

Bible Stories for Adults

Overview of the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1 - 50

Opening

Gathering: Give an example of how God's good plan was accomplished in your life despite your efforts to do something else or despite apparent impossibility.

Today's Focus: To recognize God's love for us through creating us, honoring us, justly disciplining us, offering us His grace and continually blessing us so we may do His Will.

Key Verses: *God created man in His own image.* Genesis 1:27

I will bless you; ... I will bless those who bless you, ... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. Genesis 12:2-3

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. Genesis 50:20

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Creation (*Genesis 1*)

Does the Bible start with the beginning of God?

Psalm 90:2

Then what beginning does the Bible start with?

Genesis 1:1

How did God create everything we know, see, feel, hear, smell, etc.?

Genesis 1:3

What was the last thing God created?

Genesis 1:27

How long did it take God to create everything and how did He feel about it?

Genesis 1:31

The Crown of God's Creation (*Genesis 2*)

What purposes did God have for the crown of His creation?

Genesis 1:28; 2:15

Was this creature given "free rein" over what he did and how he did it?

Genesis 2:16-17

How did God further bless this crown of His creation?

Genesis 2:18, 22, 24

The Fall (*Genesis 3*)

How well did the crown of God's creation live freely within His limits?

Genesis 3:5-6

How did God respond in judgment against this disobedience and rejection of His will?

Genesis 3:7, 16-17, 19

How did God respond in love with His grace (undeserved gift)?

Genesis 3:15, 22-23

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The Cycle of Sin / Judgment / Grace (*Genesis 3-11*)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Sin</u>	<u>Judgment</u>	<u>Grace</u>
3			
4			
6-9			
11			

What sin do we learn about next?

Genesis 4:8

What was God's judgment in response to this sin?

Genesis 4:11-12

How did God follow this judgment with His loving grace?

Genesis 4:15

What sin do we learn about next?

Genesis 6:5

What was God's judgment in response to this sin?

Genesis 6:17

How did God follow this judgment with His loving grace?

Genesis 6:18-19

What sin do we learn about next?

Genesis 11:4

What was God's judgment in response to this sin?

Genesis 11:9

How did God follow this judgment with His loving grace?

Genesis 12:1-3

Scripture Focuses In (*Genesis 1-12*)

What is the focus of Genesis 1?

Genesis 1:1

How does this focus change in Genesis 2?

Genesis 2:7

How does this focus change in Genesis 12?

Genesis 17:7

How does this focus change in the New Testament?

Galatians 3:8-9

Father Abraham (*Hebrews 11:8-12*)

Was Abraham chosen to receive God's blessing because he was so righteous?

Joshua 24:2

How did Abraham respond when God called him to go, and why?

Hebrews 11:8

How did God further bless Abraham in response to his faith?

Hebrews 11:9-13, 16

How did God bless the people of the world through Abraham's faith?

Galatians 3:29, 14

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A Perfect Faith? (*Genesis 12-21*)

Did Abraham ever falter in his faith?

Genesis 12:11-13

Why should Abraham have trusted God to protect him and Sarah?

Genesis 17:19

Did Abraham learn to trust God more as he lived longer under God's care?

Genesis 20:2-3

How else did Abraham interfere with God's plan out of weakness of faith?

Genesis 16:1-2

How did God show Abraham that He will fulfill His plan, no matter how impossible it may appear?

Genesis 21:2, 5

Faith Tested (*Genesis 22*)

How did God test Abraham's faith after proving to Abraham that He was in control?

Genesis 22:1-2

How did Abraham respond to this test, and why?

Genesis 22:3a, 8, 10

How did God respond to Abraham's faithful obedience?

Genesis 22:12-13, 16-18

Why is this covenant of God with Abraham important to us?

Hebrews 6:13, 17, 19-20a

One Last Faith Move (*Genesis 24*)

What command had God given Abraham and his descendants as part of His covenant?

Genesis 17:10, 14

How did Abraham respond to this command after Sarah died and before he died?

Genesis 24:2-4

How did God respond to Abraham's faithfulness in this matter?

Genesis 24:15-16, 21, 26-27, 50-51

Faith of Isaac (*Genesis 25-27*)

How did God test Isaac's faithfulness in a manner similar to that of his father?

Genesis 25:20-21, 25-26

How did God respond to Isaac's faithfulness?

Genesis 26:3-4

Did Isaac trust God in worldly matters better than his father had done?

Genesis 26:7

Did Isaac take care that his descendants remained separated from the world (circumcised)?

Genesis 25:28; 26:34-35

How was Isaac prevented from passing the covenant blessing to his favorite son?

Genesis 27:1, 4, 15, 19, 27-29

Did Isaac try to undo his mistake after learning that God's blessing had gone to Jacob?

Genesis 27:32-33, 36-37

How did Isaac faithfully support God's choice for the covenant child?

Genesis 28:1, 3-4

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Faith of Jacob (*Genesis 28-32*)

How did God confirm His promise to Jacob on his way to find a wife in Haran?
Genesis 28:12-15

How did Jacob respond to God's promise?
Genesis 28:20-22

How was Jacob, the deceiver, deceived by his uncle Laban?
Genesis 29:18-19, 21-23, 27-28

How did Laban further deceive Jacob?
Genesis 30:26-28, 32, 34-35

How did Jacob try to deceive Laban in return?
Genesis 30:38-39, 42

How did God confirm His calling to Jacob as he returned to Canaan?
Genesis 32:28-29

Jacob's Sons (*Genesis 29-38*)

How did Jacob's wives get in the act of trying to control God's plan?
Genesis 29:30-31; 30:1, 4, 9, 22

How did Jacob's sons show they had learned deceit from their father?
Genesis 34:13, 15, 24-25

Had Jacob learned the dangers of favoritism from his experiences with Isaac and Laban?
Genesis 37:3-4

How was Jacob deceived by his sons in response to this favoritism?
Genesis 37:13, 19-20, 26-27, 31-32

Joseph (*Genesis 39-50*)

How did God use this to prepare Joseph for his key purpose in life?
Genesis 39:2-4

How did God further prepare Joseph in a way that Joseph likely questioned?
Genesis 39:7, 10, 14, 20

How did God use this to make an opportunity to present Joseph to the Pharaoh?
Genesis 41:8-9, 12-16, 39-40

How did this lead to God's purpose of getting His covenant people to Egypt for a time of preparation?
Genesis 45:4-5, 7-10

Did Joseph see God's hand throughout his life's difficulties?
Genesis 50:20

Response

1. How is God's almighty and creative hand evident in the world around me?
(*Genesis 1; Job 38-41; Psalm 19:1-6; 95:3-5; Jeremiah 10:12-13; Romans 1:20*)
2. Do I take serious my responsibility as the crown of God's creation? How should I change?
(*Genesis 1:26, 28; 2:15; Psalm 8:3-8; 115:16; Micah 6:8*)
3. How has God's judgment been evident in a recent sin I committed? How has He shown His grace?
(*Gen 3:6, 15-23; 4:8-15; 6:5-8, 17-18; 11:4, 9; 12:1-3; Ez 18:21-32; Rom 6:21-23; James 2:12-13*)
4. Do I live according to the faith of Abraham? What does it mean that I am his heir?
(*Genesis 12:1-8; 22:1-18; 26:2-5; Isaiah 51:1-2; Romans 4; Galatians 3; Hebrews 11*)
5. How have I recognized God's hand in turning the troubles in my life into His good?
(*Genesis 45:4-8; 50:20; Esther 4:7-16; Jeremiah 29:10-11; Romans 8:28; Philippians 1:12-14*)