
A Bible Survey



A Three Year Course of Study for Adults

Section One: Genesis

Year 1, Quarter 1

Compiled by Gene Taylor

Preface

These lessons were first compiled over a three year period from April 1988 through March 1991. The then Westside church of Christ in Tallahassee, Florida (Now the Centerville Road church relocated to 4015 Centerville Road in Tallahassee) determined to place all their Sunday morning Bible classes on the *Amplified Bible Curriculum* (Hereafter referred to as *ABC*) developed by JoLinda Crump and Cathy Valdes.

While their curriculum recommended materials from preschool through senior high, we desired to place our college, young adult, and adult classes on the same schedule. The volume of material in L.A. Mott's studies, recommended in the *ABC* for source material and lesson development, did not easily lend itself to a once a week study since he designed his lessons to be studied twice each week.

Considering these factors, I took it upon myself to compile these lessons. We used them successfully while cycling through the curriculum twice in our senior high, college, young adult, and adult classes from April 1988 through March 1994. They were edited and revised prior to the second study of them. They have been revised a second time and reformatted in 1997.

I have tried to parallel the *ABC* as much as possible so that adults and children would be studying the same lesson at the same time only on different levels. But this series, or any one of its twelve study guides, may be used independently.

Each lesson contains a schedule for daily Bible reading. It can be used as a format for family devotionals in the home even if the whole family is not on the curriculum.

I hope you enjoy your study.

Gene Taylor
July 1997

Table of Contents

Preface	1
Table of Contents	2
Lesson One: Creation	3
Lesson Two: Cain and Abel	5
Lesson Three: Noah and the Flood	6
Lesson Four: Abraham	8
Lesson Five: Abraham and Lot	9
Lesson Six: Isaac, Son of Promise	11
Lesson Seven: Jacob and Esau	14
Lesson Eight: Jacob and His Family	16
Lesson Nine: Joseph and His Brothers	19
Lesson Ten: Joseph Imprisoned	20
Lesson Eleven: Joseph Forgives	22
Lesson Twelve: Joseph Reunited with Jacob	24
Lesson Thirteen: Last of the Patriarchs	26

© Gene Taylor, 1997. All Rights Reserved.

Lesson One: Creation

Lesson Text

Genesis 1:1 - 3:24

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 1

Tuesday

Genesis 2:1-17

Thursday

Genesis 2:18-25

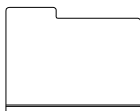
Friday

Genesis 3:1-8

Saturday

Genesis 3:9-24

Lesson Concept



GODHEAD

Acknowledging God
as Creator

Creation of the Heavens and the Earth (1:1 - 2:3)

1. What was already in existence even before “the beginning?”
2. How did the world come into existence?
3. What was the original condition of the earth?
4. What was created on the:
 - a. First day?
 - b. Second day?
 - c. Third day?
 - d. Fourth day?
 - e. Fifth day?
 - f. Sixth day?
5. In contrast to plants, sea animals, and land animals which were made after their kind, what is said about man that makes him special?
6. What position is assigned to man in relation to the rest of creation?
7. What did God do on the seventh day?

Man in the Garden (2:4-17)

8. How is man the offspring of both the heavens and the earth?
9. What job was man given to do?
10. Was God’s command to the man (vv. 16-17) difficult to understand? Was it a test of his intelligence or his willingness to obey? Explain.
11. What does the situation in which God placed man (vv. 16-17) show about the way man was made? Did he have no choice but to serve God? If not, then how would you describe him?

The Making of Woman (2:18-25)

12. Why did God make a woman?

13. What role did God plan for the woman?
14. What is meant by the phrase “a help meet for him?” (2:18)
15. Is the man also to be a helper to the woman? (cf. Ephesians 5:22-23)
16. In Matthew 19:3-6, what conclusions does Jesus draw from Genesis 1:27 and Genesis 2:24 with respect to marriage?

Temptation and Fall (3:1-24)

17. Who was at work in the serpent? What is the serpent said to be like?
18. Seeing that the serpent focused attention on the one limitation instead of mentioning the great freedom given the man and woman (2:16-17) evidently wanting the woman to feel unfairly restrained, do you think Satan continues to work in that way? Explain.
19. How did the serpent cast doubt on the character of God?
20. Considering its consequences found in verses seven through thirteen, did sin bring all the good things promised by Satan? Explain.
21. Can a person hide from God? Explain.
22. Since the woman was deceived (v. 13), did that mean that God would overlook her sin and that she would not be punished? What does that teach about human responsibility?
23. What curse was placed upon the serpent? The woman? The man?
24. What ray of hope shines through amidst the curses?
25. Do the punishments of Genesis 3 affect only one man and woman? Do they affect their descendants? If so, in what way?

Lesson Two: Cain and Abel

Lesson Text

Genesis 4:1 - 5:32

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 4:1-15

Tuesday

Genesis 4:16-26

Thursday

Genesis 5:1-17

Friday

Genesis 5:18-32

Saturday

Hebrews 11:1-6

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE

Disobedience alienates men from God

Cain and Abel (4:1-15)

1. Why was Abel's offering more excellent than Cain's? (cf. Hebrews 11:4)
2. Considering verses three and four, what, if anything, distinguishes the two offerings which may account for the acceptability of one and not the other?
3. Does God care what sort of worship we may choose to offer? Explain.
4. How do we know how God wants us to worship?
5. Instead of being angry (v. 5), what should have been Cain's reaction when learning that God was displeased?
6. What is taught in verse seven about sin and its power? How is the vicious nature of sin shown in this instance?
7. Why did Cain kill Abel? (cf. 1 John 3:11-12)
8. What was Cain's punishment?
9. What is taught in verse ten about murder?
10. What characteristics of God are seen in verses nine through fifteen?

Cain's Descendants (4:16-26)

11. List some happenings and accomplishments among the descendants of Cain. Judging from the nature of their achievements, what did they emphasize in their lives?

12. What was the name of Adam's third son?

The Descendants of Seth (5:1-32)

13. Can you think of any possible explanation(s) why people lived so much longer in the early earth than now?
14. Who was the oldest man?
15. Describe Enoch and what happened to him.

Lesson Three: Noah and the Flood

Lesson Text

Genesis 6:1 - 10:32

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Genesis 6

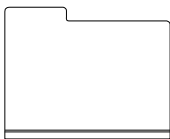
Tuesday
Genesis 7

Thursday
Genesis 8

Friday
Genesis 9

Saturday
Isaiah 54:8-10

Lesson Concept



FAITH

Knowing God's promise
is true

Corruption of the Earth (6:1-12)

1. What does it mean that the sons of God married the daughters of men? Does it have any relation to the complete corruption of the earth? If so, in what way? If not, why not?
2. Describe:
 - a. How bad the human race had gotten.
 - b. How God felt about the situation.
 - c. What God decided to do.
3. Why did Noah find favor with God? How was he different from the rest of the people?

The Threat of Judgment on the Earth (6:13 - 7:5)

4. What did God command Noah to do? Why?
5. What did Noah's obedience show?

The Coming of the Flood (7:6-24)

6. How, in the New Testament, is the salvation of Noah compared to the salvation of man today? (1 Peter 3:20-21)
7. Describe what was happening right up to the time Noah entered the ark? (Matt. 24:37-39) Compare the time of the Lord's second coming to the time preceding the flood. (1 Thes. 5:1-3; 2 Pet. 3:10)
8. What were the two sources of the flood waters?
9. How long did the rain last? How long did the water prevail on the earth? How high did the water get?

The End of the Flood (8:1-22)

10. Where did the ark land?
11. How did Noah find out whether the water had gone down and if land was beginning to appear?

12. How long did Noah stay in the ark after it had landed? What is the first thing he did after coming out of the ark?
13. What promise did God make?
14. Who regulates and controls the seasons?
15. What does the flood show about God's view of sin and wrongdoing?

After the Flood (9:1-29)

16. What did Noah and his family have to do after the flood?
17. What permission is given for the first time after the flood?
18. What covenant did God make with Noah?
19. Will the world ever be destroyed again? (cf. 2 Pet. 3)
20. Name the sons of Noah.
21. What sin did Noah commit? What lessons can be learned from this incident?
22. How did Ham dishonor his father? What were the results of it?

The Descendants of Noah (10:1-32)

23. What is the importance of chapter ten?
24. How is chapter ten related to the command found in 9:1, 7 and to the statement made in 9:19?
25. What bearing does chapter ten have on attitudes toward other races?

Lesson Four: Abraham

Lesson Text

Genesis 11:1 - 12:20

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 11:1-9

Tuesday

Genesis 11:27-32

Thursday

Genesis 12:1-9

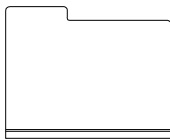
Friday

Genesis 12:9-20

Saturday

James 2:23-26

Lesson Concept



FAITH

Depending upon
God's care

The Tower of Babel

(11:1-9)

1. Why did the people want to build a city and tower?
2. What did God do in response to their efforts?
3. Explain what was wrong with this project and why it displeased God?
4. Considering what verse six suggests about the power of unity, would this statement apply to good purposes as well as evil ones? Explain.

The Descendants of Shem and the Descendants of Terah (11:10-32)

5. Of the three branches of people descended from the sons of Noah, which was the most important in Bible history? Give a reason to justify your answer.

God's Promises to Abram (12:1-9)

6. How was Abram's faith tested? How did he demonstrate his faith? How is it demonstrated by a person today?
7. What were Abram's people like before God called him? (cf. Joshua 24:2, 3, 14-15)
8. Taking your answer to the previous question into consideration, what, then, was the effect of calling Abram to leave his country and kindred?
9. From where and to where did Abram move?
10. Of what three blessings did God's promise to Abram consist? When were these promises fulfilled?

Abram in Egypt (12:10-20)

11. Why did Abram go to Egypt? Did he commit a sin? If so, how?

Lesson Five: Abraham and Lot

Lesson Text

Genesis 13:1 - 14:24;
18:16 - 19:38

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Genesis 13

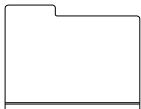
Tuesday
Genesis 14

Thursday
Genesis 18:16-33

Friday
Genesis 19:1-22

Saturday
Genesis 19:23-28

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE
Punishing wickedness

Abram and Lot (13:1-13)

1. Who was Lot?
2. Describe Abram's wealth.
3. What problem developed between Abram and Lot? What character traits did Abram manifest in this incident?
4. What choice did Lot make? Was it a good one? Explain.

Renewed Promises to Abram (11:10-32)

5. What two promises are repeated to Abram? (cf. 12:1-9)

The Slaughter of the Kings (14:1-24)

6. What was the first great consequence Lot suffered because of his move to Sodom? What was the cause of the war described in these verses?
7. How did Abram help Lot? Contrast Abram's attitude toward his kinsmen (v. 8) with that of Cain. (4:9)
8. Who was Melchizedek? What did he do for Abram? What did Abram do in return? (cf. Hebrews 7:1-10)
9. What offer did the king of Sodom make to Abram? Why did Abram refuse it? What can be learned about Abram's faith from this incident?

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom (18:16-33)

10. What reason did God give for revealing to Abraham what He planned to do to Sodom? What was Abraham's reaction to this information?
11. What application, if any, can be made of these verses today?

The Destruction of the Cities of the Plain (19:1-38)

12. What were the two main cities of this group?
13. How was the sinfulness of Sodom illustrated?

14. Why did the messengers of God warn Lot of the impending destruction of the cities?
15. Describe the character of Lot's:
 - a. Sons-in-law.
 - b. Wife.
 - c. Daughters.
16. What did Lot's wife do while on their flight from the city? Why? What lesson(s) can be learned from her actions? (cf. Luke 17:32)
17. What lessons, in general, are to be learned from the destruction of Sodom and the other cities of the plain? (cf. 2 Peter 2:4-9)
18. Describe the relationship between the Moabites, Ammonites, and the Israelite descendants of Abraham.

Lesson Six: Isaac, Son of Promise

Lesson Text

Genesis 15:1 - 18:15;
20:1 - 22:24

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 15:1 - 16:6

Tuesday

Genesis 16:7 - 17:27

Thursday

Genesis 18:1-15

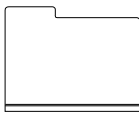
Friday

Genesis 21

Saturday

Genesis 22

Lesson Concept



FAITH

Trusting in the Lord

Renewed Promises to Abram (15:1-21)

1. What problem does Abram raise before God? What was God's answer? What was Abram's response to God's promise?
2. What application did the apostle Paul make of Abram's statement in verse six? (Rom. 4:1-5; Gal. 3:5-9). What use is made of it by James? (James 2:21-23) How may these applications be harmonized?
3. What likenesses are there between Abram's justification and ours? What differences are there?
4. How long would it be before Abram, in his descendants, would inherit the land? Why so long a time? What would happen to his seed in the meantime?
5. What was the extent of the land promised to Abram?

The Birth of Ishmael (16:1-16)

6. How did Abram and Sarai decide to solve the problem of their childlessness and provide the son promised by God? Did their plan provide a solution to the difficulty or did it cause more problems? What lesson(s) can we learn?
7. Who was Hagar? What consolation did the angel of God give her? Who was her son?

God's Covenant with Abraham (17:1-27)

8. What is God's designation of Himself at the beginning of this chapter? Why does this seem especially appropriate considering the chapter's contents?
9. Why was Abram's name changed to Abraham?
10. What covenant did God make with Abraham and his seed?
11. What was the purpose of circumcision?

12. Comparing verse seventeen to Romans 4:19:

- a. What is said by the apostle Paul about the condition of Abraham and Sarah?
- b. How is the faith of Abraham described? (Romans 4:16-21)

13. Through which of Abraham's sons was God's chosen people to come? What is the meaning of that son's name? Why was he given such a name?

Abraham Is Visited by Three Angels (18:1-15)

14. What application is made in Hebrews 13:2 of the incidents of Genesis 18:1-8 and 19:1-3?

15. What promise is renewed to Abraham? Why did Sarah laugh? What made the promise believable?

Abraham and Sarah in Gerar (20:1-18)

16. How did Abraham sin while in Gerar? Why did he do it?

17. Who seems more righteous in this incident, Abraham or Abimelech? What application(s) can be made from this fact?

18. What additional factor makes this an especially distressing incident? (cf. 12:10-20)

The Birth of Isaac (21:1-7)

19. What was remarkable about the birth of Isaac?

20. Why was "Isaac" such a fitting name? (17:17-19; 18:9-15; 21:6)

The Dismissal of Hagar and Ishmael (21:8-21)

21. How old was Ishmael when Isaac was born? (cf. 16:16 and 17:25)

22. Why did Sarah want Hagar and Ishmael cast out? Why did God approve?

23. What is meant by the statement "*in Isaac your seed shall be called?*"

24. What became of Ishmael and Hagar? What was said of Ishmael's future?

The Covenant at Beersheeba (21:22-34)

25. Who were the parties to this covenant? Who initiated it? Why? What was the nature of it?

26. What does this incident show about the importance and influence of Abraham in the land?

Abraham's Greatest Trial (22:1-24)

27. List as many points as you can which make the command of verse two a difficult trial for Abraham.

28. What did this test reveal about:

- a. Abraham?
- b. The faith of Abraham?
- c. Isaac?

29. Is there any significance to the fact that Abraham arose "early in the morning?"

30. What lesson, based on this chapter, is taught in James 2:20-24?

Lesson Seven: Jacob and Esau

Lesson Text

Genesis 23:1 - 28:9

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 24:1-18

Tuesday

Genesis 24:29-67

Thursday

Genesis 25

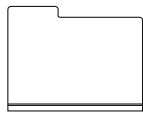
Friday

Genesis 26

Saturday

Genesis 27

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE

Avoiding jealousy
and envy

The Death of Sarah (23:1-

20)

1. Though God had promised Abraham the entire land, what did he have to do when Sarah died? Comparing your answer to what is said of him in Hebrews 11:8-10; what does this say about the faith of Abraham?

A Wife for Isaac (24:1-67)

2. Why was Abraham so concerned about whom his son married? Should parents today be any less concerned about whom their children marry? Explain.
3. Why would a bride from among the Canaanites not have been suitable for Isaac?
4. How would his servant recognize Isaac's wife-to-be? How much would this tell him about the qualities of the girl?
5. How did Rebekah's family feel about her going away? What was her attitude?
6. How could one love a woman chosen in the way Rebekah was chosen, sight unseen?

The Death of Abraham (25:1-11)

7. Who was Abraham's second wife?
8. Describe the difference between Abraham's treatment of Isaac and that of his other son. Why the difference?
9. Who came together at the death of Abraham?
10. Summarize the importance of Abraham in God's overall purpose.

The Birth of Esau and Jacob (25:19-26)

11. Explain the significance of verse 23 in light of Romans 9:10-12.

The Selling of the Birthright (25:27-34)

12. Explain the significance of the birthright, “the right of the firstborn,” in light of Genesis 49:3; Deuteronomy 21:17; and 2 Chronicles 21:1-3.
13. What kind of person does this incident show Esau to be? (cf. Hebrews 12:14-17) What is meant by “profane?” How may we show the same poor sense of values?

Isaac in Gerar and Beersheba (26:1-35)

14. What three promises already given to Abraham are repeated to Isaac?
15. What mistake made by Abraham is repeated by Isaac? Why did the Philistines want Isaac to leave Gerar?
16. How does Isaac show himself to be a peacemaker? Should a Christian be a peacemaker? (cf. Matthew 5:9 and Romans 12:18)
17. What reassurance did God give to Isaac?
18. How was Isaac’s peaceable nature rewarded?
19. How did Esau bring “grief of mind” to Isaac and Rebekah? What do his marriages say about his attitude and character?

Isaac’s Blessing Intended for Esau Is Given to Jacob (27:1-40)

20. Summarize how Jacob obtained the blessing intended for Esau.
21. How would have Isaac’s intention, if carried out, made God’s plan void? (cf. 25:23)
22. What kind of man was Jacob, God’s chosen, at this point in time? How does his conduct suit his name?
23. When you consider all you know about Jacob and Esau, why do you think God chose Jacob and not Esau to be the head of the family and the one through whom the promises of Abraham would be fulfilled?

Jacob Sent to Padan-Aram (27:41 - 28:9)

24. For what two reasons was Jacob sent away?
25. Does Esau show any real understanding of why a Canaanite wife was not pleasing to his parents? Explain.
26. Can you think of any way in which Rebekah was punished for her cunning and deceit? What about the “few days” mentioned in 27:44 as compared to what actually happened? (31:38, 41)

Lesson Eight: Jacob and His Family

Lesson Text

Genesis 28:10 - 36:43

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Genesis 28-29

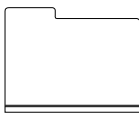
Tuesday
Genesis 30

Thursday
Genesis 31

Friday
Genesis 32-33

Saturday
Genesis 35

Lesson Concept



FAITH
Building family relationships

Jacob's Dream at Bethel (28:10-22)

1. Describe Jacob's dream. What would the things described in verse 12 impress upon him? Do the words spoken by God, especially verse 15, seem to explain the meaning of what is seen?
2. What promises were spoken to Jacob? To whom had they previously been given?
3. What was the name that Jacob gave to that place? Why?

Jacob's Marriages to Leah and Rachel (29:1-30)

4. How many years did Jacob serve for Leah? For Rachel?
5. How does the trick played on Jacob on his wedding night compare to something he had done?

Jacob's Children (29:31 - 30:24)

6. Describe the relationship between Jacob and his two wives. Does the "hated" in verse 31 mean that he did not love Leah at all? Explain.
7. List Jacob's sons and their mothers. Who was his daughter? Which son was born after Jacob left Padan-Aram? (cf. 35:16-18)

Jacob's Bargain with Laban (30:25-43)

8. Describe the bargain between Jacob and Laban.
9. Why would Laban do as he did in verses 35 and 36 after making a generous offer to Jacob? What were the results of this bargain for Jacob?

Jacob's Departure from Padan-Aram (31:1-55)

10. What were Jacob's reasons for returning to the land of Canaan?
11. Upon leaving Padan-Aram, what did Rachel do? Why? What are "terraphim?"
12. Describe the covenant between Jacob and Laban. What is the difference between the two place names mentioned in verse 47?

Jacob's Approach to Canaan (32:1-32)

13. After settling his differences with Laban, what other source of trouble did Jacob anticipate?
14. What reassurance did Jacob receive as he prepared to meet Esau? Why did he fear Esau?
15. Though Jacob prayed for deliverance from Esau, what else did he do to secure a favorable reception? What, if anything, does that suggest about the relation between prayer and human action? What attitude does Jacob show in his prayer?
16. How is the strange account recorded in verses 22 through 32 explained in Hosea 12:3-5?
17. Why was Jacob's name changed to Israel? Does this represent an important change of character? Explain.
18. Since the courage of Jacob no longer depended upon human cunning, what was now the basis of his courage?

Jacob's Meeting with Esau (33:1-17)

19. How long had it been since Jacob and Esau had seen one another?
20. Where did Jacob settle? Where was Esau's home?

Dinah Avenged by Simeon and Levi (34:1-31)

21. Why, in relation to this incident, is it important to note that Dinah was "the daughter of Leah?" (cf. 29:33-34; 30:21)
22. How does this incident become important to the futures of Simeon and Levi? (49:5-7)

Jacob's Return to Bethel (35:1-15)

23. Discuss the relation of this text with 28:20-22 and the vow made by Jacob in that passage.
24. How is the move ordered here by God connected with chapter 34? (Compare v. 5 to 34:30)
25. What had to be done before they set out for Bethel? How is the blessing of God manifested after the complete turning from idolatry?

The Death of Rachel (35:16-22a)

26. Give the circumstances of Rachel's death.
27. What sin was committed by Reuben which had significant consequences to his future? (49:3-4)

The Death of Isaac (35:27-29)

28. In what city did both Abraham and Isaac sojourn?

29. How old was Isaac when he died?

The Descendants of Esau (36:1-43)

30. What nation was derived from Esau? Where did his descendants settle?

Lesson Nine: Joseph and His Brothers

Lesson Text

Genesis 37:1 - 38:30

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 37:1-4

Tuesday

Genesis 37:5-14

Thursday

Genesis 15-36

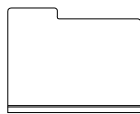
Friday

Genesis 37:15-36

Saturday

Genesis 38:1-30

Lesson Concept



FAITH

Learning about God
through His word today

Joseph Sold Into Egypt (37:1-36)

1. Why was Joseph hated by his brothers?
2. What evidence, if any, do you see in this text of the evils of polygamy?
3. Is it significant that the same sort of coat as Jacob gave Joseph was worn by members of the royal family at a later date? (2 Samuel 13:18) Explain.
4. Describe Joseph's two dreams. What meaning did his father and brothers see in these dreams?
5. Trace the course of events by which Joseph was carried into Egypt.
6. What two reasons are given for selling Joseph rather than killing him?
7. How did Joseph's brothers deceive their father?
8. In what way might Jacob be used to refute those who appeal to feelings as a defense of their religion?
9. In what way does this incident show that Jacob continued to reap exactly as he had sown in his earlier years?

Jacob's Marriages to Leah and Rachel (29:1-30)

10. Since this chapter gives an example of "levirate marriage," an old custom later embodied in the law of Moses (cf. Deuteronomy 25:5-10; Ruth 4:1-12), explain "levirate marriage."
11. Do you think the eagerness of the Canaanites to establish close ties with Jacob's descendants had any bearing on their sojourning in Egypt? (cf. 43:32; 46:33-34) Explain.
12. Who is the ancestor of both David (Ruth 4:18-22) and Jesus (Matthew 1:3) whose unusual birth is related in this chapter?

Lesson Ten: Joseph Imprisoned

Lesson Text

Genesis 39:1 - 41:45

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 39:1-20
1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Tuesday

Genesis 39:21 - 40:15

Thursday

Genesis 40:16-23

Friday

Genesis 41:1-36

Saturday

Genesis 41:37-45

Lesson Concept



FAITH

Developing character

Joseph in Potiphar's House (39:1-18)

1. Since the providence of God in the life of Joseph seems to be the dominant theme of the next chapters ("the Lord was with Joseph" v. 2):
 - a. How is God's presence with Joseph shown throughout the chapter?
 - b. Are there any events which seem to be against it?
 - c. What lesson might be drawn from part "b" of this question?
2. How was Joseph tempted? What two reasons kept him from yielding to temptation? What can we learn from him about how to deal with it today?

Joseph in Prison (39:19-23)

3. Using the life of Joseph as the basis for your answer, if you do right, will God see to it that you never have problems? Explain.
4. Is there any way in which problems such as Joseph had can be for a person's good? (cf. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4,9; 12:7-10; Hebrews 12:1-12; James 1:2-3).

Joseph, Interpreter of Dreams (40:1-23)

5. Why would the offices of butler and baker for the king need to be filled by trusted persons?
6. What were the dreams of the butler and baker? What might Joseph have said about dreams in view of what had happened so far with reference to his own dreams?
7. What lessons, if any, are to be learned from the fact that the chief butler "forgot Joseph?"

Joseph's Rise to Power (41:1-45)

8. List the steps by which Joseph came to power. How old was he when this happened? How many years had passed since he was taken from his home? (cf. 37:2)

9. Describe Pharaoh's dreams and their interpretations.
10. Describe the office given to Joseph.
11. Since God may take years to fulfill a purpose and those years may be filled with struggles, setbacks, sorrow, and great trials, what qualities does one need to reach the desired end?
12. Even though Joseph had clung to God during times of adversity, his exaltation provided another trial of this faithfulness. How did he handle that test?

Lesson Eleven: Joseph Forgives

Lesson Text

Genesis 41:26 - 45:15

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 41:46 - 42:20

Tuesday

Genesis 42:21-38

Thursday

Genesis 43

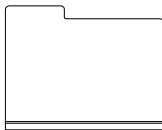
Friday

Genesis 44

Saturday

Genesis 45:1-15

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE

Repenting

Joseph's Brothers Sent

to Egypt for Food (41:46 - 42:38)

1. Why did Joseph's brothers come to Egypt for food?
2. About how many years had passed since Joseph had seen his brothers? (Consider his age when he was sold into Egypt and his age when he came to power along with his time in office.)
3. Show the fulfillment of prophecy involved in this chapter. (Especially compare v. six with 37:5-11)
4. Can you explain why Joseph recognized his brothers but they did not recognize him? Why did he keep his identity hidden from them for so long?
5. Since Joseph's questioning seemed intended to bring out the present feelings of his brothers, what were those feelings?
6. How do you account for Joseph's special interest in the youngest brother, Benjamin?
7. How is this chapter an illustration of Numbers 32:23?
8. What illustration of Romans 12:17a is found here?
9. Would this chapter lead you to conclude that the years in which his brothers had been deceiving his father about Joseph were happy years for them? Cite evidence.

The Second Trip to Egypt (43:1-34)

10. What fears did the brothers have as they returned to Egypt?
11. How were the brothers received? How did Joseph show special feeling for Benjamin?
12. What caused the brothers to be amazed and marvel?
13. In the light of 37:3-4, might not the favored treatment of Benjamin have been a test of the brothers? Why did Joseph wait so long to reveal his identity to them?

The Brothers Recalled to Egypt (44:1-34)

14. What did Joseph's treatment of them reveal about his brothers?
15. What might his brothers have done with reference to Benjamin when the cup was discovered? What attitudes were shown by the way they did react? How had they changed?

Joseph Reveals His Identity to His Brothers (45:1-15)

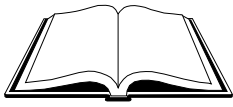
16. What kind of man did Joseph show himself to be?
17. According to Joseph, what was behind his being sold into Egypt?
18. In reviewing the steps God has taken in history to accomplish His purposes:
 - a. What was His purpose in choosing Abraham?
 - b. How did He use Joseph?
 - c. Discuss how He works even in human adversity to accomplish good.

Lesson Twelve: Joseph Reunited with Jacob

Lesson Text

Genesis 45:16 - 47:31

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Genesis 45:16-28

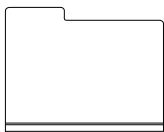
Tuesday
Genesis 46:1-24

Thursday
Genesis 46:25-34

Friday
Genesis 47:1-12

Saturday
Genesis 47:13-31

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE
Forgiving

Pharaoh's Invitation (45:16-21)

1. What was Pharaoh's proposal to the brothers of Joseph?

Jacob and the News Concerning Joseph (45:21-28)

2. What was Jacob's first reaction to the news that Joseph was alive?
3. What had Jacob done when his sons had told him a lie about Joseph? (37:31-35) What did he do now when they told him the truth? Are one's feelings and emotions reliable guides as to what is truth?
4. What convinced Jacob concerning Joseph?

The Move to Egypt (46:1-34)

5. Why did Jacob need God's reassurance before moving to Egypt? What indicates that the ultimate future of Israel was not in Egypt?
6. Where in Egypt did the Israelites live? What would tend to keep them separated from the Egyptians?

Jacob Before Pharaoh (47:1-12)

7. Since "evil" in verse nine refers to hardships and difficulties, what, specifically, did Jacob have in mind?
8. How could one in Jacob's circumstances bless a king? In what way are God's children, even if they are poor, in a position to bless even the wealthy and powerful?

The Results of the Famine in Egypt (47:13-26)

9. How did all the land and even the people come to belong to Pharaoh? What exception was there?
10. In contrasting the remarkable way in which the Israelites were provided for with the low estate to which even the Egyptians were reduced, how does the expression "blessings in disguise" apply to the life of Jacob?

Jacob's Last Days (47:27-31)

11. How do verses 29 and 30 show Jacob's faith in God's promises despite the passing of so long a time?
12. Give a short description of the predominant characteristic of each of the following periods in Jacob's life:
 - a. Birth to leaving home.
 - b. Period away from Canaan.
 - c. Return to Canaan until the selling of Joseph.
 - d. The selling of Joseph until the entrance into Egypt.
 - e. Last years in Egypt.

Lesson Thirteen: Last of the Patriarchs

Lesson Text

Genesis 48:1 - 50:26

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Genesis 48

Tuesday

Genesis 49:1-28

Thursday

Genesis 49:29-33

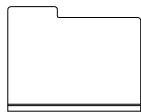
Friday

Genesis 50:1-14

Saturday

Genesis 50:15-26
Mark 16:15-18

Lesson Concept



OBEDIENCE

Following God's instructions

Jacob's Blessings Upon

Joseph's Sons (48:1-22)

1. Knowing that as the nation of Israel grew there would be no tribe of Joseph but tribes of his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh:
 - a. Explain, using this chapter, how that situation came to be.
 - b. By comparing verse five with 29:32-33, 49:3-7, and, especially, Deuteronomy 21:15-17, what is the effect of Jacob's actions here and how is Joseph again favored?
 - c. What is the significance of mentioning the death of Rachel in verse seven?
2. What other extraordinary occurrence took place in the blessing of Joseph's two sons?
3. What is noted in verse 22 that is not recorded elsewhere but remembered long afterward? (cf. John 4:5)

Jacob's Prophecy Concerning His Sons (49:1-33)

4. Generally speaking, in what way are these verses like a "last will and testament?"
5. Which two sons, with their descendants, received the greatest blessings? Why did Reuben lose the preeminence that ordinarily belongs to the firstborn? (35:22)
6. What was the fault of Simeon and Levi? (34:25-29) How is the prediction about them in verse seven eventually fulfilled? (cf. Joshua 19:1,9 and Judges 1:3 on Simeon; Joshua 21:1-42 on Levi)
7. Explain verse ten, noting its context, in light of several passages: Genesis 38:24-30; Genesis 46:12; Ruth 4:18-22; and Matthew 1:1-16.

Jacob's Death and Burial (49:28 - 50:14)

8. What last charge did Jacob give his sons?
9. What is meant by the phrase "was gathered unto his people?"

Joseph's Kindness to His Brothers (50:15-21)

10. Of what were Joseph's brothers afraid when Jacob died? Why do you think they had such a fear?
How did Joseph react to it?
11. How did Joseph view the bad things that had happened to him?

The Death of Joseph (50:22-26)

12. What evidence is there that Joseph "died in the faith?" (cf. Hebrews 11:13)
13. What can be learned about faith from this passage?

Centerville Road Church Of Christ

Visit us on the
World-Wide Web!

You will find:

- All issues of the bulletin "Truth and Reason."
- Articles of interest on many Biblical topics.
- Studies you can download free of charge.
- Announcements of upcoming events.
- Links to other quality sites.
- Important information about the Centerville Road church of Christ.



www.centervilleroad.com