



Genesis Fall 2020

Bible Study, Faith Sharing, Reflection and Prayer

Schedule

All the sessions will begin at 7:00pm

October 21, Week 1--Preamble. The Creation of the World (1:1–2:3)

October 28 Week 2-- The Creation of the Man and the Woman, Their Offspring, and the Spread of Civilization (2:4–4:26)

The Pre-flood Generations (5:1–6:8)

November 4, Gather for Build Me a Sanctuary: Why Catholic Churches Look the Way They Do

November 11, Week 3-- The Flood and the Renewed Blessing (6:9–9:29)

The Populating of the World and the Proudful City (10:1–11:9)

The Genealogy from Shem to Terah (11:10–26)

November 18, Week 4-- The Story of Abraham and Sarah (11:27–25:18)

November 25, No Session Thanksgiving Prep

December 2, Week 5-- The Story of Isaac and Jacob (25:19–36:43)

December 9, Week 6-- The Story of Joseph (37:1–50:26)

December 16, Gather for The Birth of Jesus in Art

October 21 Genesis 1:1-2:3

Week One: Introduction to Genesis and the Creation of the World

- 1. What do you hope to learn?*
- 2. What are qualities that make you unique?*
- 3. How do you pray with scriptures?*
- 4. What do you believe about Scriptures?*



Homework for this week, Oct 21 –Oct 28

October 28 Genesis 2:4-6:8

Week Two: The Creation of the Man and the Woman, Their Offspring, and the Spread of Civilization (2:4–4:26)

The Pre-flood Generations (5:1–6:8)

- 1. Which account of creation do you find most interesting and why?*



- 2. Our First parents hid themselves from God. When was a time when you wanted to hide from God?*

- 3. Examine Cain's motivation for killing his brother. How do you deal with resentment and envy?*



4. *Cain says, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” How do you think Jesus would have answered that question, how do you answer it?*

5. *Noah found favor with the Lord. How have you found favor with our God?*



Homework for these weeks, Oct 29 –Nov 11

(we will not meet on Nov 4 instead you might want to join us for “Build me a Sanctuary: Why Catholic Churches look the Way they Do)

November 11 Genesis 6:9-11:26

Week Three: The Flood and the Renewed Blessing (6:9–9:29)

The Populating of the World and the Prideful City (10:1–11:9)

The Genealogy from Shem to Terah (11:10–26)

1. *Noah, like Enoch, “walked with God.” What qualities would you look for in one who walks with God? Do you have some of those qualities?*



2. *On dry land Noah offered holocausts to God. In your life have you offered praise and thanks to God in a special way?*

3. *How does the promise in 8:22 give you hope?*

4. *In the covenant between God and Noah, God suggests that humanity will need to account for any human life taken. What are some of the threats to human life today for which we have to give an accounting?*

5. *What are some daily opportunities to affirm and build up human life?*



6. *Genesis 8:20-22 is one telling of the covenant and Genesis is P's telling of the same covenant. What are the differences and similarities?*

7. One cannot watch television or social media without seeing an advertisement for Ancestry or 23 and Me. Why are we, and why were our Biblical authors obsessed with ancestry?

8. Abram (Abraham) often called our Father in Faith, is introduced to us via his ancestry. What does your ancestry say about you?



Homework for weeks, November 12-18

November 18 Genesis 11:27—25:18

November 18, Week 4-- The Story of Abraham and Sarah (11:27–25:18)

November 25, No Session Thanksgiving Prep

1. Abram's behavior in Egypt could be called morally questionable. Why did the authors of Genesis (J) include such a story about a respected patriarch?



2. Melchizedek's offering of hospitality and gratitude, how is it an example of how we should be as church, and how we should be as disciples?
3. In the triangle between, Sarai, Abram and Hagar; what are the qualities of human imperfection in each one?

4. Circumcision was an outward sign of the covenant, much like our outward signs in the sacraments? Why do humans participate in these outward signs?

5. Have you ever entertained a negotiation with God? Abraham questioned God six times (50-45-40-30-20). Describe a time when you defended another to God with such compassion.

6. What can you conclude about the role of women in ancient society from the stories in Genesis so far, Eve, Mrs. Noah, Sarah and Hagar, and Lot's daughters?

7. Hagar becomes an outcast after the birth of Isaac. Women, men and children who are trafficked are similar outcasts of our world. What is a twenty-first century disciple to do?

8. Most of us are overjoyed that God has not tested us like he tested Abraham, or are we? What does testing allegiances mean to you? Have you been tested, have you tested another?



9. What qualities did you see in Rebekah? Laban?

10. Both Isaac and Ishmael become fathers of great nations. God kept his covenant to them. How has your life been blessed by God?

Homework for weeks, November 19 to December 2

(we're not meeting November 25 for Thanksgiving prep)

December 2 Genesis 25:19—36:43

December 2, Week 5-- The Story of Isaac and Jacob (25:19–36:43)

1. “Like Father, Like Son” look for all the parallels of Abraham and Isaac.
2. Rebekah and Jacob are dishonorable people, yet they are instruments of God’s plan. Have you known a dishonorable person who seemingly and perhaps unwittingly was an instrument for the honorable?
3. There seems to be great emphasis on finding the “right” spouse for these patriarchs. Is the same care given in this era?

4. Jacob seems like a “fair weathered follower”. What about you? Is it easier to be faithful to God in fair weather?

5. Poor Leah! What are your thoughts about Leah’s situation?

6. In the Jacob cycle of stories, God communicates through dreams. How does God communicate with you?

7. Laban and Jacob celebrated a feast and made a vow to live peacefully. Why are meals an important part of making vows, covenants, promises?



