" or "right in God's eyes" has never been about our actions. It has always (even back in Old Testament times) been about trusting God to be who He says He'll be and do what He says He'll do, regardless of how our life is going. This does not mean that we have to always be happy about how our life is going, but it does mean that we try to trust what God has said to us.

4. Read Gen 15:9-21. First off, this sounds really weird, but understanding the history of it can help. In today's culture, whenever we make professional promises with people, we sign contracts. These contracts describe what each person is responsible in doing, and what will happen if either person does not fulfill their end of the contract. In Abram's day, individuals would cut an animal in half, declare to each other what they promised to do

(whatever it might be), and then each person would walk in between the halves. By walking in between the halves, each person was saying, "If I don't complete my end of the bargain, may what happened to this animal happen to me." Here in Gen 15:9-21, God tells Abraham that they are going to make a "contract," but when the time comes for them to walk in between the halves, God is the only One who does. By doing this, God was saying to Abram, "If I don't fulfill my promise to you, may what happened to this animal happen to Me...and if you don't fulfill your promise, may what happened to this animal happen to Me." God was taking all of the risk. Jump ahead and read Isaiah 53:5.

DAY 6: Oct 2nd

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 5: Oct 4th - 9th

SUMMARY

Genesis 16-19 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. However, even though this was God's plan, Abram and his family were far from perfect. Despite Abram's failures though, God remains faithful, reaffirms His covenant with Abram, and changes his name to Abraham, as a reminder of God's promise to him. This section ends with the rescue of Lot and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
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DAY 1: Oct 4th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 12-15?

DAY 2: Oct 5th

Text: Read Genesis 16

1. Read Gen 16:1-3. Of course this is not what God wanted Abram to do, but in your opinion, why do you think Abram agreed to sleep with Hagar? For some help, look at pg. 165 in the PDF commentary listed above.
2. Read Gen 16:7-10. If you were Hagar, how would you feel about what the Angel of the Lord told you to do? Why would you feel that way?
3. Read Gen 16:13. Looking at the name that Hagar gives to God here, how do you think she was feeling in that moment? What does this say about the character of our God?

DAY 3: Oct 6th

Text: Read Genesis 17

1. Read Gen 17:5. What does God change Abram's name to? What does the name "Abram" mean? What does the name "Abraham" mean? Look at the net.bible.org commentary under Gen 17:5 note #14 for some help.
2. Read Gen 17:15-16. What does God change Sarai's name to? What does God say He will do?

*When God names people, notice that it is always a name that describes what *will* be true of them, not necessarily what is true of them in that moment. Likewise, we don't always feel like "children of God," especially when we fall short or make mistakes. Yet God still calls us His children because in His eyes we are...regardless of whether or not we feel like we are in the moment.

3. Read Gen 17:23. When does it say that Abraham circumcised himself and his household?
4. Abraham's obedience to God was immediate. Sometimes this can be hard to do though. Think about a time when you struggled to obey God immediately. Has there ever been a time when you *did* obey God immediately in something? What was the difference between those two situations?

DAY 4: Oct 7th

Text: Read Genesis 18

1. Read Gen 18:9-12. How does Sarah respond to what the LORD said?
2. Read Gen 18:16-19. Why does God say that He will reveal his plan to Abraham? What is God calling Abraham to do? (specifically look at v. 19)
3. Looking over the conversation that Abraham has with God about Sodom, how might it relate to Gen 18:16-19? Read Gen 18:23. What is Abraham wanting God to do?

*The conversation between God and Abraham about Sodom almost seems to act as a test that God is giving Abraham. In Gen 18:16-19, God reveals that Abraham must be a man who pursues justice and righteousness (it's for this reason that God tells Abraham about His plans for Sodom). Abraham's responses to God prove that he is a man in pursuit of justice and righteousness.

DAY 5: Oct 8th

Text: Read Genesis 19

1. Read Gen 19:6-8. How bad of a situation do you think it must have been for Lot to consider giving up his daughters to strangers? If you're interested, you can look at pg. 178 in the PDF commentary listed above for more information on hospitality in Lot's time period.
2. Read Gen 19:26. What does the text say Lot's wife did? What happened to her?
3. In your opinion, why do you think Lot's wife looked back at Sodom?

DAY 6: Oct 9th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 6: Oct 11th - 16th

SUMMARY

Genesis 20-23 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 20 takes us back to Abraham and his travels, where we see that Abraham's trust in God was not perfect. Gen 22 captures probably the greatest display of trust in God that Abraham ever gave: The intended sacrifice of his son Isaac. As a result of this though, God promises to bless Abraham immensely because Abraham treasured God above anything else in this world, even his only son. This section concludes with the death of Abraham's wife, Sarah.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
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DAY 1: Oct 11th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 16-19?

DAY 2: Oct 12th

Text: Read Genesis 20

1. Read Gen 20:1-2. What did Abraham do here? How does this show a lack of trust in God?
2. Why does the text say Abraham did what he did in this chapter? (see Gen 20:11)
3. Have you ever had a situation where, because you were afraid of something happening to you, you did not do things the way God would want you to? If so, what was the situation like?

DAY 3: Oct 13th

Text: Read Genesis 21

1. Read Gen 21:1. What does this verse say about God keeping His promises to us even when we don't do things perfectly (i.e. Sarah telling Abraham to sleep with Hagar)?
2. Read Gen 21:8-13. Abraham and Sarah's sin of having Abraham sleep with Hagar had painful effects on Hagar and Ishmael. What does this tell us about the consequences of our sin on the lives of others? What do these verses also tell us about God's character and care for others who suffer because of our sin?

DAY 4: Oct 14th

Text: Read Genesis 22

1. What are some initial thoughts or questions you have about this chapter?
2. Do you think that Abraham knew that Isaac was ultimately going to survive? Why? Please give Scripture verses in support of your opinion.
3. Read Gen 22:12. What is it that God wanted Abraham to prove by agreeing to sacrifice Isaac?
4. Think about your own life. Is there anything that you have in your life, that would be difficult to give up if God told you to?

DAY 5: Oct 15th

Text: Read Genesis 23

1. Read Gen 23:5. What was Abraham's reputation among people who did not follow Abraham's God?
2. What are some things you can do in order to have a good reputation around friends or adults at school you know who are not Christians?
3. In your opinion, why do you think Abraham insisted on buying the land from Ephron instead of accepting it free of charge? Are there any Scripture verses to support your opinion?

DAY 6: Oct 16th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 7: Oct 18th - 23rd

SUMMARY

Genesis 24-27 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 24 picks up with the search for Isaac's wife, following the death of Sarah. Isaac's wife gives birth to two sons: Jacob and Esau, who end up living in hostility with one another, as God said. As we continue to read about the life of Isaac, we see that he is not more perfect than Abraham was, and in fact makes some of the same mistakes that his father did. This section concludes with Jacob receiving his father's blessing via trickery and deceit, and then fleeing for his life from his brother Esau.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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DAY 1: Oct 18th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 20-23?

DAY 2: Oct 19th

Text: Read Genesis 24

1. Read Gen 24:3. What was it that Abraham made his servant swear to do? In your opinion, why do you think this was so important to Abraham? Are there Scripture verses to support your opinion?
2. Read Gen 24:8. What does this verse tell you about Abraham's willingness to compromise on the type of woman Isaac would marry? What does it tell you about Abraham's trust in God to provide a wife for Isaac?
3. When you think about dating, what are some fears that come to our minds that can tend to cause us to compromise on the type of guy/girl that we want to be in a relationship with?

DAY 3: Oct 20th

Text: Read Genesis 25

1. Read Gen 25:23. What does God tell Rebekah about her sons?
2. Read Gen 25:27-34. How does Jacob respond to Esau's need? What do you think about this? Was Jacob wrong, or Esau...or both? Are there any Scripture verses to support your opinion?
3. What significance does the "birthright" have? For some help here, look at pgs 212-213 in the PDF Commentary on Genesis listed in the above resources.

DAY 4: Oct 21st

Text: Read Genesis 26

1. Read Gen 26:7. Does this sound familiar at all? Where do you think Isaac learned it?
2. Read Gen 26:9. Why did Isaac lie about his wife? When was a time in your life when fear made it difficult to trust God?
3. Read Gen 26:24. What's the first thing that God tells Isaac not to do. What's the reason God gives for telling Isaac not to be afraid?

DAY 5: Oct 22nd

Text: Read Genesis 27

1. What is your opinion on what Jacob did in order to get the blessing from Isaac?
2. Read Gen 27:5-13. Rebekah's actions here are certainly not to be seen as positive. Why do you think she did what she did though? Use Scripture verses to support your answer (you may need to look back a couple of chapters).
3. In your opinion, on a scale of 1-10, how dysfunctional is this family (that God has chosen to bless the entire world through)? What does this say about who God can, and often does, use for His purposes? How does this make you feel?

DAY 6: Oct 23rd

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 8: Oct 25th - 30th

SUMMARY

Genesis 28-31 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 28 picks up the story with Jacob fleeing for his life from Esau. He travels to Paddan-aram in search for a wife from his family line, where on the way, God confirms to Jacob His promise to Abraham's family. Jacob arrives in Paddan-aram to find a wife, but is deceived by his uncle Laban into giving him 14 years of his life in service. However, while with Laban, God blesses Jacob immensely, despite his own dysfunction. This section concludes with Jacob's safe departure from Laban's household.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
- Another free commentary you can check out (for any book of the Bible) is located at <https://net.bible.org/#!/bible/Genesis+1>
- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Oct 25th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 24-27?

DAY 2: Oct 26th

Text: Read Genesis 28

1. Read Gen 28:6-9. In your opinion, why do you think Esau did this? (Are there any Scripture verses to support your opinion?)
2. Read Gen 28:12-15. What did Jacob dream of? What did God promise Jacob?
3. Read Gen 28:20-22. Do you think Jacob trusted that God would keep His promise? Why or why not?

DAY 3: Oct 27th

Text: Read Genesis 29

1. Read Gen 29:25. What does Jacob accuse Laban of doing to him? What had Jacob been known to do in the past? (see Gen 27:12, 35)

*The irony here is that Jacob's name in Hebrew sounds like the Hebrew word for "heel" and "deceiver" (see commentary for Gen 25:26 in the net.bible.org commentary) and had deceived Esau and Isaac in the past (Gen 27:12, 35), yet it was Jacob here that was deceived by Laban.

2. What do you think about Jacob's overall character as a human being?

DAY 4: Oct 28th

Text: Read Genesis 30

1. Read Gen 30:1-24. So... "dysfunction" is one way to describe the family dynamic you see here in Gen 30. In your opinion, what was the reason that Rachel and Leah were wanting to have children? (Support your opinion with Scripture verses)
2. How does it make you feel that God still chooses to use a dysfunctional family like Jacob's in order to bless the entire world?

*Read Gen 30:25-43. This is a very weird story, but the point of it all is that both men thought they could manipulate one another, yet it was God who sovereignly controlled who He wanted to bless (Jacob).

3. What do you think about God choosing to bless whoever He wants to?

DAY 5: Oct 29th

Text: Read Genesis 31

1. Read Gen 31:19. Why do you think Rachel did this? Are there any verses to support your opinion?
2. Look over this chapter. In what ways did God keep his promise to protect and provide for Jacob?

DAY 6: Oct 30th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 9: Nov 1st - 6th

SUMMARY

Genesis 32-35 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 32 picks up the story of Jacob with Jacob's return home from Paddan-aram, the home of his uncle Laban. Along the way, Jacob wrestles with God and is reunited with his brother Esau. While living near the town of Shechem, one of Jacob's daughters gets raped, and her brothers enact revenge for it. Jacob is still somewhat of a self-centered man, but is reminded by God of the promise God made to him and the protection God will give him. This section concludes with the deaths of Rachel and Isaac.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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- For a helpful overarching look at the book of Genesis, visit <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/> as well as <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-12-50/> and check out the short videos given on each half of the book.

DAY 1: Nov 1st

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 28-31?

DAY 2: Nov 2nd

Text: Read Genesis 32

1. Read Gen 32:6-9. How does Jacob respond to the news that Esau is coming to meet him? How does Jacob respond to God?
2. If you were in Jacob's place, how would you respond to the news that your brother, who you cheated out of the family blessing, was coming to meet you with 400 men?

*Read Gen 32:22-32. This is a somewhat odd section in the story of Jacob, but the author includes it to show us that deep down Jacob was wrestling between trusting in his own self-confidence and trusting in God's promise to him.

3. Describe a time in which it was difficult for you to trust God in something?

DAY 3: Nov 3rd

Text: Read Genesis 33

1. Read Gen 27:41 and then Gen 33:4. Does this seem strange to you that Esau's attitude toward Jacob would be so different now?
2. In your opinion, how do you think Esau has been able to forgive Jacob? Are there any Scripture verses to support your opinion?

*No matter how badly we may have hurt friends or family of ours...or how badly they may have hurt us, there is no amount of pain that God cannot heal. There is no relationship so broken that God cannot make right again.

3. Think of how angry that Esau was toward Jacob in Gen 27:41. Do you have any friends or family members who have hurt you, and therefore it feels almost impossible to forgive them?

*There are three things that "forgiveness" does not mean. Forgiveness does not mean that it was ok that our friends or family members hurt us. Forgiveness does not necessarily mean that we don't still feel pain because of what that person did to us. Lastly, forgiveness does not necessarily mean that, moving forward, we are supposed to trust that friend or family member in the same way as we did before they hurt us. They need to earn our trust back. Instead, what forgiveness does mean is that we decide to always look for ways to love and serve that person

that hurt us. This is not easy...but if we don't forgive those who hurt us in life, that unforgiveness will only lead to bitterness inside of us, and bitterness will only hurt us more.

4. Pray that God would help you to forgive those who have hurt you in the past.

DAY 4: Nov 4th

Text: Read Genesis 34

1. Read Gen 34:13. How does it say that Jacob's sons responded to Shechem? Who else has been known to respond "deceitfully" to people in the past?
2. What are your thoughts about this chapter? Do you think Simeon and Levi did the right thing, or do you think they acted wrongly? Are there any verses to support your opinion?
3. Read Gen 34:30. Why is Jacob upset with Simeon and Levi?

*The interesting thing in this chapter is that Jacob is not upset with Simeon and Levi for the right reasons (murder and robbery). He's upset with them because of the potential detriment it could do to himself. Jacob is still far from a "perfect person." His motives are ultimately self-centered.

DAY 5: Nov 5th

Text: Read Genesis 35

1. Read Gen 35:1-5. What does it seem that God is reminding Jacob of in these verses? (Hint: What was Jacob afraid of in Gen 34:30?)
2. Read Gen 35:2. What does it say the members of Jacob's family had in their possession? Why do you think they had pagan idols in their possession? (Hint: Where were they living in the previous chapter?)
3. Read Gen 35:11. How does God reveal Himself to Jacob here? Why do you think God revealed Himself by this particular name at this point in Jacob's life?

DAY 6: Nov 6th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 10: Nov 8th - 13th

SUMMARY

Genesis 36-40 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 36 picks up the story with an account of Esau's descendants. The story then takes its last major shift in chapter 37 from focusing on Jacob to focusing on his 12 sons. We see that Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, had multiple prophetic dreams, and was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. One of these brothers, Judah, is caught wrongfully treating one of his deceased son's wives, and gets called out on it. At this point, the story returns to Joseph being wrongly accused by Potiphar's wife and thrown into jail, though we read that he is still covered by God's favor. This section concludes with Joseph wrongfully remaining in prison after interpreting a couple of fellow prisoner's dreams.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For a free PDF Bible Commentary on the Book of Genesis, go to <http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/> and click on "Genesis." As you work through this Bible Study, feel free to look here for more information on any verses that you find confusing.
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DAY 1: Nov 8th

Text: There is no reading for this day.

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 32-35?

DAY 2: Nov 9th

Text: Read Genesis 36-37

1. Read Gen 36. From the beginning of human history, it was never God's plan to bless the entire world through Esau. God had decided to bless the entire world through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Malachi 1:2-3; Romans 9:13). However, as we can see from this chapter, God blessed Esau with numerous descendants! What does this same about the character of God?
2. Read Gen 37:3-4. What do these verses tell you about Jacob, Joseph, and Joseph's brothers?
3. Read Gen 37:5-11. What do Joseph's dreams show? How do Jacob and Joseph's brothers respond to Joseph's dreams?
4. In your opinion, do you think Joseph was being arrogant or not by telling his dreams to his father and brothers? Are there any verses to support your opinion?
5. Read Gen 37:26. Whose idea was it to sell Joseph into slavery?

DAY 3: Nov 10th

Text: Read Genesis 38

1. Does this chapter seem a little random to you? Why do you think the author would all of sudden jump from talking about Joseph to talking about Judah?
2. Read Gen 38:11. What does Judah tell Tamar to do? Why did Judah do this?

*What Judah did here was completely wrong (see Gen 38:14). It was his responsibility to provide for Tamar as a member of his family. Instead, out of selfish motives, he casts her aside.

3. How would you describe Judah's character? What verses would you use to support this view?
4. Read Gen 38:26. How does Judah respond to Tamar's statement?

DAY 4: Nov 11th

Text: Read Genesis 39

1. Read Gen 39:2. Despite Joseph's crummy situation of slavery, what does this verse tell us?
2. Read Gen 39:8-9. Why does Joseph refuse to sleep with Potiphar's wife? Who does Joseph say that he would be offending in verse 9?
3. Read Gen 39:17-20. Despite God blessing Joseph, he is still wrongfully accused and punished for a crime that he did not commit. How do you think Joseph felt after this happened?
4. Read Gen 39:21. What does this verse tell us about God's love for Joseph, despite being thrown into prison for a crime he didn't commit?

DAY 5: Nov 12th

Text: Read Genesis 40

1. Read Gen 40:14-15, 23. What did Joseph ask the cup-bearer to do for him? What did the cup-bearer do?
2. In your opinion, if what was happening to Joseph, happened to you, what do you think your attitude toward God would be like?

DAY 6: Nov 13th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 11: Nov 15th - 20th

SUMMARY

Genesis 41-45 continues the story of the family of Abraham, the family that God plans to bless the entire world through. Gen 41 picks up with the story of Joseph's release from prison and elevation to second in command over all of Egypt due to an incoming famine. This famine is so great that it ends up affecting Joseph's brothers and father as well. Through a turn of events, Joseph's brothers end up traveling to Egypt in search of food and eventually become reunited with Joseph. The section concludes with the news of Joseph being brought to Jacob, and an invitation for their family to move up near Egypt with Joseph.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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DAY 1: Nov 15th

Text: Read Genesis 41

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 36-40?
2. Read Gen 41:9-13. In your opinion, do you think the chief cup-bearer intended to forget about Joseph? Are there any verses to support your opinion?

3. Read Gen 41:16. According to Joseph, who gets the credit for his ability to interpret dreams?

*Looking at Gen 37:2 and Gen 41:46, we see that 13 years went by between when God revealed to Joseph what he would be doing and when God actually made it happen.

4. In your opinion, why do you think God makes us wait sometimes for His plans? Are there any verses to support your opinion?

DAY 2: Nov 16th

Text: Read Genesis 42

1. Looking at this chapter, it's a little uncertain as to whether or not Joseph was getting revenge on his brothers or if he was just testing their hearts to see if they were truly sorry for how they had treated him. In your opinion, why do you think Joseph treated his brothers the way that he did? Are there any verses to support your opinion?

DAY 3: Nov 17th

Text: Read Genesis 43

1. Read Genesis 43:8-9. Who volunteers to go to Egypt in order to get food?
2. In your opinion, does it seem as though Joseph's brothers have changed since they sold Joseph into slavery? What verses would you use to support your opinion?

DAY 4: Nov 18th

Text: Read Genesis 44

1. Read Gen 44:9. What do Joseph's brothers say will happen to the brother who has the silver cup?
2. Read Gen 44:33. Who volunteers to take Benjamin's place and become Joseph's slave?
3. Read Revelation 5:5. What tribe did Jesus trace His ancestry from?

DAY 5: Nov 19th

Text: Read Genesis 45

1. Read Gen 45:5, 7-8. Who does Joseph say sent him to Egypt?
2. Reading the story of Joseph, we know that Joseph's brothers actually sold Joseph into slavery, but Joseph says here that it was God that sent him to Egypt. In your opinion, how can both of these things be true? Are there any verses to support your view?

DAY 6: Nov 20th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?



WEEK 12: Nov 22nd - 27th

SUMMARY

Genesis 46-50 concludes the book of Genesis. Here we see Jacob's family, led by God, move to Goshen, outside of Egypt. Pharaoh is pleased to have Joseph's family living in Egypt and tells them to settle wherever they desire. As time goes by, the famine gets worse. Consequently, all of Egypt ends up selling their fields and selves to Pharaoh in order to buy food, of which they are incredibly grateful to Joseph. Simultaneously, Jacob's family grows greatly in number living in Goshen. Jacob passes away but, before he does, prophecies over all his sons. The book concludes with Joseph's' death and request to be brought with his people whenever God leads them out of Egypt.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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DAY 1: Nov 22nd

Text: Read Genesis 46

1. How have you tried to apply what you learned and talked about last week studying Genesis 41-45?
2. Read Gen 46:3-4. Many times, whenever we read the book of Exodus, we think of Israel being in Egypt as a bad thing, but who was it that led Israel to go to Egypt?

DAY 2: Nov 23rd

Text: Read Genesis 47

1. Read Gen 47:1-12. How does Pharaoh treat Joseph's family?
2. Read Gen 47:13-25. What ended up happening to all of the people in Egypt as a result of the famine?
3. Read Gen 47:30-31. What did Jacob make Joseph promise to do? Why do you think Jacob said this? Are there any verses to support your opinion? (Read pg. 307 on the PDF commentary for one perspective on why Jacob wanted to be buried with his ancestors rather than in Egypt.)

DAY 3: Nov 24th

Text: Read Genesis 48

1. Read Gen 48:14-19. What does Jacob do here? How does Joseph respond? What explanation does Jacob give?
2. All throughout Scripture, you see this pattern of the "younger" or the "less impressive" sibling being chosen by God or blessed more than the "older" or "more impressive" (Gen 25:22-23; 1 Sam 16:11-13; Rom 9:12). In your opinion, why do you think this is? Are there any verses to support your opinion?

DAY 4: Nov 25th

Text: Read Genesis 49

1. Read Gen 49:8-12. What prophecy does Jacob give about Judah?
2. Read Gen 49:2-28. This is the people God intends to use to bring salvation to all of mankind. Are these the types of people you would choose to use in order to bring salvation to the entire human race? Why or why not?
3. What do you think this says about the character of God?

DAY 5: Nov 26th

Text: Read Genesis 50

1. Read Gen 50:15. What was it that Joseph's brothers were afraid of?
2. Read Gen 50:18-21. How does Joseph respond to his brothers' fears?
3. How do you think, knowing that God controls everything that happens to us, helps us to forgive those who hurt us?

DAY 6: Nov 27th

Text: Skim back over the lesson this week.

1. What did you find most interesting this week?
2. What did you find most confusing this week?
3. What's one thing you can do to apply what you've read this week?