



HEART OF A **MAN**



GENESIS COMPLETE BIBLE STUDY

Introduce yourself to your new group.

- a. Where do you live?
- b. Where do you work?
- c. What's your family structure?
- d. What is one thing about you that makes people laugh or one thing not many people know about you?
- e. What are two things you hope to get from this class this year?
- f. How are you doing right now?

Discussion Questions

Genesis 1:1. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

- a. The word "beginning" makes it clear God chose to initiate time. Why do you think God created time?
- b. People who believe in God live a different life than those who do not believe. What are ways you are living that make you different than those who do not believe?
- c. Atheists say human suffering is a proof God does not exist. How would you explain why God allows people to suffer to an atheist?

Day 1**Read Genesis 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3, 3:5-8.**

1. Who does the Bible say was with God in the beginning, and how do you think they each uniquely contributed to creation?
2. How do you think each member of the Trinity can help you with darkness in your life?

Day 2**Read Genesis 1:3-13 and John 1:9-10.**

1. How did God create everything, and what structures did he put in place?
2. How does a lack of structure hurt us?
3. What area of your life could benefit from some type of additional structure?

Day 3**Read Genesis 1:14-31.**

1. What are some of the key attributes of God you see in this chapter, and which of those traits should be reflected in those who bear his image?
2. What areas of your life need to be refined to help you reflect the image of God as described in Genesis 1?

Day 4**Read Genesis 2:1-3 and Exodus 20:8-11 .**

1. Why did God create the Sabbath?
2. How have you viewed the Sabbath, and what might you need to change in your life to align more closely with God's design of how you should use this sacred time?

Day 1**Read Genesis 2:4-15.**

1. What did you learn about the garden God prepared for man?
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 3:9, Colossians 3:23-24, and James 2:26.** How do these texts along with Genesis 2 inform how we should think about our work?
3. What expectations do you have of your current job that might not align with God's view of work?

Day 2**Read Genesis 2:16-17 and Psalm 16:5-6**

1. Try to summarize everything God gave Adam in the Garden.
2. How has your freedom to choose between good and evil helped you love Jesus?

Day 3**Read Genesis 2:18-20.**

1. What need did God see in man that was not solved by Him or the animals?
2. Why do you think a wife is what helps boys mature into Godly men?

Day 4**Read Genesis 2:21-25**

1. How does this text define marriage and the value of women? (1 Cor 11:1-16, Eph 5:22-33)
2. Why do you think Christians should follow this Biblical mandate for marriage?

Day 1**Read Genesis 3:1, Ezekiel 28:12-17, Matthew 4:1-11, John 8:44, 1 Peter 5:8-9, Rev 12:7-9**

1. What do you learn about Satan from these passages that makes it clear that he is the one talking to Eve in the garden?
2. What is the devil both wanting and trying to convince us to pursue as well?

Day 2**Read Genesis 2:16-17 and 3:1-5**

1. How specifically was the Word of God changed, added to, and intentionally left out in order to deceive Eve?
2. **Read** Romans 1:21-32. Why is it critical that you know the Word of God exactly how it is written?

Day 3**Read Genesis 3:6, James 1:13-15, 1 John 2:15-16.**

1. What were the root causes of Adam and Eve's disobedience?
2. What are some specific root causes of your disobedience?

Day 4**Read Genesis 3:6-8**

1. What three things happened to Adam and Eve immediately after their first sin against God?
2. What is the difference between guilt and shame? What guilt or shame are you dealing with right now that you are trying to hide?

Day 1**Read Genesis 3:9-13.**

1. What do you learn about God in His immediate response to Adam and Eve's mistake?
2. Why do you think Adam and Eve blamed other people for their mistakes?
3. When are you most likely to blame others for your mistakes?

Day 2**Read Genesis 3:14-15.**

1. Why do you think God cursed snakes to crawl on their bellies and eat dirt?
2. Read Numbers 21:4-9, John 3:14-15, Romans 16:19-20, and Hebrews 2:14-15. What is God revealing when He describes the animosity that will exist between the woman, the devil, and their offspring?

Day 3**Read Genesis 3:16-19**

1. How does God's punishment of Eve help explain some of the issues between men and women?
2. How does God's punishment of Adam explain the nature of work today?

Day 4**Read Genesis 3:20-24**

1. What do you think Adam and Eve learned as they watched God kill the first animal to make skins to cover up their naked, shameful bodies?
2. Why do you think God would keep all mankind away from the tree of life and require every human to die? (Romans 8:20-23)

Day 1**Read Genesis 4:1-5.**

1. What do you think caused Cain to bring a mediocre offering to God?
2. Read Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 9:24, and Romans 12:1. What type of offering is Jesus expecting us to make and for what end purpose?
3. What causes you to bring a half hearted effort to God's work?

Day 2**Read Genesis 4:3-6, Genesis 37:2-11, and John 21:20-22.**

1. What seems to be the root of jealousy in all these men?
2. What jealousies have fueled unhealthy behavior in you?

Day 3**Read Genesis 4:6-24 and Jude 1:11.**

1. From verses 6 and 7, what two commands did God give Cain?
2. What were all the consequences of Cain's choice to ignore God's commands?
3. What are some consequences you have suffered from ignoring the two commands God gave Cain?

Day 4**Read Psalm 1:1-2, 119:11, Matthew 26:41, 1 John 3:11-12, Ephesians 6:10-18, and Galatians 5:16-23.**

1. What does the Bible teach us about how to develop self-control?
2. In what ways is a lack of self-control showing up in your life?

Day 1 Read Genesis 4:17-5:32.

1. How would you compare the sons of Seth to the sons of Cain?
2. How is it that some children from the same parents can reject Jesus and others can believe and follow Him? (John 7:5 and Matthew 10:34-39)

Day 2 Read Genesis 6:1-8, Malachi 2:11-12, 1 Kings 11:1-9.

1. As one possibility, read the word “Nephilim” as meaning men who have fallen away from God, “The sons of God” as men from the line of Seth, and the “daughters of men”, as women from the line of Cain. What is Genesis telling us happened to Godly men and what caused the world to be corrupted?
2. How is it possible for unbelieving women to pull you or other men away from God?

Day 3 Read Genesis 6:9-12, Ezekiel 14:12-14, Hebrews 11:7, 2 Peter 2:4-10.

1. How does the Bible describe Noah, and how does it describe the rest of humanity during that time in the world?
2. **Read Romans 3:21-25 and Psalm 1:1-2.** What allows you to stand righteously before God, and what enables you to walk blamelessly with God today?

Day 4 Read Genesis 6:13-22.

1. How does this text describe God’s response to the moral conditions of humanity at that time?
2. **Read Matthew 24:36-44.** How does Jesus validate the historical account of Noah, and what is the message he wants us to learn from these Biblical accounts?

Day 1. Read Genesis 6:3 and 7:1-10.

1. What do you think Noah was like as you consider the time he spent building the ark, the immense amount of money he spent on construction, the engineering required to build the ark, the isolation he must have felt, and knowing so many people were going to die?
2. How has God called Christians and you personally to a similar level of commitment and sacrifice?

Day 2 Read Genesis 7:1-24. [Extra credit if you watch: tinyurl.com/HOAMark]

1. Why do you think Noah specifically recorded the fact that God closed the door to the ark?
2. Why might evolution and the Bible be at odds with each other because of this story?

Day 3 Read Psalm 29:10, Hebrews 11:7, Matthew 24:37-39, Luke 17:26-27 and 2 Peter 3:6.

1. Moses, David, Paul, Matthew, Luke, Peter, and Jesus all reference the flood as a real event. When you read these passages (along with Genesis Ch. 6 - 8), what causes you to doubt there was a flood that covered the whole earth and killed everyone? (*Feel free to reference outside material.*)
2. Read Deut 20:16-18, Joshua 11:20-23, and 1 Samuel 15:2-3. Why would God kill or command the killing of people?
3. Understanding that everyone will die, why do some individuals get angry at God about people dying young?

Day 4 Read Genesis 8:1-22.

1. When have you felt forgotten by God?
2. What are all the ways God showed his mercy and love to mankind, and how has God shown this same level of mercy and love to you and your family?

Day 1 Read Genesis 9:1 & 7 and Genesis 1:28.

1. Why do you think God repeated these same commands to Noah that he had given to Adam?
2. What is the benefit of man filling the earth instead of banding together in one area (Acts 20:30)?
3. What communities of people do you need to separate from that lead you away from God?

Day 2 Read Genesis 9:2-6.

1. Why was eating meat allowed for Noah and his family, and do you think eating meat is necessary for mankind today?
2. Read Genesis 4:10, Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 9:22. What does the Bible say is the significance of blood?
3. Read Leviticus 20:1-16, Matthew 6:14-15, John 8:3-11, Romans 12:17-20. What is your opinion on capital punishment?

Day 3 Read Genesis 9:8-17

1. Why do you think God made this covenant with man and all the living creatures?
2. What is one promise of God you depend upon to help inform important decisions?

Day 4 Read Genesis 9:18-28

1. What do you feel is the key issue in this story: Noah getting drunk or Ham dishonoring his father?
2. When have you seen alcohol add a true benefit to your life and when have you seen it cause significant issues?
3. What does the Bible reveal about the Canaanites that is reflected in the prophesy of Noah about Ham's son, Canaan? (Deut 20:10-18)

Day 1. Read Genesis 10.

1. Do on-line research and connect these Biblical ancestors to historical countries. What are your observations?
2. Recognizing this Table of Nations is the most accurate historical record of the origin of our ancestors, why would God have included this information in the canon of Scripture?

Day 2 Read Genesis 10:8-12 and 11:1-4.

1. Why do you think Nimrod lead his people to make a name for themselves and stop them from scattering?
2. In what ways are you driving to create a name for yourself, and when does it become rebellious toward God?

Day 3 Read Genesis 11:5-9.

1. Why is it that when certain people come together they begin to desire to live without God?
2. How has God intervened in your life to protect you from trying to live without Him?

Day 4 Read Genesis 11:10-26.

1. Why do you think God wanted the world to know the details of Abram's ancestors?
2. How do you think your ancestry has impacted your life?

Day 1. Read Genesis 11:10-32.

1. How do you think the death of Haran affected Terah, his father?
2. Why does death sometimes create division within families?

Day 2 Read Genesis 12:1, Joshua 24:2-3, John 15:16, and 2 Thess 2:13-14.

1. Why do you think the first step of salvation is God choosing to save us?
2. Why do you think God told Abram to leave his country and his father's house?
3. Why is obedience so important to God? (John 14:15-31, 1 John 2:2-6)

Day 3 Read Genesis 11:30, 12:2-9, 15:1-3, and John 3:16-17.

1. Why did God make a covenant with Abram and what are the three key elements of that covenant in Genesis 12?
2. What is one promise of God which you need to memorize and believe to counteract one selfish desire or fear that has been harmful to you?

Day 4 Read Genesis 12:10-20.

1. What is your opinion of how Abram handled his decision to go to Egypt and how he treated his wife when he entered Egypt?
2. Why do you think we make so many decisions without consulting God even when we know the Bible instructs us to ask Him? (Psalm 119:105, Proverbs 3:5-6, Matthew 7:7, 1 Thess 5:16-18, James 1:5)

Day 1. Read Genesis 13:1-7 and 24:35.

1. How do you think Abram and Lot amassed so much livestock, and how did it impact their relationship?
2. What has caused divisions within your family?

Day 2 Read Genesis 13:8-18 and 1 John 2:16-17.

1. Why do you think Abram gave Lot his choice of land and why do you think Lot chose to live in Sodom?
2. How do you think the place where you have chosen to live impacts your life?

Day 3 Read Genesis 14:1-16 and Hosea 4:9-10.

1. Why do you think God allowed Lot and his family to suffer such a traumatic event?
2. What is the difference between killing men in war and capital punishment for murderers?
3. What indicators would help you know that you might be living in a place that puts you and your family at risk?

Day 4 Read Genesis 14:17-24, Psalm 110, and Hebrews 7.

1. Why do you think Abram gave a 10% tithe of the spoils to Melchizedek?
2. **Read Malachi 3:6-12.** How do you feel about giving a 10% tithe of your gross annual earnings to the church?

Day 1. Read Genesis 15:1

1. How might the battles and the exchange with the king of Sodom (Genesis 14) have caused Abram to feel afraid?
2. Why would God say that He is Abram's protection/shield and reward?
3. Read Matthew 5:11-12, 6:1&4, Philippians 3:7-14, and 1 Peter 1:3-9, 18-19. How do you personally experience protection and rewards from Jesus instead of through your alliances with the world?

Day 2 Read Genesis 15:2-6 and Romans 4.

1. How do you feel about questioning God after reading about Abram questioning Him?
2. What happened to Abram in the moment when God convinced him he would have a son?
3. What do you believe is making you right with God?

Day 3 Read Genesis 15:7-21.

1. How does God prove to Abram that his offspring will have title to the land of Israel?
2. Why do you think God established the "Promised Land"? (Isaiah 2:2-3 and Rev. 21:1-3)

Day 4 Re-Read Genesis 15:7-21.

1. Why do you think God told Abram about the upcoming enslavement of his family in Egypt and the sin of the Amorites?
2. What are ways in which you can prepare for suffering and/or long periods of waiting on God?

Day 1. Read Genesis 16:1-4

1. What are some possible justifications for Abram and Sarai's behavior?
2. When was the last time you created a scheme to get what you wanted, despite sensing that what you were doing might be wrong?

Day 2 Read Genesis 16:5-6

1. What is your assessment of Sarai's behavior?
2. How did Abram fail in this story?
3. Where is your lack of spiritual leadership or faith hurting you?

Day 3 Read Genesis 16:7-12

1. What does this text say about God's care for those who are marginalized?
2. What does this text say about God's plan for Ishmael, and why do you think He allowed Ishmael to be born?
3. Can you recall an event or a scripture that gave you a deep confidence, even if it was just for a short time, that God has a plan for your life? Please share your example.

Day 4 Read Genesis 16:13-16

1. What happened to Hagar's faith through this experience, and why do you think Abram chose to use the name Ishmael, the name Hagar was instructed to use?
2. What parts of your life are you hoping that God sees and what aspects of your life are you hoping is he looking away?

Day 1. Read Genesis 17:1-8

1. God changed the names of Abram, Sarai, Peter, and numerous others. What's the significance of God changing a person's name?
2. **Read Genesis 17:8 and Revelation 21:1-3** - When God says "An everlasting possession, and I will be their God", what do you think He's foretelling?
3. Who do you believe God is making you to be and what name would you hope He would give you?

Day 2 Read Genesis 17:9-14

1. Why do you think God chose circumcision as a sign of the covenant between He and Man?
2. **Read Galatians 6:12-15** - How do you reconcile this physical action with the idea of "salvation through faith alone"?
3. How has your sexuality pushed you away from or towards the Lord?

Day 3 Read Genesis 17:15-21 and Luke 1:26-37

1. Why do you think God chooses to use impossible circumstances to execute His plan?
2. When you look at your life, what circumstance are you facing that looks and feels impossible?

Day 4 Read Genesis 17:22-29, Acts 9:10-19, and Luke 18:18-23

1. Why does God call His followers into an obedience that requires pain, sacrifice, and difficult leadership?
2. What painful obedience is God calling you into, or to lead your family through?

Day 1. Read Genesis 18:1-15, John 1:18, 8:58

1. What might lead you to believe that this was Jesus speaking to Abraham?
2. When was a time you sensed Jesus was speaking to you directly or through another person?

Day 2 Read Genesis 18:1-8, 1 Peter 4:8-9, Matthew 25:34-35 & Romans 12:13

1. What do you think Biblical hospitality should look like?
2. What keeps you from being hospitable with your home, your provisions, and “the best” of what you can offer?

Day 3 Read Genesis 18:9-11, John 17, & Jeremiah 29:11-13

1. What does this part of the story say to you about how God cares for His people and manages the details of our lives?
2. What is a recent example that reveals how you perceive God’s involvement or lack of involvement in your life?

Day 4 Read Genesis 18:12-15, Psalm 10:3-4, Proverbs 8:13, Isaiah 13:11, and James 4:6-7

1. What do you think was at the root of Sarah’s response to God? Please explain why.
2. What does the Bible teach about pride?
3. How does pride show up in your life and how do you think it is affecting your relationship with God?

Day 1. Read Genesis 18:16-21 & 18:25, and Zephaniah 1:12-13.

1. Why do you think Jesus decided to share his plans with Abraham?
2. What causes you to be complacent to the pervasive sin in the culture around you?

Day 2 Read Genesis 18:22-33 and Galatians 6:1-2

1. Why do you think Abraham asked God to spare the whole city for the sake of 50, 45... 10 “righteous people” rather than simply asking God directly to save Lot and his family?
2. What role do you play in helping those you love avoid the blatant sinful behavior that they’re pursuing?

Day 3 Read Genesis 19:1-25 and Romans 1:18-32

1. Why did the angels destroy Sodom & Gomorrah?
2. Historically, those who lived at the gate of a city were the city’s respected elders, advisors and mediators. Why do you think Lot chose to continue living at the gate of Sodom despite clearly knowing how depraved it was?
3. How would you know when you have become desensitized to sexual sin?

Day 4 Read Genesis 19:26-38 and 2 Peter 2:6-8.

1. What do you think caused the failures of Lot’s family?
2. What cultural behaviors do you flirt with that you know could potentially be harmful to you and/or your family?

Day 1. Read Genesis 20:1-2

1. Why do you think Abraham moved all of his people and livestock into an unfamiliar land knowing his wife may have been pregnant with their promised son, Isaac?
2. What are some things we do (or don't do) that expose our wives/kids/loved ones to danger?

Day 2 Read Genesis 20:3-7

1. Why do you think God spoke to Abimelech in a dream and told Abimelech "it was I who kept you from sinning"?
2. When has God used unbelieving people (or even your enemies) to impact the course of your life for His purpose?

Day 3 Read Genesis 20:8-18

1. How would you compare the fear of God in Abraham with the fear of God in Abimelech?
2. Read Deut 10:20-21 and Hebrews 12:28-29. What is the fear of the Lord?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:17-21. How should living with a fear of God change our behavior?

Day 4 Read Genesis 21:22-34

1. What are all the ways you see God providing for Abraham in these Genesis accounts?
2. Why do you think Abraham planted a tree, built an altar, and called on the name of the Lord?
3. How could memorials of God's provision help you and your family (Philippians 4:4-7, Deut 8:17-18)?

Day 1. Read Genesis 21:1-7, Romans 4:17-22, and John 11:1-14.

1. Why did God wait 25 years before he consummated the promise he had made to Abram and Sarai?
2. What is something you waited for (or are waiting for) and why is waiting so hard?
3. What are some healthy behaviors you could practice while you are waiting on God?

Day 2 Read Genesis 21:8-10 and Galatians 4:22-31.

1. What are some of the root causes of the rift between Sarah, Hagar, and Ishmael?
2. When do the Biblical values and promises of God in which you believe cause friction within your family and friend circles?

Day 3 Read Genesis 21:11-14

1. Why do you think God would command Abraham to push Hagar and Ishmael into the desert?
2. How do you think Abraham, Ishmael, and Hagar were impacted by this decision?
3. How have you been affected by a significant division in your family?

Day 4 Read Genesis 21:15-21

1. Why do you think God provided water, hunting skills, and a wife for Ishmael?
2. Read Matthew 6:25-34. Why do you think people sometimes do not feel comforted by these stories in the Bible?

Please avoid using commentaries and Google searches for answers. Pray and think about the questions and allow God to speak to you.

Day 1. Read Genesis 22:1-2 and James 1:12-15.

1. Why do you think God tested Abraham in this way, especially knowing the covenant He had already made with Abraham?
2. How would you know when God is testing you vs. when you are being tempted by “that which is common to man” (1 Cor. 10:13)?

Day 2 Read Genesis 22:3-8 and Hebrews 11:17-19.

1. How do you explain Abraham’s obedience to God and his response to Isaac?
2. What promise of God would keep you faithful to Him if he took someone you deeply loved out of your life?

Day 3 Read Genesis 22:6-14

1. Solomon’s temple and the city of Jerusalem were built on this same mountain, Mt. Moriah. What are all the ways this story foretells the story of Jesus?
2. Read Romans 3:25, 2 Cor. 5:21, and 1 Peter 3:18. Why did God require the death of his son?
3. Read Luke 14:25-33. What is Jesus asking you personally to sacrifice for Him?

Day 4 Read Genesis 22:15-24 and John 14:21-24.

1. How do you think Abraham felt about these renewed promises after being tested in this way?
2. What blessing has come to you after you were tested by God?

Day 1 Read Genesis 24

1. What do you think are some of the key ideas conveyed in, this, the longest chapter in Genesis?
2. Read Ephesians 5:25-27 and Revelation 19:7-9. What similarities do you see between this story and the church, given by God, as the bride of Jesus?

Day 2 Read Genesis 24:1-9, Leviticus 18:24-27 & Deuteronomy 20:16-18

1. Why do you think Abraham wanted his son to have a wife from his family of origin, and why did he want to make sure Isaac did not leave Canaan?
2. How do the choices of your wife and where you live impact your life?

Day 3 Read Genesis 24:10-57, Matthew 20:25-28 & Colossians 3:12

1. What were all the ways the servant honored his master, and what character traits do you see in him that make him a good servant?
2. What have you learned from this servant that would help you better serve your family, your community, and God?

Day 4 Read Genesis 24:58-67 & Proverbs 31:10-31

1. What do you learn about Rebekah in this story?
2. What characteristics of a wife are important for Christian men today?
3. Why has it become so difficult for Christian men and women to find a spouse?

Day 1 Read Genesis 23 and Hebrews 11:9-10 & 11:16

1. Why do you think Abraham paid a very inflated price to buy this land even though God had told him it would eventually be his? (Genesis 15:12-16)
2. Based on the text, how do you think Abraham felt about the death of Sarah?
3. Read Matthew 5:4, John 11:33-35, and Isaiah 58:11. Why should we take the time to grieve and mourn the loss of loved ones?

Day 2 Read Genesis 25:1-10

1. What stands out to you about the last years of Abraham's life and his death?
2. Read Matthew 5:5, 27:51-53, John 19:40, 1 Cor. 15:35-49, and Revelation 21:2-3. Why do you think burial (rather than cremation) has become the primary method of treatment for handling our dead as Christians?

Day 3 Read Genesis 25:11-23

1. What do you learn about Ishmael and Isaac individually in this text?
2. How has your birth order and family structure impacted your life?

Day 4 Read Genesis 25:24-34

1. How did sibling rivalry start and propagate in this family?
2. Why do you think Esau assigned so little value to his birthright?
3. Read John 1:12, Psalm 2:7-8, Galatians 3:29, Ephesians 1:18, and Hebrews 11:16. As a Christian, what is your birthright and how much value do you assign to it?

Day 1 Read Genesis 26:1-6 and 22:9-14

1. What are some of the key reasons for which Isaac trusted God and stayed in Gerar?
2. What are some of the reasons you choose to trust God, especially when life has been difficult?

Day 2 Read Genesis 26:7-13 and Genesis 3:1

1. Why do you think Isaac lied exactly the same way his father lied?
2. What sinful behaviors have Christians normalized?
3. What sinful behaviors are you passing to others around you?

Day 3 Read Genesis 26:14-32, Malachi 3:8-10, Proverbs 3:9, 11:25, 13:22, 21:20, 22:7, Luke 14:28-30, 2 Cor. 9:7, and 1 Tim. 6:6-10

1. How did the wealth of Isaac impact the Philistines?
2. How did Isaac manage his wealth and his neighbors?
3. How do you think wealthy Christians should manage their wealth?

Day 4 Read Genesis 26:34-35 and Exodus 34:15-16

1. Why do you think Esau married pagan women?
2. Why do some men make poor decisions when it comes to selecting a wife?

Day 1 Read Genesis 25:27-34, 26:34-35 and 27:1-4

1. What might cause someone to question Isaac's leadership of his family?
2. How did your father's behavior impact your family?

Day 2 Review Genesis 25:23, 27:1-46, Deut. 21:15-17 and 1 Chronicles 5:2

1. What was the difference between the birthright and the blessing that Isaac had intended to give to Esau?
2. What blessing and birthright would you want to make sure your children received before you die?

Day 3 Read Genesis 25:23 and 27:1-46

1. Why do you think Rebekah used lying and deception to make sure Jacob obtained Isaac's blessing?
2. Why do you think Jacob executed the deception conceived by his mother?
3. How has lying impacted your relationship with others and the way that you feel about yourself?

Day 4 Read Genesis 16, 25:21-34 and 27:28-46

1. How do you think the conflict between these two sons got started and continued to grow?
2. From your experience, what are some of the critical elements a husband and wife need to establish in order to help a family develop healthy relationships, as well as the individual character of the family members?

Day 1 Read Genesis 24:1-9 and 27:42-28:5

1. Why do you think Jacob was sent to Laban's home to find a wife?
2. What were some of the parenting mistakes made by Isaac and Rebekah?
3. What parenting mistakes have impacted your life?

Day 2 Read Genesis 28:6-9 and John 12:42-43

1. Who was Esau trying to please, and why was that important to him?
2. How did pleasing people get Esau in trouble?
3. Who do you find yourself trying to please, and how is it impacting the quality of your decisions?

Day 3 Read Genesis 28:3-4, 28:10-15 and John 1:43-51

1. What do you learn from this scripture about angels, God, and their relationship to man?
2. Even after Jacob made some very poor choices, God appears to bless him. Why do you think God would treat you the same way in light of your poor decisions? (1 Timothy 1:16)

Day 4 Read Genesis 28:16-22, 14:17-20, and Malachi 3:6-12

1. Why do you think Jacob promised he would give to God 10% of all that God gave him?
2. What helps you decide how much you give back to God?

Day 1 Read Genesis 29:1-14

1. Why do you think this family reunion caused so much emotion for both Jacob and Laban?
2. Read Genesis 1:27-28, Exodus 20:12, Proverbs 1:8-9, and Ephesians 5:22-6:4. Based on Biblical teaching, why do you think God created the family structure?
3. Why do we so often struggle with our family relationships?

Day 2 Read Genesis 29:15-30 and Galatians 6:7-8

1. Why do you think God allowed Jacob to experience this type of deception?
2. When have you been mistreated, only to realize you had previously mistreated someone else in a similar manner?

Day 3 Read Genesis 29:31-35 and Psalm 127:3

1. Why do you think God allowed Leah to have children long before Rachel?
2. When have you experienced God withholding something from you, and in what ways have you been able to see God's greater purpose at some point later in your life?

Day 4 Read Genesis 30:1-24, Genesis 2:21-22, and Matthew 19:5-6

1. Why do you think God allowed Abraham and Jacob to have multiple wives?
2. Why do you think our modern culture, which largely discredits, devalues, and ignores the Bible, enforces monogamy?

Day 1 Read Genesis 30:25-43 and 31:10-12

1. Why do you think God helped Jacob become wealthy through this sheep and goat breeding process?
2. Read John 21:20-23 and 1 Peter 4:10. Why do you think God helps some men acquire more money than other men?

Day 2 Read Genesis 31:1-21 and Genesis 2:24

1. What convinced Jacob that it was time to end his unhealthy relationship with Laban, and why do you think he didn't leave prior to this time?
2. Why is it important for young men to establish independence from their parents at some point in their life?
3. How does the way we end relationships, events, and life stages affect us and the people we leave behind?

Day 3 Read Genesis 31:22-42 and Matthew 18:15-20

1. What were the injustices Jacob experienced while working for his uncle Laban?
2. How have you been mistreated by your family and what is keeping you from telling them how they have impacted you?

Day 4 Read Genesis 31:43-55 and 1 Corinthians 13:11

1. What were the new boundaries established with Laban and why were these important?
2. What boundaries should men set with their family and how should they go about setting those boundaries?

Day 1 Read Genesis 32:1-8 and Proverbs 18:19

1. Why do you think Esau assembled 400 men in preparation for meeting his brother?
2. Why was Jacob still afraid of his brother after his numerous encounters with God?
3. Read Matthew 5:23-24. What broken relationship is causing you to carry fear or guilt and how can you start to make a change?

Day 2 Read Genesis 32:9-21

1. How did Jacob handle his fear, and how did his prayer impact his plans?
2. What plans have you made out of fear, and what plans have you made based on a promise of God?

Day 3 Read Genesis 32:22-32 and Hosea 12:3-5

1. With whom did Jacob wrestle, and why was he given a new name?
2. Read 2 Cor 12:7-10. In what areas have you wrestled with God in your life, and what are you wanting from Him that He does not seem to be giving to you?

Day 4 Read Genesis 33:1-20 and Luke 12:49-53

1. Why do you think Jacob traveled to Succoth and Shechem instead of going to Seir with his brother?
2. What is the primary motive or driver for where you are headed in your life?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 34 and Genesis 31:13

1. What were some of the causes of rape, murder and plundering in this story?
2. Read Proverbs 18:12, Romans 1:28, and 2 Peter 2:1. What causes you to become destructive and hurtful toward yourself and other people?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 35:1-7 and Genesis 28:12-15

1. What are some of the important ways in which Jacob led spiritually?
2. Why do you think Jacob forced the people to worship one God instead of their own Gods?
3. Why do you think God wants you to worship and be grateful to Him when He provides for you and protects you? (Exodus 20:3-6 and Revelation 4:11)

Day 3 | Read Genesis 35:8-29

1. How did God establish Jacob as the leader of his family?
2. Read Ephesians 5:21-25. Why do you think God wants men to be the leaders of their families?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 36

1. Why do you think God recorded such a detailed account of Esau, the brother whose descendants would not inherit the land of Canaan?
2. How do you think the death of Isaac impacted the size of Jacob's estate, and how do you think that affected Esau and his family?
3. Read Acts 4:32-35. How can God use material wealth to foster the execution of His plans?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 37:1-11

1. What were all the causes of the hatred directed toward Joseph?
2. Read 1 Peter 3. What are some ways families can help foster healthy sibling relationships?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 37:12-36

1. Why might someone feel that Joseph was treated unjustly?
2. How have you seen this same type of injustice played out in your life, either to you or because of you?

Day 3 | Read Genesis 38

1. What are some of the issues that led Judah to make several poor decisions?
2. What typically causes you to make poor decisions?
3. How would the people who know you describe the way you manage situations in which you are wrong?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 38

1. How would you describe the behavior of Tamar?
2. Read Matthew 1:1-3. How did God use Tamar for a greater purpose?
3. Why would God make us suffer for a long period of time without telling us what He is doing?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 39:1-6a and Colossians 3:23

1. Joseph was likely the first person to record this account of his life. Why do you think he assigned all his success to God?
2. What do your results, either good or mediocre, say about God to the people around you?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 39:6b and Ezekiel 28:12-14

1. Why do you think God singles out some men, like Joseph, to be handsome and well built?
2. How has your view of your own body impacted your thoughts and behaviors?

Day 3 | Read Genesis 39:7-20, Matthew 4:1-11, and 1 Corinthians 10:13

1. Why do you think God exposed Joseph to this repeated sexual temptation?
2. What do you think helped Joseph refrain from giving in to Potiphar's wife?
3. Read Romans 12:1-2. How can you get better prepared to handle a temptation which continually presents itself to you?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 39:21-23, Micah 6:8, and Matthew 25:31-46

1. Why do you think God allowed Joseph to suffer through yet another painful injustice?
2. How have life's "prisons" or hardships changed you? (Please try to write down at least one specific example.)
3. What in your character do you think God sees which may need to be further refined?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 40 and Acts 2:14-21

1. Why does God use dreams and visions to communicate with people? (Please consider reading “Dreams & Visions: Is Jesus Awakening the Muslim World” by Tom Doyle)
2. Read Acts 9:10-19. What are some ways you would be able to discern if your dreams were messages from God?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 40 and Romans 1:18-20

1. What are some ways people learn about Jesus without being involved in Christian activities?
2. Read Matthew 28:18-20 and Romans 10:14-15. What role do you actively play in helping people come to know Jesus?

Day 3 | Read Genesis 41:1-31

1. What are some possible reasons God left Joseph in prison for two years before he was brought out to help Pharaoh?
2. Knowing every man will have to wait on God at some point in their life, how can you thrive in the struggle of waiting?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 41:32-57 and Romans 13:1

1. Why would God want his people in prominent government positions, men like Joseph, David, and Daniel?
2. Why should Christians care about the needs of people in the world? (Galatians 6:10)
3. What platforms do you as a Christian actively utilize to help influence the culture and help promote the well-being of others?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 42 and 2 Samuel 12:1-15

1. Why do you think Joseph managed his brothers the way he did with harsh language, threats of espionage, hidden money, and forcing them to return with Benjamin?
2. What is required for you to feel the weight of your sin and turn to God in confession?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 42 and 1 John 4:20

1. How did Joseph demonstrate deep love for his brothers after 30 years of being torn from his family?
2. Within the context of this chapter, how would you compare Jacob's faith and behavior to Joseph's?
3. How do you find yourself managing difficult family issues, and what would help you lead in this area with a higher level of compassion, understanding, and love?

Day 3 | Read Genesis 43:1-15, Mark 3:31-35

1. How would you describe Jacob's relationship with God at this point in this story?
2. How do you see yourself and other parents making children into idols, i.e. something we love more than God?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 43:16-34

1. What were all the threats Jacob's family faced and what were the ways in which God provided for them?
2. Read Isaiah 55:6-9. How do you think God wants you to feel and behave in your difficult situations knowing that, like Jacob, you cannot see or anticipate God's plan or how he'll use it for the good?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 44:1-17 and Genesis 42:21-22

1. Why do you think Joseph wanted his brothers to believe Benjamin was going to be arrested and enslaved, or possibly executed?
2. Read Acts 2:38. What is repentance and why does the Bible require it?
3. When in your life have you confessed and repented, who heard it, and how did that impact your life?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 44:16-34

1. What do you see in Judah that makes him a worthy choice to be an integral part of the genealogy of Jesus?
2. What type of sacrifices should you want to make as a result of your love for Jesus and your obedience to Him? (Luke 9:23)

Day 3 | Read Genesis 45:1-15

1. What do you think helped Joseph to forgive his brothers and then be so generous with them?
2. Why do you think God worked so hard to preserve Jacob's family then and until Jesus returns? (see Romans 11:25-32 and Zechariah 12:10)
3. Describe to your group your thoughts/feelings from a time when you reconciled with someone you cared about after a season of pain, distance, and/or broken relationship. *(Or is there someone with whom you currently feel pressed by the Spirit to reconcile?)*

Day 4 | Read Genesis 45:16-28 and Exodus 12:31-42

1. What is the significance of Pharaoh bringing the family of Jacob into Egypt in the history of Israel?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3. How does this covenant God made with Abram connect with the story of Joseph and his family?
3. How do you fit into this story?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 46:1-4 and Genesis 28:13-15, 31:3, 32:30, 35:1, and 35:9-13

1. Why do you think God spoke to Jacob in a vision and told him, “*do not be afraid*”?
2. How would you know when it is time to leave a place in which you were certain God had told you to live, work, or serve?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 46:5-34

1. Why do you think the patriarchs went to such great lengths to record the names of the men in Jacob’s family who went to Egypt?
2. Who are the people in your life who have had a significant spiritual impact on you and which you need to document and share with your family so they can trace their spiritual genealogy? (*Please share at least one story with your group*)

Day 3 | Read Genesis 47:1-12 and Exodus 12:31-42

1. Israel grew from 70 men entering Egypt to over 600,000 men when they left Egypt 430 years later. How did this decision (made by Jacob and approved by God) foster such a dramatic population growth of this people group?
2. What actions can you take for both your biological family and your church family to foster their spiritual growth and multiplication? (*See Deuteronomy 6*)

Day 4 | Read Genesis 47:13-26

1. How was the system which Joseph implemented a reasonable and humane solution to the famine as you contrast it with the special treatment his family received?
2. **Read Isaiah 58:10, Matthew 25:31-40, Acts 6:1, and James 2:15-16.** Why do you think the Bible tells God’s people to feed the hungry?

Day 1 | Read Genesis 48 and Numbers 33:50-34:15

1. Why do you think Jacob blessed Joseph and adopted his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh?
2. Why might it be important for Christians to have a clear and intentional plan for distributing their assets after their death?
3. What legacy do you wish your parents had passed on to you, or will pass on to you? And what legacy do you hope to pass on to your offspring?

Day 2 | Read Genesis 49 and Romans 12:3

1. What do you learn from Jacob about helping your children understand the truth of what you see in them?
2. What do you learn about Judah from these verses?
 - a. Genesis 29:35
 - b. Genesis 37:26-27
 - c. Genesis 43:8-10
 - d. Genesis 44:33-34
 - e. Matthew 1:1-17
 - f. Revelation 5:5
3. What do you see in Judah that might explain why God chose him to carry the covenant instead of Joseph? (See Matthew 5)

Day 3 | Read Genesis 50, Psalm 112:1-3, Proverbs 13:22 and Exodus 20:4-6

1. What did Jacob leave behind in his family, both the good and the broken, which showed up after his funeral?
2. If you were to die tonight, what do you think might be left behind in your family?

Day 4 | Read Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 32:1-2, Luke 5:24, Acts 13:38, Ephesians 1:7

1. Why did God make forgiveness such a significant part of this story?
2. How has forgiveness had a significant impact on your life, and why do you need to increase in your capacity to forgive?