

#My Jubilee Bible

Reflection/Discussion Guide: Genesis 1-24; Psalm 1-7

Jubilee wants to grow more mature in Christ and closer to one another. Because these desires are bound tightly together, we want to provide you with a resource to both encourage you to consider what you are reading on a personal level and to go into Community Group discussions prepared to build up and encourage one another.

This guide is broken into three parts:

1. A brief overview of the Scriptures you are reading this week
2. Questions for personal reflection
3. Questions for group discussion and application

Feel free to answer the questions for personal reflection at your own pace. They are designed to help consider a section of Scripture: the people, relationships and events described in the section.

Overview of Genesis

“Nearly every student of the book of Genesis agrees that it falls logically into two sections: chapters 1-11 and 12-50. The first eleven chapters focus upon the ever widening ruin of man, fallen from his created perfection and coming under the judgment of the Creator. Chapters 12-50 describe God’s ever-narrowing program of man’s redemption.

The first division of the book, chapters 1-11, can be summarized by four major events: the creation (chapters 1-2), the fall (chapters 3-5), the flood (chapters 6-9), and the confusion of languages of the tower of Babel. The last division of Genesis, chapters 12-50, can be remembered by its four main characters: Abraham (12:1-25:18), Isaac (25:19-26:35), Jacob (27-36), and Joseph (37-50).—Bob Deffinbaugh, <https://bible.org/seriespage/1-walk-through-book-genesis>

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Questions for Personal Reflection

Chapters 1-2 The Creation

- What “beginning” events stick out to you most?
- What is mankind’s part to play in God’s story? (1:28)
- How does the story generate trust in God?

Chapters 3-5 The Fall

- What are the big events described in these chapters?
- What happens when humans attempt to define good and evil independently from God? (3:7, 14-19, 24)
- How the events in these chapters help you trust God?

Chapters 6-9 Noah and the Flood

- What is the trajectory of mankind’s future?
- What surprises you about God’s motive for destroying the earth? (6:7)
- How does God qualify Noah? (6:8)
- What part is humanity to play in God’s story? (9:1)

Chapters 10-11 The Tower of Babel

- What do the events in these chapters communicate about the condition of the world?
- What was the sinful ambition of the people at Babel? (11:4 compare to 1:28)
- The focus of the story seems to shift in verse 11:9 to 11:10 from the general population of humans to a specific family.
 - What do you anticipate happening next?
 - How does this shift give you hope?

Chapters 12-15 Abram and Sarai, Promises Made

- What is God’s purpose in choosing Abram? (12:1-3)
- What are some areas in your life that God has called you to something that you didn’t feel was possible?
- How do you relate to Abraham’s question: “Sovereign Lord, “How can I know I will gain possession of it?” (15:8)
- God responds to Abraham by acting out a covenant ritual where He, God, takes full responsibility for the terms. How does that help you grow in confidence in God?

Chapters 16-20 Waiting on God

- Sarah’s plan with Hagar was to help God in the fulfillment of his promises of a son. What are some ways that you have tried to “help God?” How did that turn out? (Genesis 16)
- Why don’t Abram and Sarai seem like logical choices for God’s plan? (18:11)
- How can you relate to Abraham/Sarah in this story?

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Chapters 21-24 Abraham and Sarah, Fulfillment and Testing

- How does God begin fulfilling his promise to Abraham? (21:1-7)
- God does not tempt us with sin, but he does test our faith. How does God test Abraham? (22:1-14)
- Abraham was not willing to withhold even his only son from God.
 - What would you withhold from God if he asked?
 - What did he withhold to have you? (Romans 8:32)

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CG Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: How did your Bible reading go this week?

Read Genesis 1:27

- Why is every person significant?
- What are some implications of the creation of man as male and female?

Read Genesis 3:22-24

- What happens when humans attempt to define good and evil independently from God?
 - What are some ways you try to define good and evil independently from God?
 - How do the consequences of Adam and Eve's sins affect us today?
- Read Genesis 6:8
 - How does God qualify Noah?
 - How does God qualify you?
- Read Genesis 12:1-3
 - What is God's purpose in choosing Abram?
 - Why does God choose you?
 - What are you doing to BLESS others?
- Read Genesis 22:1-14
 - Abraham was not willing to withhold even his only son from God.
 - What would you withhold from God if he asked?
 - What did he withhold to have you? (Romans 8:32)

Pray for one another:

- Discipline and delight in reading the Scriptures
- BLESSing others

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Notes: