



Bible Teaching Resources

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What You Need to Know About ABRAHAM

“God Is Faithful to Keep His Promises”

STUDY NUMBER ONE - GENESIS 12:1-20

NOTES

v. 1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.

v. 2 I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

v. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

v. 4 So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

v. 5 He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

v. 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. The Canaanites were then in the land,

v. 7 but the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

v. 8 From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

v. 9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

v. 10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe.

v. 11 As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are.

v. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live.

v. 13 Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.”

v. 14 When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman.

v. 15 And when Pharaoh’s officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace.

NOTES

v. 16 He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants, and camels.

v. 17 But the Lord inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai.

v. 18 So Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why didn't you tell me she was your wife?"

v. 19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!"

v. 20 Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 12:1-20 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What promises does the Lord make to Abram in verses 2 & 3?

3. What did Abram do in response to the Lord's command and promises in verses 4-6?

4. What did Abram do in verse 8?

5. What did Abram ask Sarai his wife to do in verses 11-13?

6. Do you think that Sarai his wife had the right not to be submissive to Abram on this occasion?

7. What did Pharaoh's officials do for Abram in verse 16?

8. How did the Lord respond to Pharaoh in this situation?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: You can trust the God who promises to perform.

LESSON #2: God is ever calling us to a greater and greater separation unto Himself (2 Corinthians 6:17-18).

LESSON #3: Our resistance to the separation is hindering God's blessing.

LESSON #4: Keep our eyes on the Lord and not on our circumstances.

LESSON #5: God will supply all our needs when we are in the center of His will.

LESSON #6: We are going to be tested in the pursuit of His will, even as Abram experienced through the Canaanites in the land and also the famine.

LESSON #7: Listen for instructions!

LESSON #8: The altar and tent ought to characterize our lives.

LESSON #9: God, in love, has chosen us.

LESSON #10: God also knows how to discipline and chasten His erring children.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWO - GENESIS 13:1-18

NOTES

v. 1 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him.

v. 2 Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

v. 3 From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier

v. 4 and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the Lord.

v. 5 Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents.

v. 6 But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together.

v. 7 And quarreling arose between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of Lot. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

v. 8 So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers.

v. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

v. 10 Lot looked up and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, toward Zoar. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)

v. 11 So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company:

v. 12 Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom.

v. 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the Lord.

v. 14 The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west.

v. 15 All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.

v. 16 I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted.

v. 17 Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

v. 18 So Abram moved his tents and went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he built an altar to the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 13:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Describe Abram's journey and financial condition, according to verses 1-4.

3. What happened between Abram and Lot, according to verses 6 & 7?

4. What proposal does Abram give to Lot in verses 8 & 9?

5. What transpired between Abram and Lot in verses 11 & 12?

6. Describe the environment where Lot lived.

7. What does the Lord have to say to Abram in verses 14-17?

8. What did Abram do in verse 18?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: If you are out of the will of God, retrace your steps back to the point of departure and then deal with the disobedience and seek the Lord’s face for further instructions, and wait until He makes known His way before you proceed.

LESSON #2: Who can measure the negative impact of strife among brothers?

LESSON #3: You don’t have to stand for your rights when the Lord has promised. You can trust Him to overrule in the situation and to be faithful to make provision of that which He has promised.

LESSON #4: When you leave or miss the Lord’s will, it is best to go back to the place you left.

LESSON #5: Abram went back to “where he first built an altar. There Abram called upon the name of the Lord” (verse 4).

LESSON #6: What man sees and what God sees are two different things.

LESSON #7: Man’s ways and God’s ways are two different paths as well.

LESSON #8: Lot chose for himself and Abram let God do his choosing.

LESSON #9: The key phrase is in Genesis 13:11: “The two men parted company.” When they did, God was free to bless Abram.

LESSON #10: A wicked environment will probably change you before you change it.

LESSON #11: New assurances of His promises come to those who are obedient in separation.

LESSON #12: Obedience frees God to act.

LESSON #13: Separation leads to blessing.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THREE - GENESIS 15:1-21

NOTES

v. 1 After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

v. 2 But Abram said, “O Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?”

v. 3 And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

v. 4 Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir.”

v. 5 He took him outside and said, “Look at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

v. 6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

v. 7 He also said to him, “I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.”

v. 8 But Abram said, “O Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

v. 9 So the Lord said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”

v. 10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

v. 11 Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

v. 12 As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.

v. 13 Then the Lord said to him, “Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years.

v. 14 But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.

v. 15 You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age.

v. 16 In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

v. 17 When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.

v. 18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates—

v. 19 the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites,

v. 20 Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites,

v. 21 Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.”

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 15:1-21 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does the Lord promise to Abram in verse 1?

3. What is Abram's response in verses 2 & 3?

4. What word of the Lord comes to Abram in verses 4 & 5?

5. What object lesson does the Lord give to Abram to reinforce His promise?

6. What is Abram's response to what the Lord has said, and how does the Lord respond in verse 6?

7. What is the question which Abram asks of the Lord in verse 8?

8. How does the Lord respond in the remaining verses of the passage?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We need not fear, for the Lord is our powerful Protector and Provider.

LESSON #2: The Lord is our Shield and exceeding Great Reward.

LESSON #3: The sovereign Lord is the One Who is always faithful to fulfill His promises.

LESSON #4: “Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails”
(Proverbs 19:21).

LESSON #5: “For nothing will be impossible with God” (Luke 1:37).

LESSON #6: The Lord’s delays are not His denials.

LESSON #7: “He has made everything beautiful in its time . . .” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

LESSON #8: The single condition for blessing to Abram and salvation to us is described in verse 6: “Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.”

LESSON #9: The covenant made with Abram is unconditional for it is only the Lord Who is going between the pieces.

LESSON #10: Salvation is a complete act of God. We have nothing to do with it at all.

LESSON #11: A certain time of judgment will come when iniquity is full.

LESSON #12: “Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass”
(1 Thessalonians 5:24).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOUR - GENESIS 16:1-16

NOTES

v. 1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar;

v. 2 so she said to Abram, "The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said.

v. 3 So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife.

v. 4 He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress.

v. 5 Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my servant in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the Lord judge between you and me."

v. 6 "Your servant is in your hands," Abram said. "Do with her whatever you think best." Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her.

v. 7 The angel of the Lord found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur.

v. 8 And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?" "I'm running away from my mistress Sarai," she answered.

v. 9 Then the angel of the Lord told her, "Go back to your mistress and submit to her."

v. 10 The angel added, "I will so increase your descendants that they will be too numerous to count."

v. 11 The angel of the Lord also said to her: "You are now with child and you will have a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard of your misery.

v. 12 He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers."

v. 13 She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me."

v. 14 That is why the well was called Beer Lahai Roi; it is still there, between Kadesh and Bered.

v. 15 So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne.

v. 16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 16:1-16 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What proposal does Sarai give to Abram in verse 2?

3. How did Abram respond in verses 3 & 4?

4. How did Sarai feel about her proposal after the plan had been carried out?

5. How does the angel of the Lord respond to Hagar in verses 7-12?

6. What is Hagar's response in verse 13?

7. Describe what happened in verse 15.

8. How many years transpired in Abram's life from this event until he heard again a word from the Lord? The answer to this question can be seen by comparing the last verse in chapter 16 with the first verse of chapter 17.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Satan rushes men and God leads them.

LESSON #2: The Lord is always on time for the fulfillment of what He has promised.

LESSON #3: It is one thing to commit our way unto the Lord and it is quite another to continue to trust Him in the delays and wait for Him to bring it to pass.

LESSON #4: The old nature within us has a desire to help God to keep His promises.

LESSON #5: The natural thing is not the supernatural thing to do in this circumstance.

LESSON #6: How much we need to seek God's guidance and direction before we make decisions that affect our future walk with God.

LESSON #7: We must learn how to not lean on our own understanding and to recognize that many times our thoughts are not His thoughts and our ways are not His ways.

LESSON #8: Disruptions in personal relationships often accompany works of the flesh.

LESSON #9: Many times the flesh wants to run away when it is the Spirit's desire that we return and submit to the authority.

LESSON #10: The consequences of operating in the flesh can affect generations which follow us as well as ourselves. This is seen in the birth of the Arab nation.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FIVE - GENESIS 17:1-22

NOTES

v. 1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless.

v. 2 I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

v. 3 Abram fell facedown, and God said to him,

v. 4 "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations.

v. 5 No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.

v. 6 I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.

v. 7 I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

v. 8 The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

v. 9 Then God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come.

v. 10 This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised.

v. 11 You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.

v. 12 For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring.

v. 13 Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant.

v. 14 Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

v. 15 God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.

v. 16 I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

v. 17 Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?”

v. 18 And Abraham said to God, “If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!”

v. 19 Then God said, “Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

v. 20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation.

v. 21 But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year.”

v. 22 When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 17:1-22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How does the Lord reveal himself in verse 1 and what does He ask Abram do?

3. Summarize what the Lord tells Abram in the following verses.

4. What does the Lord promise in verse 6?

5. What does the Lord say to Abraham about Sarai, his wife, in verses 15 & 16?

6. How does Abraham respond to the promise in verses 17 & 18?

7. What does the Lord promise to Abraham in verse 19?

8. What message does the Lord convey to Abraham according to verse 21?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Nothing significant happens, as far as God is concerned, while we're living in the flesh and out of fellowship with Him.

LESSON #2: God reveals Himself in such a way as to meet our need. To Abram He is God Almighty.

LESSON #3: His power is always adequate to fulfill His purpose and to be faithful to keep His promises.

LESSON #4: God is always faithful to keep His promises when we die to ourselves and allow Him to take over and bear fruit through us.

LESSON #5: A death to self precedes fruitfulness. “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it to life eternal” (John 12:24-25).

LESSON #6: We must give up our plans in the flesh so that the Spirit might fulfill His purpose in our lives.

LESSON #7: A name and a nature change accompany salvation. “Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

LESSON #8: Just because things are smooth and okay doesn’t equal fellowship and progress spiritually.

LESSON #9: Sometimes it takes a long time for us to catch on to what the Lord is doing.

LESSON #10: God’s promises are not affected by our failure.

LESSON #11: “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand” (John 10:27-29).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

v. 1 The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

v. 2 Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

v. 3 He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by.

v. 4 Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree.

v. 5 Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

v. 6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of fine flour and knead it and bake some bread."

v. 7 Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.

v. 8 He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

v. 9 "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said.

v. 10 Then the Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.

v. 11 Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

v. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

v. 13 Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?'"

v. 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son."

v. 15 Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

v. 16 When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way.

v. 17 Then the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?"

v. 18 Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.

v. 19 For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

v. 20 Then the Lord said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous

v. 21 that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."

v. 22 The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord.

v. 23 Then Abraham approached him and said: “Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked?”

v. 24 What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it?

v. 25 Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

v. 26 The Lord said, “If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

v. 27 Then Abraham spoke up again: “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes,

v. 28 what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?” “If I find forty-five there,” he said, “I will not destroy it.”

v. 29 Once again he spoke to him, “What if only forty are found there?” He said, “For the sake of forty, I will not do it.”

v. 30 Then he said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?” He answered, “I will not do it if I find thirty there.”

v. 31 Abraham said, “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?” He said, “For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it.”

v. 32 Then he said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?” He answered, “For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it.”

v. 33 When the Lord had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 18:1-33 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. When does the Lord next reveal himself to Abraham? Describe the situation.

3. What question do the three visitors ask of Abraham, according to verse 9, and what promise do they give in verse 10?

4. What is the condition of Abraham and Sarah in verse 11, and how does Sarah respond to the promise in verse 12?

5. How does the Lord respond in verses 13 & 14, and what is Sarah's response in verse 15?

6. What does the Lord reveal to Abraham about His future plans for Sodom and Gomorrah?

7. Describe what transpires between Abraham and the Lord in the next verses.

8. How many times does Abraham make a proposal to the Lord to avoid His judgment upon the cities?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The whole chapter is an illustration of a blessed Christian life and the fellowship that results from obedience.

LESSON #2: We see changes in growth through obedience, as far as Abraham is concerned.

LESSON #3: The Lord knows all about us. The Scripture says that even the very hairs of our head are all numbered. He manifests this same knowledge in knowing Sarah by name in verse 9.

LESSON #4: The Lord is always faithful to keep His promises.

LESSON #5: Sarah's unbelief and her lie did not affect the promises of the Lord to her.

LESSON #6: Abram is seen as the great intercessor in Genesis 18.

LESSON #7: The Lord is receptive to the cries of His children.

LESSON #8: "For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7b KJV).

LESSON #9: "How long will you hesitate?" is the question that Elijah asks on Mount Carmel.

LESSON #10: Abraham has learned to be a blessing to others by his sacrificial acts of servanthood.

LESSON #11: "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (verse 14).

LESSON #12: Because of the presence of the righteous, many times the wicked are spared.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SEVEN - GENESIS 21:1-21

NOTES

v. 1 Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised.
v. 2 Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him.
v. 3 Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him.
v. 4 When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him.
v. 5 Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
v. 6 Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me."
v. 7 And she added, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."
v. 8 The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast.

v. 9 But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking,
v. 10 and she said to Abraham, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.”
v. 11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son.
v. 12 But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.
v. 13 I will make the son of the maidservant into a nation also, because he is your offspring.”
v. 14 Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the desert of Beersheba.
v. 15 When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes.
v. 16 Then she went off and sat down nearby, about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there nearby, she began to sob.
v. 17 God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there.
v. 18 Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.”
v. 19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.
v. 20 God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer.
v. 21 While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 21:1-21 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Describe what the Lord did for Sarah in verse 1.

3. What happened, according to verse 2, and when did it happen?

4. Describe the action of verses 3-8.

5. What happened in verse 9?

6. How did Abraham and the Lord handle the situation?

7. Describe Hagar and Ishmael's future in the next verses.

8. There were consequences for Abraham in being out of the Lord's will. Trace just a few of them in this passage.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: "The Lord was gracious to Sarah" and "the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised" (verse 1).

LESSON #2: The Lord, at the appointed time, will fulfill the promises which He has made to us, even if it is 25 years later.

LESSON #3: The Lord's timing is always perfect.

LESSON #4: He makes all things beautiful in His time.

LESSON #5: There is a joy beyond human comprehension which is ours in the fulfillment of God's promises to us.

LESSON #6: Who would have ever thought that this happening would take place, but God is the God of the impossible.

LESSON #7: The conflict between the old and the new nature is underscored in this passage.

LESSON #8: The sorrow of sowing in the flesh in trying to help God out is also borne out in these verses.

LESSON #9: God is ever calling us to a greater separation unto Himself.

LESSON #10: Legalistic Christianity often ends up in a marriage to the world.

LESSON #11: When we have acted in the flesh and God responds, it is going to be a very painful process to turn loose of what we have done.

LESSON #12: Abraham's continuous obedience leads to the eventual blessing by the Lord.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHT - GENESIS 22:1-19

NOTES

v. 1 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.
v. 2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."
v. 3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about.
v. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.
v. 5 He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."



v. 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,

v. 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son," Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

v. 8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

v. 9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

v. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

v. 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.

v. 12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

v. 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.

v. 14 So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide." And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

v. 15 The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time

v. 16 and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,

v. 17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,

v. 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

v. 19 Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 22:1-19 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the Lord going to do to Abraham, according to verse 1?

3. What is the test that the Lord places upon Abraham, according to verse 2?

4. How did Abraham respond to the Lord's command?

5. How does Abraham respond to Isaac in verse 8?

6. What does the angel of the Lord say to Abraham in verses 11 & 12?

7. What provision does the Lord make in verse 13, and what name did Abraham give to that place?

8. What further words in the conclusion of the passage does the Lord have for Abraham?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God often tests us to see what is really in our hearts.

LESSON #2: Testing in our lives often follows the time of blessing.

LESSON #3: Oftentimes there is no purpose given for the tests, but we discern that they are permitted to measure our progress.

LESSON #4: God is looking for our faith, our obedience, and our submission in the times of testing.

LESSON #5: Testing lets us know that God is not finished forming Christ in us as yet.

LESSON #6: Whatever God asks of us, in the way of sacrifice, He never goes the limit.

LESSON #7: God makes provision for a substitute sacrifice, even as the Lord Jesus is the center substitute upon Calvary's Cross.

LESSON #8: Following the time of testing, the Lord restates the promises which had been given earlier.

LESSON #9: Jim Elliot said: "If we are the sheep of His pasture, then we are headed for the altar."

LESSON #10: Obedience frees God to pour out His blessings.

LESSON #11: The Lord does not recognize the works of the flesh because of the phrase "only son Isaac" used three times here in this passage.

LESSON #12: The substitute sacrifice helps us be prepared for what Jesus is going to do on Calvary's Cross for our sin.

LESSON #13: Is your Isaac on the altar? Have you given Him your body, your belongings, and your blessings?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
