

**GENESIS**

**ORIGIN STORY**

**THE ORIGIN OF FAITH**

**A 12-WEEK STUDY THROUGH GENESIS 11-22**





# ABOUT THIS READING PLAN

Each week's questions will take you on a journey to study one passage of the book of Genesis over the course of five days. These questions are designed to equip you with good Inductive Bible study methods, learning to **observe** the passage through the lens of the original audience, **interpret** the passage through the lens of Christ's full plan of redemption, and **apply** the passage through the lens of a 21st Century follower of Jesus.

## Here are some key skills you will develop:

1. **Observation Skills** - You will practice isolating the different parts of a passage and see how they relate to one another using basic grammar skills.
2. **Interpretation Skills** - You will learn how to use the features you observed to discover the author's intent. You will also learn how to use the whole context of the book and cross-references in the Bible to check and deepen meaning and understanding.
3. **Application Skills** - You will be challenged to create faithful and specific applications that are in line with the author's original intent for writing.

We urge you to make the most of this study, devoting yourself to daily reading and prayerful study. Each time you sit down with God's word, you can follow this pattern:

**Pray** - Ask God to give you understanding and to transform you through his word.

**Read** - Read slowly and carefully. Use the daily study questions to continually add to your understanding.

**Pray** - Ask God to impress what you have read upon your heart. Pray for the opportunity to share it with someone else, and pray for others in our church as they seek to walk in this truth with you.

**Share** - Talk to someone else about what God is revealing to you through his word. This might be another member of your Gospel Community, a mentor, a disciple, or even an unbeliever.

Finally, we hope you will take advantage of all the resources available at [www.oakhillfellowship.com/genesis2](http://www.oakhillfellowship.com/genesis2). Find free online tools like Bible dictionaries, encyclopedias and Greek lexicons on [biblestudytools.com](http://biblestudytools.com).



# INTRODUCTION

## ***Series Vision:***

An abiding faith in Christ's calling and promise that fuels our next steps in him.

***"AND HE BELIEVED THE LORD, AND HE COUNTED IT TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."***

GENESIS 15:6 (ESV)

This simple description of Abraham in the middle of Genesis is so small that we might miss it in the middle of the more cosmic promises that God made to him. However, it is not a trivial fact given to add interest to his story. Neither is it intended to make us turn Abraham into some sort of spiritual giant who is beyond our reach. Instead, this interaction between the Lord and Abraham reveals the pattern and gracious character of our God who works through the response of simple faith to save those whom he has chosen and called.

The New Testament writers viewed Genesis 15:6 as the backbone of our understanding of saving faith. Abraham believed the promise of God to provide an heir despite having no children in his old age. He believed the promise of God to make him the father of many nations despite having no nation to call his own. Abraham believed the promise of God to give him a land in which his offspring would dwell even though he only sojourned in that land in tents. Abraham believed God, and that was all that God wanted in order to use Abraham in his grand plan to save the whole world.

As we study the story of Abraham and the coming of his son Isaac, we will see how his faith in God's promise of a future son reveals our need to walk by faith in the fulfillment of God's promises, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the ultimate son of Abraham's line. He is the blessing to all nations as people from every people, tribe, and tongue turn to him. And Jesus is the security that true Israel will one day dwell in peace under his rule as they turn to him in faith.

As you study this section of Genesis, we pray that the Lord will strengthen your FAITH as you take your next steps in Christ by TRUSTING his calling and promise.

# EXAMPLE STUDY

1 SAMUEL 8:1-22

1 When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. 3 Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. 8 According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. 9 Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

10 So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him. 11 He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. 12 And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. 13 He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14 He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. 15 He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. 16 He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. 17 He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. 18 And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day."

19 But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the LORD. 22 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey their voice and make them a king." Samuel then said to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city."

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - STRUCTURE

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in yellow.
4. Highlight or underline the rising tension (the main conflict or problem) in purple.
5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in red.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in blue.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in green.

## a. Retell the story in your own words.

*Setting: Samuel's aging and his son's unfaithfulness to the Lord. (8:1-3)*

*Rising Tension: The elders of Israel's request for a King, Samuel's displeasure, and the Lord's instructions. (8:4-9)*

*Climax (Discourse): Samuel's warning against kings and how they will oppress and take away. (8:10-18)*

*Resolution: The people's rejection of Samuel's warning. (8:19-22a)*

*Following Action: The Lord gives Israel over to their desires. (8:22b)*

## b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

*There is dialogue between the people and Samuel and the Lord and Samuel, (in that order), defining the boundaries of the rising tension and resolution. The climax is all monologue from Samuel to the people.*

*Samuel's speech/prophesy foreshadows what is to come in the next section of the book.*

## c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

*The people of Israel refused to obey the voice of God (their True King), and instead insisted on making a king for themselves - a choice that would enslave them.*

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - CONTEXT

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

*This chapter serves as the transition between the story of Samuel and the rise of the Monarchy under Saul, eventually preparing the way for King David, God's chosen anointed King who will represent him. It foreshadows the failures of Saul to be a truly just and righteous king and lays the backdrop for why God would choose his own human King.*

*The depravity of Israel has been on display throughout the book, through the worthlessness of Eli's sons to now the worthlessness of Samuel's sons. They do not want to be set apart as God's people but rather want to be just like the other nations who they presumably esteem to be more powerful and better set up for long-term prosperity.*

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - GOSPEL CONNECTION

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

*The Kingdom of God and of his Christ is unlike the kingdoms of this world. They incite war while he brings peace. They tax while he provides. They enslave, while he brings freedom.*

*The theme of enslavement to a King/Kingdom is captured in many of Paul's writings. Just as King David will deliver them from the enslaving rule of Saul that they endured by their own choices, so King Jesus delivers us from the enslaving rule of sin.*

*In this text, the good news of God's reign is a backdrop for the WARNING against submitting to other masters.*



## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

*This chapter is set in the context of Deut. 17:14-20, the laws according to which Israel may ask for a king. God had already made provision for a human king to be in Israel, and had a plan for what he should be like.*

*Ultimately, Saul becomes the black curtain against which the beauty of David's reign shines, and ultimately against which the beauty of Christ shines. Christ is not the king we would naturally choose, but he is the King we need.*

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

*Primary Audience: When Israel sought to be just like the nations of the earth, it did not go well with them. God and God alone was a more-than-sufficient king, but they did not believe this to be true, much to their own hurt.*

*Personal: It is not worth allowing myself to be controlled by another in order to be accepted or feel secure "just like everyone else." I can either choose to submit myself to Christ, the King who gives freedom, or I can choose to submit myself to the enslavement of fleshly masters (either spiritual or tangible).*

# WEEK 1

GENESIS 11:27-12:9

27 Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. 28 Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29 And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. 30 Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

31 Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. 32 The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.

**12** Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in **YELLOW**.
4. Highlight or underline the rising tension (the main conflict or problem) in **PURPLE**.
5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in **RED**.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in **BLUE**.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 2

GENESIS 12:10-20

10 Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land. 11 When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance, 12 and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me, but they will let you live. 13 Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake." 14 When Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. 15 And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. 16 And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels.

17 But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. 18 So Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? 19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife; take her, and go." 20 And Pharaoh gave men orders concerning him, and they sent him away with his wife and all that he had.

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How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 3

## GENESIS 13:1-18

**13** So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb.

2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. 3 And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, 4 to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD. 5 And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, 6 so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, 7 and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land.

8 Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." 10 And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) 11 So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD.

14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, 15 for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. 16 I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. 17 Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." 18 So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

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5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in **RED**.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in **BLUE**.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 4

## GENESIS 14:1-24

**14** In the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim, 2 these kings made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). 3 And all these joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). 4 Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled. 5 In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim, 6 and the Horites in their hill country of Seir as far as El-paran on the border of the wilderness. 7 Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh) and defeated all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who were dwelling in Hazazon-tamar.

8 Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) went out, and they joined battle in the Valley of Siddim 9 with Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against five. 10 Now the Valley of Siddim was full of bitumen pits, and as the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into them, and the rest fled to the hill country. 11 So the enemy took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. 12 They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who was dwelling in Sodom, and his possessions, and went their way.

13 Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner. These were allies of Abram. 14 When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. 16 Then he brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his possessions, and the women and the people.

17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) 19 And he blessed him and said,

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
Possessor of heaven and earth;  
20 and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!"

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. 21 And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." 22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' 24 I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share."

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in **YELLOW**.
4. Highlight or underline the rising tension (the main conflict or problem) in **PURPLE**.
5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in **RED**.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in **BLUE**.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?



## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 5

## GENESIS 15:1-21

**15** After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." **2** But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" **3** And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." **4** And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." **5** And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." **6** And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

**7** And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." **8** But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" **9** He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." **10** And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. **11** And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

**12** As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. **13** Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. **14** But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. **15** As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. **16** And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

**17** When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. **18** On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, **19** the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, **20** the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, **21** the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

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7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

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How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 6

## GENESIS 16:1-15

**16** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. **2** And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. **3** So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. **4** And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. **5** And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!" **6** But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

**7** The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. **8** And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." **9** The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." **10** The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." **11** And the angel of the LORD said to her,

"Behold, you are pregnant

and shall bear a son.

You shall call his name Ishmael,

because the LORD has listened to your affliction.

**12** He shall be a wild donkey of a man,

his hand against everyone

and everyone's hand against him,

and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

**13** So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." **14** Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

**15** And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. **16** Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in **YELLOW**.
4. Highlight or underline the rising tension (the main conflict or problem) in **PURPLE**.
5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in **RED**.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in **BLUE**.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?



## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 7

## GENESIS 17:1-18:15

**17** When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, 2 that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." 3 Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, 4 "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. 8 And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God."

9 And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. 10 This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. 11 You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. 12 He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, 13 both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. 14 Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

15 And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. 16 I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." 17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" 18 And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" 19 God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. 20 As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. 21 But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year."

22 When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. 23 Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. 24 Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. 25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. 26 That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. 27 And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

**18** And the LORD appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth 3 and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, 5 while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." 6 And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

9 They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." 10 The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" 13 The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' 14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son." 15 But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "No, but you did laugh."

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in **YELLOW**.
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7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

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## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 8

GENESIS 18:16-33

16 Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. 17 The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, 18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." 20 Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, 21 I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

22 So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. 23 Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? 25 Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" 26 And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

27 Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. 28 Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." 29 Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." 30 Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." 31 He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." 32 Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." 33 And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

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## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 9

## GENESIS 19:1-38

**19** The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth **2** and said, "My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the town square." **3** But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

**4** But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. **5** And they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." **6** Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, **7** and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. **8** Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof." **9** But they said, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. **10** But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. **11** And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door.

**12** Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city, bring them out of the place. **13** For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it." **14** So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up! Get out of this place, for the LORD is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

**15** As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." **16** But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. **17** And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away." **18** And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords. **19** Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. **20** Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!" **21** He said to him, "Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. **22** Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

**23** The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. **24** Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven. **25** And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. **26** But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

**27** And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. **28** And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

**29** So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

**30** Now Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to live in Zoar. So he lived in a cave with his two daughters. **31** And the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. **32** Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father." **33** So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she lay down or when she arose.

**34** The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let us make him drink wine tonight also. Then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father." **35** So they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. **36** Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. **37** The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. **38** The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

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## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

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How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 10

## GENESIS 20:1-18

**20** From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. **2** And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. **3** But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." **4** Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, "Lord, will you kill an innocent people? **5** Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this." **6** Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. **7** Now then, return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours."

**8** So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid. **9** Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done." **10** And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you see, that you did this thing?" **11** Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, 'There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.' **12** Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. **13** And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, "He is my brother."'"

**14** Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him. **15** And Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you." **16** To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated." **17** Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. **18** For the LORD had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

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## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

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# WEEK 11

## GENESIS 21:1-34

**21** The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. **2** And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. **3** Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. **4** And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. **5** Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. **6** And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." **7** And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

**8** And the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. **9** But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, laughing. **10** So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." **11** And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. **12** But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named. **13** And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." **14** So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

**15** When the water in the skin was gone, she put the child under one of the bushes. **16** Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, "Let me not look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. **17** And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. **18** Up! Lift up the boy, and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make him into a great nation." **19** Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. **20** And God was with the boy, and he grew up. He lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. **21** He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

**22** At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do. **23** Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned." **24** And Abraham said, "I will swear."

**25** When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized, **26** Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today." **27** So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant. **28** Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. **29** And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?" **30** He said, "These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug this well." **31** Therefore that place was called Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath. **32** So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. **33** Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. **34** And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

# DAY 1: OBSERVATION - *STRUCTURE*

1. Read the whole scene(s) through to get a feel what is happening.
2. Put a | line between each scene.
3. Highlight or underline the setting (who, where, what) in **YELLOW**.
4. Highlight or underline the rising tension (the main conflict or problem) in **PURPLE**.
5. Highlight or underline the climax (the point of no return) in **RED**.
6. Highlight or underline the resolution (how the main conflict or problem resolves) in **BLUE**.
7. Highlight or underline the following action / new setting in **GREEN**.

a. Retell the story in your own words.

b. What other clues does the author use to give you hints about the main point of this scene (repetition, character development, comparison/contrast, dialogue, etc.)?

c. What do the climax and resolution tell you about the main point of the story? Summarize the author's emphasis in this scene.

## DAY 2: OBSERVATION - *CONTEXT*

How does this passage relate to the scene(s) before and after? Are there any themes or images in this passage that show up elsewhere in this book? How does this serve the author's overall argument (what would we lose if this passage wasn't here)?

## DAY 3: INTERPRETATION - *GOSPEL CONNECTION*

To what specific part of the gospel (the person and work of Jesus Christ) does the scene(s) point? What function does this serve in the scene(s)?

## DAY 4: INTERPRETATION - *BIBLICAL THEOLOGY*

How does this passage relate to God's plan in Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Future Restoration (the whole storyline of the Bible)?

## DAY 5: APPLICATION - *MAIN POINT / ACTIONABLE RESPONSE*

What is the author's main message to his primary audience? What does this mean for our church and your life? How will you apply this personally?

# WEEK 12

## GENESIS 22:1-24

**22** After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." **2** He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." **3** So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. **4** On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. **5** Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." **6** And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. **7** And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" **8** Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

**9** When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. **10** Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. **11** But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." **12** He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." **13** And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. **14** So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

**15** And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven **16** and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, **17** I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, **18** and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." **19** So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

**20** Now after these things it was told to Abraham, "Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: **21** Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram, **22** Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel." **23** (Bethuel fathered Rebekah.) These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother. **24** Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Maacah.

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