

Genesis

THE STARTING LINE ↙

Third Edition

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Genesis is creation's starting line. It's more than an account of how it all began, it's creation's history and if you study it closely it offers glimpses of its future too!

About The Book-

“Through His servant Moses, the Holy Spirit traces the beginning of man, woman, marriage, the home, sin, sacrifices, cities, trade, agriculture, music, worship, languages, and the races of nations of the world. All this in the first eleven chapters. **A solid grasp of Genesis is necessary for an understanding of the rest of the sixty-five books of the Bible. They all build on it.**” —MacDonald, Believers Bible Commentary.

Study Outline- We will divide the study into 8 sessions:

1. Chapters 1-5 (pg. 5-6)
2. Chapters 6-10 (pg. 7-8)
3. Chapters 11 (pg. 9-12)
4. Chapters 12-14 (pg. 13-14)
5. Chapters 15-19 (pg. 15-16)
6. Chapters 20-23 (pg. 17-18)
7. Chapters 24-25 (pg. 19-21)
8. Chapters 26-30 (pg. 22-23)
9. Chapters 31-36
10. Chapters 37-44
11. Chapters 45-50

Addressing 4 themes:

- Meet the Characters
- See the World
- See the Problem
- See the Saviour

We will use both a thought translation like the New Living and a word translation like the New King James Version for this Bible study. After reading each section in one, re-read it in the other. Then, if applicable:

- Write a single sentence to summarize each chapter. A verse from that section might help.
- Summarize God's words of instruction in each section. Pay attention to WHO God give the command to. If it's obvious, write down WHY the instruction was given. This isn't always obvious so be careful not to assume.
- Select a word from each week's reading that is important to the text theme or is personally profound. Perform a word study on this word using a Lexicon.

Here's an example of each days Study Guide:

Based on the reading from Genesis _____

Summary Sentence/Central verse-

God's command & to whom was it given-

Word Study:

Meanings-

Meaning in the context-

Truth Point (a pattern to live by)-

Study Guide: Based on the reading from Genesis 1-5

“Before and After sin”

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote: *“You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.” Genesis 4:7*

Word Study: *Light*, Strongs #216

Meanings: “Luminous, in every sense, including lightning, happiness, bright, clear, morning, sun.

Meaning in the context: The opposite of dark!

Word Study Application sentence: *God invented the light bulb. If you want a clear look on something, ask Him to show you.*

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

What’s the source of “good”- GOD.

What’s the source of “shame”- Satan/my choice.

What was the solution to shame- something had to die to cover man’s exposed sin.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 1-5

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 6-10*

“Noahic Covenant”

Summary Sentence: *God saves sinners willing to obey. God covenants with the saved restoring their relationship.*

Central Verse quote: *“As for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you...” 9:9*

Word Study: Covenant. Strongs #1285

Meanings: “Cutting a compact- made by passing between pieces of flesh.”

Meaning in the context: Oneness with God is a relationship of two halves- God and man.

Truth Point:(a pattern to live by)

God is willing to save if I’m willing to obey.

“With Noah’s new beginning came a covenant. It was necessary now to have a covenant with obligation for mankind and a promise from God. Because of the flood’s destruction of life, people might begin to think that God holds life cheap and assume that taking life is a small matter. This covenant shows that life is sacred, and that man is not to destroy man, who is made in the image of God.”- *Bible Knowledge Commentary.*

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 6-10

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: Based on the reading from Genesis 11

“Tower of Babel”

Summary Sentence: *Focused on their own desires, people forget/reject God’s design for their lives; dependence on Him.*

Central Verse quote: *“And they said, Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.” 11:4.*

Word Study:

“Babel”. Strongs #894. Meanings: “Confusion.”

Meaning in the context: The people heard only “babel/confusion” from each other. The confusion was so bad, each man went his own way.

Word Study Application sentence: Life isn’t confusing when I build it God’s way.

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

In Genesis 9:1 God said, “So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.” After the flood, God intended people explore and manage the new earth. A short time later people reject God’s command. Instead of filling the earth, an action that would take tremendous faith, the people band together to build a home for themselves. This new home could access heaven FROM earth! There would be no need for God or His commands with a tower so grand. God wants His people to learn ultimate dependence on HIM, not on each other.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 11

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)



Word Study: "Us". Gen 11:7. Strongs # There is no Strongs number for "us". As a feature of Hebrew to English translation, "us" is dependant on the sentence.

Meanings: Unknowable.

Meaning in the context: Speculative, BUT supported by other Scriptures!

Scholarly Notes:

"There are parallels for this in other languages, including English. When we talk (figuratively) to ourselves we do say things like "let's go", "allons-y", "gehen wir". The underlying idea is that when we talk to ourselves we are in effect splitting ourselves in half, with one of our two personae addressing the other. **Genesis 11:7** uses verbs in the first person plural in the Hebrew original (נִרְדָּה וְנִבְלָה) and in all the ancient translations (καταβάντες συγχέωμεν, descendamus et confundamus etc.)."

--fdb. <https://hermeneutics.stackexchange.com/questions/26337/genesis-126-why-do-interpreters-add-let-us#26339>

"Just because "faces" is always plural does not mean everyone is two-faced!".-

הָבָה נִרְדָּה וְנִבְלָה שָׁם שְׂפָתָם אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ אִישׁ

שְׂפַת רֵעֵהוּ



הָבָה נִרְדָּה וְנִבְלָה שָׁם שְׂפָתָם אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ אִישׁ שְׂפַת רֵעֵהוּ

Word Study: "Us". Gen 11:7.

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

(Continued) **Study Guide:** *Based on the reading from Genesis 12-14*

“Abram’s alliances”

Summary Sentence: Abram’s world was cutthroat. Everyone vs everyone else. Abram lived like that too, like a man on Survivor- when he’s under pressure he runs or makes convenient alliances. But that changed when he met Melchizedek, the High Priest of God.

Central Verse quote: *“Now the Lord had said to Abram: Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” 12:1-3*

“But Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, let you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’” 14:22-23.

Word Study: “Tithe.” Genesis 14:20 Strongs #4643.

Meanings: one tenth of the part.

Word Study Application sentence: God gave Abram everything he had. As Abrams faith grew he gave back a tithe to the Lord who blessed him.

Truth Point: Cut to the chase. Start with a God alliance!

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 11-14

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 15-19*

“Belief & Testing”

Summary Sentence- Belief is an active faith beyond our perception of time and method; KNOWING what God says, and FOLLOWING through, trusting it will be.

Central Verse quote- *“Is anything too hard for the Lord?” 18:14*

Word Study: Lord. “Adoni”, Strong’s #113 as used in Genesis 18:3

Meaning: husband, master.

Compare Adoni “lord” #113 to Yahweh “Lord” #3068. See how these English words are the same but their Hebrew meaning is different in Genesis 18:14 and 24:42

Overview-

- God’s will is not constrained by our outlook.
- Hagar and Ishmael; Living as an outcast, feeling God’s love.
- Circumcision.
- Sarah laughs at God’s promise in the light of her own limitations.
- Abraham wrestles with God’s judgment- “would you destroy the righteous with the wicked?” 18:23
- Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- Lot’s twisted family- a result of living in a sin filled land?

Truth Point- temptation and testing come in many different outward forms. Obedience always looks the same.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 15-19

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 20-23*

“God’s plan made famous”

Summary Sentence: Imperfect people make imperfect decisions, but God has a plan and faith makes the difference.

Central Verse quote: *“But God told Abraham, ‘Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tell you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be MADE FAMOUS’.* Genesis 21:12

Word Study: Counted. “Quara”, Strongs #7121 as used in Genesis 21:12:

Meanings: to call, to become, to read. To be made famous.

Meaning in the context: Made famous.

Word Study Application sentence: What God will do through Isaac is what God will be a sign to all people of His love for us.

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Seek God's best in every decision. Watch Him work it out!

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 20-23

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 24-25*

“Six degrees of separation”

Summary Sentence: “Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had father Abraham, I am one of them, and so are you, so let’s all praise the Lord”.

Central Verse quote: “Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. But Abraham gave gifts to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had; and while he was still living, he sent them eastward, away from Isaac his son, to the country of the east”. Genesis 25:5-6

Word Study: Serve. “Abad”, Strongs #5647 as used in Genesis 25:23:

Meanings: to work for, to serve, as a slave or free.

Meaning in the context: Abad is a Qal Hebrew verb meaning it is a strong or simply stated verb. No hidden meaning here, “the older shall serve the younger.”

Word Study Application sentence: Just as He had with Abraham’s children, God chose Esau and Jacobs destiny. One would serve the other not because of what they could do but because God said it would be so.

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Lean not on your own understanding but in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your path strait.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Six degrees of separation...

The two most notable children of **ABRAHAM** include:

- **ISHMAEL**- father of the Ishmaelites also known as the **Arabs** nations.
- **ISAAC**- father of **Esau** and **JACOB**, Jacob would father 8 tribes of **Israel**.

The descendants of Esau in the Bible include:

- **Moabites**
- **Ammonites**
- **Kenites**
- **Eliphaz, Ruel, Jeush, Jalam, Korah, who were Esau's sons**
- **The leaders of the clans of Teman, Omar, Zepho, Kenaz, Korah** (not to be confused with Korah the Jew), **Gatam and Amalek, who descended from Eliphaz**

The descendants of **JACOB** in the Bible include the 12 tribes:

- **RUBEN**
- **SIMEON**
- **EPHRAIM**
- **JUDAH**
- **ISSACHAR**
- **ZEBULUN**
- **LEVI**
- **DAN**
- **NAPHTALI**
- **GAD**
- **ASHER**
- **MANASSEH**
- **BENJAMIN**

"Unlike Ismael, Esau is a fully developed character who's destiny is to serve his brother." Suny Press- 2006 state university of New York Press, Albany

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 20-23

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: Based on the reading from Genesis 26-30

“humanism”

Summary Sentence: “Isaac, Esau, Jacob, Rebekah, Laban, Leah and Rachel are a dysfunctional mess, unlike God in so many ways.

Central Verse quote: *“Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn’t even aware of it!’ But he was also afraid and said, ‘What an awesome place this is! It is none other than the house of God, the very gateway to heaven!’”* Genesis 28:16-17

Truth Point: Humanism, “any system or mode of thought or action in which human interests, values, and dignity predominate.” <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/humanism>

In Gen 22, Isaac is a willing sacrifice. As a young man, he could have resisted but his faith was strong when his father Abraham laid him on the altar. But although he was willing in faith, his life proved he was unable to be a perfect sacrifice. Easily fooled, unwise, caught up in jealous drama, Isaac and the others are humanism. At our best were not good enough.

Thankfully God still comes! He promises blessings, not because of who we are but because of who He is!

“But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Romans 5:8

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 26-30

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 31-33*

“let’s get ready to rumble.”

Summary Sentence: Jacob's life was a compilation of imperfect decisions and God's grace.

Central Verse quote: “... *I have seen God face to face, yet my life has been spared.*”

Genesis 31:53

Word Study: fought/wrestles.

Strongs # 8280

Meanings: to persist, exert, persevere. To gain power- a prince.

Meaning in the context: the “fight” makes you fit.

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: Struggle comes because we live in an imperfect world- our decisions or the decisions of others, we reap the results. The older we get the more complicated life can become. The chickens come home to roost so they say- Robert Southey's poem *The Curse of Kehama*, 1810: "Curses are like young chickens: they always come home to roost." But the person that “wrestles” with God wins; NOT by fighting against God, but by a stubborn refusal to let God go.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 31-33

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 34-37*

“Israel- you have fought with God, now God fights for you.”

Summary Sentence: El-shaddai- God Almighty is always at work.

Central Verse quote: “... God blessed him, saying, “Your name is Jacob, but you will not be called Jacob any longer From now on you name will be called Israel (God fights for you).” ... Then God said, “I am El-Shaddai- God Almighty.” You will become a great nation, even many nations. Kings will be among your descendants!” Genesis 35:9-12

Word Study: Bethel.

Strongs # 1008

Meanings: House of God.

Meaning in the context: where God lives

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: Since Adam and Eve sinned by choosing to know the difference between good and evil, both good and evil have been a part of every person’s life. Even the most faithful God worshipers fall short of God’s perfect standard. Our lives are complicated schemes against evil but evil never rests. The solution? The wise wrestle with God to know His name (Genesis 32), then once they learn it they let God wrestle for them! Wake up and realize El-Shaddai IS God Almighty and bethel with him wherever He leads.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 34-37

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)

Study Guide: *Based on the reading from Genesis 38*

***If God loves you so much that He'd give His Son,
why is selfishness a sin?***

Summary Sentence: Selfishness is the ultimate hypocrisy.

Central Verse quote: *"And the think which he did displeased the Lord (Yahweh); therefore He killed him also." Genesis 39:10*

Word Study: Yahweh

Strongs #3068

Meanings: The proper name of the God if Israel.

Meaning in the context: The giver of life.

Word Study Application sentence: The giver of life, Who paid for it with His Own freedom rejects those who would selfishly seek to "live" without cost.

Truth Point: God's love is simple- it gives. Our love is often selfish and weaves a tangled web.

"Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive."

-Sir Walter Scott, Marmion: A Tale of Flooden Field.

It's Your Turn!

Based on the reading from Genesis 38

Title:

Summary Sentence:

Central Verse quote:

Word Study:

Strongs #

Meanings:

Meaning in the context:

Word Study Application sentence:

Truth Point: (a pattern to live by)