

LESSONS THIS QUARTER.....

- 1) Dec 02 Gen 1:1 – 2:25 Affirm God’s Good Plan
- 2) Dec 09 Gen 3:1 – 4:26 Admit Your Sin Problem
- 3) Dec 16 Gen 5:1 – 8:14 Aspire to Walk with God
- 4) Dec 23 John 1:1-18 Accept God’s Promised Savior
- 5) Dec 30 Gen 8:15 – 9:29 New Opportunities
- 6) Jan 06 Gen 10:1 – 11:32 Human Pride
- 7) Jan 13 Gen 12:1 – 14:24 God Allows Us to Choose
- 8) Jan 20 Gen 1:27; 9:6; Matt; Mark Value of Life
- 9) Jan 27 Gen 15:1 – 17:27 Lord’s Promises
- 10) Feb 03 Gen 18:1 – 19:38 Caring for Others
- 11) Feb 10 Gen 20:1 – 23:20 Faith & Obedience
- 12) Feb 17 Gen 24:1-67 Godly Guidance
- 13) Feb 24 Gen 25:1 – 27:46 Helpful or Exploiter

INTRODUCTION / QUESTIONS / COMMENTS/

- Why would God test his good disciples? To make them better.

Passage	Comments
20:1-18	More lies and deceit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God talks to a “non-believer” in a dream • Principle of praying for othersv7, 17,18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If God closed up all the wombs of Abimelech’s house, why would God have Abimelech ask Abraham to pray for a healing? ♦ Also see Job 42:8 where God tells Job’s 3 friends to have Job pray for them ♦ The fervent prayers of a righteous man avails muchJames 5:16
21:1-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth of Isaac
21:9-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hagar and Ishmael are forced out • God basically asks Hagar ‘why are you concerned?’v17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Sometimes we just need to consider all the godly circumstances in our lives to realize God is heavily involved in directing our paths • 2nd passage on how to find a mate (by Mom).....v21
21:22-34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abimelech and Abraham’s treaty and disagreement over a well seems awfully trivial for it to be recorded in Scripture • The passage ends with Abraham planting a grove/tree for a place of quiet worshipv33 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The significance of this passage shows up later when the Israelites would abuse this practice and worship false gods at tree grovesDeut 16:21 ♦ Israelites also worshiped Moses’ bronze serpent which was once a powerful emblem of good. Good traditions gone bad can kill 2Kings 18:4
22:1-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God tempted/tested Abraham <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Abraham thoroughly prepares for sacrificev3 ♦ Isaac also must’ve had faith in his Dad to be bound willingly (a strong teenager could easily out run, even over power a 100 year old) ♦ Angle of the Lord speaks out of Heaven twice • Principle – We are constantly open for godly testing – Will we honor God or do our own thing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We are tried every moment..... Job 7:18
22:20-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nahor’s children are listed, including Rebekah
23:1-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah dies at 127 • Abraham purchases a tiny parcel of land – the only piece of the Promise Land he ever owns

APPLICATIONS FOR TODAY

- Be aware that sometimes nice traditions turn into sacred cows that lead to erroneous practices. Example of a nice tradition gone wrong:
 - ♦ In some churches, the use of the altar call and recital of the sinners prayer becomes the mode of salvation – which can lead to false confessions (people think they’re saved)
- God desires to work through the prayers of His “righteous” ones
- Testing of God’s children is a foregone conclusion – Bank on it happening.

SUPPORTING PASSAGES

Gen 20:16 Then he turned to Sarah. "Look," he said, "I am giving your ‘brother’ a thousand pieces of silver to compensate for any embarrassment I may have caused you. This will settle any claim against me in this matter." (NLT)

De 16:21 "You shall not plant for yourself an Asherah of any kind of tree beside the altar of the LORD your God, which you shall make for yourself.

Job 7:18 For you examine us every morning and test us every moment.

NEXT WEEK..... A wife is sought for Isaac (Gen 24)



"Dude, blood sacrifices are so old school. Here, if you're going to make an offering, use this. ... It's much more convenient and a whole lot less messy."