



Lesson 4: Genesis 12-24

Introduction:

"We may rest assured that when Abraham started, he asked no questions concerning how far or to what place he was journeying. He left that all in the hands of God. His faith put its hand inside the hand of its father, and he was content to be led wherever his father would lead him."

Charles Spurgeon

"The Call of Abraham" (July 10, 1889)

This year we are memorizing Isaiah 40.

This week's verse is Isaiah 40:5...

"Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed, And all flesh will see it together;
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Day One - Read Genesis 12:1–20; God Calls Abram

Note: This week is an overview of Genesis 12–24, looking only at selective events in the life of Abraham.

1. **What encouraged or convicted you from last week's lecture or lesson, and how are you applying what you learned?**

2. **From Genesis 12:1–3, list God's instructions and promises to Abram.**
 - a. **How does this relate to God's promise in Genesis 3:15?**

3. Remembering God's instruction to Noah in Genesis 9:1, contrast man's plan in 11:4 with God's promise in 12:2.

a. From these references, what can be learned about God's character?

4. According to 12:4–7, why does Abram leave Haran, where does he go, and whose land did God give him?

5. In verses 10–20, what did Abram ask Sarai to do, and what were the results?

a. From this account, what do you learn about God's character and Abram's response that will help you walk by faith and live obediently this week?

Day Two - Read Genesis 13–14; Abram and Lot

1. From Genesis 13:1–12, summarize briefly the situation between Abram and Lot, and how it was resolved.

a. Contrast Abram's and Lot's responses to the conflict, and what they demonstrate.

2. In verses 14–18, how was God's promise of land and descendants developed further?

3. In your own words, summarize briefly the events described in Genesis 14:1–16.
4. In verses 17–24, by what name was God called, and why is that meaningful?
5. Using your study notes, a Bible dictionary, or other resources, what is another, more familiar name for Salem (verse 18), the land over which Melchizedek reigned?
6. In verses 19–24, what is significant about Melchizedek blessing Abram and why did Abram refuse to accept the spoils of his victory?

Day Three - Read Genesis 15–17; Abram Becomes Abraham

1. In Genesis 15:1, what elements did God's benediction to Abram contain?
2. According to Genesis 15:2–3, what problem did Abram have and what solution did he devise? Do you think this was reasonable? (See Genesis 12:2 and 13:16.)
3. From verses 4–21, what new details of God's covenant with Abram are given? Cite specific verses.

4. In verse 6, why was Abram declared righteous? See Galatians 3:6–9.
 - a. Use a dictionary to define “faith” and then find two Scripture references that define faith.

5. In Genesis 16:1–6, what motivated Sarai to give Hagar to Abram, and what was the result?

6. According to 16:7–16, who is born from this union and how is he described?
 - a. In your life, where are you depending on your own works instead of living by faith, and write down practical things you can do to fight this.

7. In Genesis 17, what new or expanded aspects of God’s covenant with Abraham are noted? Cites verses to support your answer.

Day Four - Read Genesis 18–22; God Sovereignty Displayed

NOTE: Remember that this year’s study is an overview of the Old Testament, and the focus on this portion of Genesis 12–50 is on God’s redemptive thread through the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Judah.

1. Describe briefly what happened in Genesis 18, 19, and 20, and one thing you find particularly interesting in each chapter.

 2. From Genesis 21:1–8, what significant event took place, and how did it relate to the Abrahamic covenant?

 3. In verses 9–14, why was Ishmael sent away, and how did that relate to the Abrahamic covenant?

 4. In Genesis 22:1–14, what did God ask Abraham to do, and why?
 - a. What does this story reveal about Abraham and Isaac and their relationship with each other?

 - b. What principle from this story do you find particularly encouraging or convicting, and why?

 5. In Genesis 22:2, where did God instruct Abraham to go to sacrifice Isaac? According to 2 Chronicles 3:1, what is significant about that location?
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Day Five - Read Genesis 23–24; Abraham Finishes Well

1. Genesis 23 chronicles the death and burial of Sarah. Remembering the context of God's covenant with Abraham, what is the significance of verses 19–20?

- a. From Genesis 25:8–9, 49:31, and 49:33–50:13, who else was buried in this family plot?
2. According to Genesis 24:1–9, why was it important for Abraham to find a wife for Isaac?
 3. From verses 10–27, briefly describe God’s choice for Isaac’s wife.
 4. Trace Abraham’s life of faith in Genesis 12:1–25:9 and Hebrews 11:8–12 and 17–19 and write down two or three things that you find particularly noteworthy.
 - a. What lesson can you learn from Abraham, and how can you practically implement that? Be specific.

NOTES