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Lesson 1 - Introduction to the Bible

The Bible - A "book of books"

- 1. Why is the Bible accurately described as a library between two covers?
- 2. How did they record the Scriptures before books?
- 3. What are the two main divisions of the Bible?
- 4. When was the Bible compiled into a single volume?

A Unique Book

- 1. How long did it take to write the books of the Bible?
- 2. How many authors contributed to the Bible?
- 3. What were the backgrounds of the authors?
- 4. How many languages was the Bible written in?
- 5. What are a few examples of the literary styles you will find in the Bible?

Remarkably Honest

Describe the ways the Bible is an honest portrayal of human nature.

Lesson 1 - Intro to the Bible

Unified Message

Describe the unified message of the Bible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

What does Paul mean by "All Scripture is breathed out by God,"? ("All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...")

2 Peter 1:20-21

- 1. What group of men were responsible for writing the Scriptures?
- 2. What is the origin of the Scriptures?
- 3. How did God inspire human beings to communicate the Scriptures?

Hebrews 1:1-2

- 1. How did God communicate His word in the past?
- 2. How does He speak to us now?

Lesson 1 - Intro to the Bible

The Prophets

- 1. What does the word prophet mean?
- 2. Who are the prophets?
- 3. How does God communicate to the prophets?
- 4. What are the two types of prophecy?

Lesson 2 - Introduction to the Old Testament and Law

"The Scriptures"

- 1. What are "the Scriptures"?
- 2. Did Jesus and the New Testament writers acknowledge a body of books known as "the Scriptures"?

Scriptures = Old Testament

- 1. What is a testament?
- 2. Why do Christians call these books "the Old Testament"?
- 3. How many books are in the Old Testament?

The Old Testament

Describe how the Old Testament books are arranged.

The Law

- 1. Which books are considered "the Law"?
- 2. What period does the Law cover?

Lesson 2 - Introduction to the Old Testament and Law

What does the Law te	ach us?
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4. Where do we read about the covenants God made with the	ie Jews	me .	MILLI	e wii	made	GOU	covenants	t me	about	read	we	ao	vvnere	4.
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Jeremiah 31:31-32

- 1. When is Jeremiah serving as a prophet?
- 2. What does Jeremiah predict?

Hebrews 8:7-13

- 1. What is the first covenant?
- 2. What is "the New Covenant"?
- 3. What would happen to the first covenant when God established the New Covenant?
- 4. What is the foundation of the New Covenant?

Colossians 2:13-14

1. What is "the handwriting of requirements"?

Lesson 2 - Introduction to the Old Testament and Law

2.	What happ	pened to the	Old Law	when Jesus	died on	the cross?
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Colossians 2:16-17

- 1. Are Christians required to keep the dietary restrictions or holidays contained in the Old Law?
- 2. What purpose did the Old Law serve?

Changes

Describe God's transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant.

Why Study the Law?

If the Old Law no longer applies to us, why should Christians study it?

Romans 3:20

According to Paul, what does the Old Law reveal?

Lesson 2 - Introduction to the Old Testament and Law

1 Timothy 1:8-9

What is the "right" way to use the Law?

1 Timothy 1:10-11

Do the definitions of right and wrong (i.e. morality) change from the Old Law to the New?

Lesson 3 - Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3; John 1:1-5

Genesis 1:1-3

- 1. Among other things, our universe consists of time, space, and mass. How does the first verse describe these three elements?
- 2. Why is water created on earth at the beginning?
- 3. Was the Spirit of God involved in creation?
- 4. How does God create new things each day? What is the first action he takes?

Genesis 1:4-19

- 5. On day 2, what separated the waters from the waters?
- 6. God first calls His creation "good" in verse 10. What has been created by this point? Does this happen on each subsequent day of creation?
- 7. In verses 14-18, what other purposes are stated for creating greater & lesser lights?

Genesis 1:20-31

8. How does God bless the sea creatures and birds of the air (verse 22)?

Lesson 3 - Creation

- 9. Why does God use the pronouns "us" and "our" in verse 26?
- 10. What unique distinctions are given to man when he is created? How are we unlike animals, according to this passage? (verses 26-28)

Genesis 2:1-3

11. Discuss what it means that God "sanctified" the seventh day and blessed it.

John 1:1-5

- 12. Who is the Word of God? Based on what you read in Genesis 1, how were "all things made through Him"?
- 13. Why do you think it's important to state, "Without Him, nothing was made that was made"?

Lesson 4 - God Makes Man and Woman

Genesis 2:4-25

Genesis 2:4-8

- 1. What differences do you see between the creation of human beings and the rest of the world?
- 2. At what point did Adam become alive? Who gave him life?
- 3. God made man of three parts: "the dust of the ground," God gave him "the breath of life," and "man became a living being." How does the Bible describe those three parts in other passages?

Genesis 2:9-17

- 1. What two trees are identified by name in the Garden?
- 2. What tasks occupied Adam's days before his fall?
- 3. What rule did God set for Adam?

Genesis 2:18-22

- 1. What was God's purpose in having Adam name the animals by pairs?
- 2. Why were no animals "comparable" to Adam?

Lesson 4 - God Makes Man and Woman

3. What does God teach us by using Adam's rib to make Eve rather than making her out of the dust?

Genesis 2:23-25

- 1. How does Adam react to Eve when God presents her to him?
- 2. What is formed when a man and woman unite in marriage?
- 3. Why does Scripture highlight their nakedness?

Lesson 5 - Temptation and Fall

Genesis 3

Genesis 3:1-5

- 1. Who is the serpent in this account?
- 2. How did Eve change God's command?
- 3. How did the serpent change God's command?
- 4. What do these simple changes teach us about the nature of temptation and sin?

Genesis 3:6-13

- 1. The apostle John says, "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world" (1 John 2:16). Compare what John says to Genesis 3:6. Do you see some similarities?
- 2. What does the Scripture mean by "the eyes of both of them were opened"? What kind of "eyesight" is it describing?
- 3. Why did Adam and Eve hide from God?
- 4. Both Adam and Eve offered excuses for their behavior. Did either of them have a legitimate excuse?

Lesson 5 - Temptation and Fall

Genesis 3:14-19

- 1. In punishing the serpent, God says He would "put enmity...between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." This punishment can be interpreted literally and as a prophecy. What does it literally mean? What does it prophesy?
- 2. Compare Adam and Eve's punishments. What do their punishments teach us about the roles of husbands and wives in marriage?

Genesis 3:20-24

- 1. By making garments of animal skins, what principle does God teach about the forgiveness of sins?
- 2. Other than Adam's sin, why were Adam and Eve banished from the garden?
- 3. A cherubim is a special type of angel who dwells in the presence of God. Why was a cherubim stationed at the east end of the garden?

Lesson 6 - Cain and Abel

Genesis 4

Genesis 4:1-5

- 1. Compare Abel's sacrifice with Cain's. What differences do you notice between the two?
- 2. Do you think Cain and Abel knew what types of sacrifices God valued? Why or why not?
- 3. What does God's rejection of Cain's sacrifice teach us about worship?

Genesis 4:6-9

- 1. How did Cain respond to God's rejection?
- 2. What does God tell Cain to do to fix the problem?
- 3. What does God's description of sin teach us about the nature of sin and desire?
- 4. Why is Cain's defense of himself wrong? What lesson(s) apply to us?

Genesis 4:10-15

1. How is Cain's punishment similar to the punishment of his parents?

Lesson 6 - Cain and Abel

- 2. What does Cain's punishment teach us about the consequences of sin?
- 3. How does God show mercy to Cain?

Genesis 4:16-26

- 1. After leaving the presence of God and conceiving a child, what does Cain do?
- 2. How is Lamech like his ancestor Cain?
- 3. Besides his likeness to Cain, what else do you see in Lamech?
- 4. How did God comfort Adam and Eve following the murder of Abel?
- 5. What begins to happen in the days of Adam's grandson, Enosh?

Lesson 7 - Noah

Genesis 6-9

Genesis 6

- 1. Besides gender, what is the difference between the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men"?
- 2. Why did God decide to destroy life on earth with a flood?
- 3. Why did God grant Noah and his family an exemption?
- 4. How did God preserve life?

Genesis 7

- 1. How many clean animals did Noah take onto the ark?
- 2. How many days and nights did it rain?
- 3. How high did the flood waters reach?

Genesis 8

- 1. As the flood waters receded, where did the ark rest?
- 2. How did Noah verify it was safe to leave the ark?

Lesson 7 - Noah

3. What did God promise when He smelled Noah's sacrifice?

Genesis 9

- 1. Why did God forbid Noah to eat blood?
- 2. Why does God allow capital punishment?
- 3. What covenant does God establish with Noah? What is the sign of that covenant?
- 4. Why did God curse Canaan?
- 5. What does the last episode in Noah's life teach us about this righteous man?

Lesson 8 - Tower of Babel

Genesis 11

Genesis 11:1-4

- 1. What would be the advantages to all human beings speaking the same language?
- 2. Following the flood, God told Noah to "be fruitful and multiply and to fill the whole earth" (9:1). Is mankind keeping God's command to fill the whole earth?
- 3. Why did they want to build a tower that reached into the heavens?

Genesis 11:5-9

- 1. What danger did God see in allowing mankind to speak a single language?
- 2. Paul says in Acts 17:26-27, "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, [27] so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us." Does separating into different nations and cultures lead us toward God or away from God?
- 3. Why was the city called Babel?

Genesis 11:10-32

1. What happens to human lifespans after the flood?

Lesson 8 - The Tower of Babel

- 2. Which son of Noah does Abram descend from?
- 3. What is the name of Abram's hometown? Where was it located?
- 4. What do we know about Sarai, Abram's wife?
- 5. Where did Terah move his family?

Lesson 9 - Job

Job 1-2, 42

Job 1

- 1. How did Job minister on behalf of his children?
- 2. How does God describe Job to Satan?
- 3. According to Satan, why is Job a righteous man?
- 4. How does Satan test Job?
- 5. How did Job respond to these tragic developments?

Job 2

- 1. What does God say about Job the next time God sees Satan?
- 2. According to Satan, why did Job pass the first test?
- 3. Why does Job think these terrible things have happened to him?
- 4. Who sat with Job for seven days and nights before Job began talking?

Lesson 9 - Job

NOTE

Chapters 3-37 records Job's conversation with his three friends and a fourth man who attempts to correct Job. Job believes he is an innocent victim. His three friends believe Job has brought these troubles on himself by doing wicked things. Job feels God has mistreated him. In chapters 38-41, God responds, correcting Job and his three friends.

Job 42

- 1. How does Job respond to God's correction?
- 2. What did God think of Job's three friends?
- 3. How did God reward Job?
- 4. James says in 1:12-13, "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. [13] Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone." How does Job's story illustrate James' teaching?

Lesson 10 - Abram Called

Genesis 12

Genesis 12:1-4

- 1. What does God promise to do for him if Abram leaves his extended family behind?
- 2. How does God bless all the families of the earth in Abraham? (see Galatians 3:8)
- 3. How old was Abram when he left Haran?

Genesis 12:5-9

- 1. What does Abram's decision to go to Canaan tell us about his character?
- 2. Why did Abram build his first altar?
- 3. Where did Abram build his second altar?
- 4. What does "call on the name of the Lord" mean?

Genesis 12:10-16

- 1. Why did Abram end up in Egypt?
- 2. Why did Abram ask Sarai to lie?

Lesson 10 - Abram Called

- 3. Did Sarai's lie have a kernel of truth?
- 4. How did Pharaoh respond to Sarai's beauty?

Genesis 12:17-20

- 1. How did God punish Pharaoh and his household?
- 2. What did Pharaoh command Abram and Sarai to do?
- 3. Does this short story foreshadow any major events in the history of Jewish people?

Lesson 11 - God's Promise to Abram

Genesis 15, Galatians 3

Genesis 15:1-6

- 1. How did God communicate with Abram?
- 2. According to the customs of the day, any male born in Abram's household could be his heir. Was this acceptable to God? Why or why not?
- 3. How does God describe the number of Abram's descendants?
- 4. Why did God consider Abram a righteous man?

Genesis 15:7-11

- 1. What inheritance did God promise to Abram's descendants?
- 2. What did God tell Abram to do to confirm His promise?

Genesis 15:12-16

- 1. How long would Abram's descendants be strangers in a foreign land?
- 2. What would God do to the nation who oppressed them?
- 3. When would the descendants of Abram return to the land?

Lesson 11 - God's Promise to Abram

Genesis 15:17-21

- 1. What appeared between the pieces of Abram's offering?
- 2. What covenant did God make with Abram on that day?

Galatians 3:5-9

- 1. Why did God consider Abram (or Abraham) a righteous man?
- 2. How do Gentiles receive the blessing given to Abraham?

Galatians 3:15-19

- 1. God told Abraham, "In your seed, all the nations shall be blessed." Who is the "seed" according to Paul?
- 2. Is the inheritance we receive from the Law? Or is it from the promise made to Abraham?
- 3. Why did God give the Law?

Lesson 12 - The Covenant of Circumcision

Genesis 17, Colossians 2

Genesis 17:1-8

- 1. How old was Abram when God appeared to him?
- 2. Why did God change Abram's name to Abraham?
- 3. What did God promise to be to Abraham and his descendants?
- 4. What inheritance does God promise to give the descendants of Abraham?

Genesis 17:9-14

- 1. What would symbolize the covenant God formed with Abraham?
- 2. What was the punishment for failing to keep this commandment?
- 3. Did God consider Abraham a righteous man before or after circumcision?

Genesis 17:15-21

- God promised Abraham descendants through Sarah. What obstacle stood in the way?
- 2. Who was the oldest son of Abraham? Was he chosen to receive the promise?

Lesson 12 - The Covenant of Circumcision

3. Did Abraham want God to accept his oldest son?

Genesis 17:22-23

- 1. Did Abraham obey the commandment of God?
- 2. How quickly did Abraham obey?

Colossians 2:11-14

- 1. How is baptism like circumcision?
- 2. Who removes our sins in baptism?
- 3. Besides circumcision, what else does baptism mirror? (hint: look closely at verse 12)
- 4. What was fulfilled when Jesus was nailed to the cross?

Lesson 13 - Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 18-19

Genesis 18:1-8

How does Abraham treat these strangers?

Genesis 18:9-15

How did Sarah respond to the Lord's promise of a future child?

Genesis 18:16-21

Why did God send the two angels to Sodom and Gomorrah?

Genesis 18:22-33

What does Abraham's negotiation with God teach us about the Lord's judgment?

Genesis 19:1-3

- 1. Who do the angels find sitting at the gate of Sodom?
- 2. How did the angels plan to spend the night? Does Lot's response indicate he anticipated what would happen if the angels kept their plans?

Lesson 13 - Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 19:4-9

- 1. How does Lot show courage?
- 2. Do you see any indication that Sodom and Gomorrah had a bad influence on Lot?
- 3. What does the crowd's response to Lot teach us about preaching righteousness to those intent on wickedness?

Genesis 19:10-17

- 1. How did the angels rescue Lot from the crowd?
- 2. How did Lot's sons-in-law respond to his warnings about the city's destruction?
- 3. How did Lot respond to the angels' warnings? What lesson does this teach us?

Genesis 19:18-29

- 1. Why did Lot's wife turn into a pillar of salt? What lesson does this teach us?
- 2. Who witnessed the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah from afar?

Lesson 14 - Abraham Obeys God

Genesis 22, James 2

Genesis 22:1-5

- 1. Did Abraham hesitate to carry out God's command?
- 2. Carefully read what Abraham says to his servants in verse 5. What is remarkable about his statement?

Genesis 22:6-12

- God commands Abraham to offer "his <u>only</u> son." Isaac carries the wood for the sacrifice. Abraham says God will provide for Himself a lamb for the sacrifice. What major Biblical event do these elements foreshadow?
- 2. What did Abraham's obedience prove to God?

Genesis 22:13-18

- 1. What did Abraham offer as a substitute for Isaac?
- 2. Mount Moriah, where this event took place, later became Jerusalem's temple mount. Why would that have special meaning to the children of Abraham?
- 3. How does God reward Abraham's obedience?
- 4. Where else have you read the promise of verse 17?

Lesson 14 - Abraham Obeys God

5. Where else have you read the promise of verse 18? Who is "the seed" through whom the world would be blessed?

James 2:14-26

- 1. According to James, is faith, by itself, enough to please God? What does faith need to be complete?
- 2. Where does the Scripture say, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness"? Was this before or after he offered Isaac?
- 3. James says in verse 21 that Abraham was justified by works when he offered Isaac on the altar. Why is that true?
- 4. How does the example of Abraham prove, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only"?

Lesson 15 - Isaac Blesses Jacob

Genesis 27

Genesis 27:1-4

- 1. Read Genesis 25:19-28. Why was Esau's place as the firstborn important in that culture?
- 2. Read Genesis 25:29-34. What does this account teach you about the brothers?
- 3. Why does Isaac send Esau out to hunt?
- 4. How are Esau's selling of his birthright and Isaac's promise of a blessing similar?

Genesis 27:5-10

- 1. Read Genesis 25:28. Why do you suppose Rebekah conspired with Jacob against Esau?
- 2. Do you see anything wrong with what Rebekah proposed? Why or why not?

Genesis 27:11-17

1. What obstacles did Jacob need to overcome to convince Isaac that he was Esau?

Lesson 15 - Isaac Blesses Jacob

Genesis 27:18-27

- 1. According to Jacob, why did he find meat so quickly (see verse 20)? Do you see anything wrong with his reasoning?
- 2. Other than vision, what other senses does Isaac use to confirm that Esau is serving him this food?

Genesis 27:28-40

- 1. What does Isaac's blessing tell you about the future relationship between the descendants of Jacob and Esau?
- 2. How does Jacob's blessing echo what God told Rebekah in 25:23?
- 3. In the preceding stories of Genesis, what other firstborn child was denied his father's blessing in favor of the second-born child?
- 4. Read Esau's lament in verse 36. Do you notice anything inaccurate about his reasoning?

Genesis 27:41-46

- 1. Is Esau's anger toward Jacob justified? Why or why not?
- 2. Where does Rebekah send Jacob to find refuge?

Lesson 16 - Jacob's Dream

Genesis 28, John 1:43-51

Genesis 28:1-5

- 1. Why does Isaac send Jacob to his Uncle Laban?
- 2. What blessing does Isaac want Jacob to receive?

Genesis 28:6-9

- 1. Read Genesis 26:24-35. Where did Esau find his first two wives?
- 2. Who is Esau's third wife?

Genesis 28:10-15

- 1. The word ladder is better translated "stairway." Who does Jacob see ascending and descending the stairway?
- 2. Who is at the top of the stairway? How does He identify Himself?
- 3. Where have we previously read the promises of verses 13-14?
- 4. Who is the seed through whom God would bless the world?
- 5. What does God promise to do for Jacob in verse 15?

Lesson 16 - Jacob's Dream

- 6. Did Isaac or God choose to bless Jacob rather than Esau? Why?
- 7. Compare when Jacob received his blessing with when Abraham received his. Is the timing similar?

Genesis 28:16-22

- 1. Why did Jacob choose the name Bethel for this place?
- 2. Compare Jacob's story with Abraham in Genesis 12:7-8. What similarities do you see?
- 3. What are the conditions under which Jacob will accept Jehovah as his God?

John 1:43-51

- 1. In this account, Jesus calls Philip, who persuades Nathanael to visit Jesus. How does Jesus convince Nathanael He is the Son of God?
- 2. Jesus says they will see "the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." Who is the stairway in Jacob's dream? What does Jacob's dream teach us about Jesus?

Lesson 17 - Jacob Works for a Wife

Genesis 29:1-30:24

Genesis 29:1-12

Describe how Jacob meets Rachel.

Genesis 29:13-20

- 1. Jacob falls in love with Rachel. How does he secure her hand for marriage?
- 2. Why does Laban approve of this arrangement?

Genesis 29:21-30

- 1. Paul warns us to beware of what we sow because it will determine what we reap. How does that ring true in the story of Jacob?
- 2. Rebekah loved Jacob more than Esau. Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah. What sin is the Scripture warning us about?

Genesis 29:31-35

- 1. God showed sympathy toward Leah by blessing her with children. What stands out about the names of her third and fourth sons?
- 2. How did the names of Leah's sons reflect her feelings about her marriage?

Lesson 17 - Jacob Works for a Wife

Genesis 30:1-13

- Rachel's frustrations boil over. What earlier story in Genesis does this passage echo?
- 2. How does Rachel depict this competition with her sister in 30:8?

Genesis 30:14-21

- 1. Does God continue to sympathize with Leah's difficult position?
- 2. How many children did God bless Leah with?

Genesis 30:22-24

- 1. Before Rachel, what other women in Genesis struggled to conceive and bear children?
- 2. In Genesis 8:1, the Scripture says, "God remembered Noah." In Genesis 19:29, God remembered Abraham. In Genesis 30:22, He remembered Rachel. What does Scripture emphasize in each of those examples?

Lesson 18 - Joseph: From Dreamer to Slave

Genesis 37

Genesis 37:1-4

Isaac loved Esau, and Rebekah loved Jacob. Jacob preferred Rachel over Leah and loved Joseph more than his brothers. What kind of atmosphere does favoritism create in a family?

Genesis 37:5-8

- 1. In Joseph's dream, who do the sheaves represent? What does this teach us about the nature of dreams and visions?
- 2. Why did the brothers refuse to listen to Joseph's dream?

Genesis 37:9-11

- 1. In Joseph's second dream, who do the sun and moon represent? The stars?
- 2. How did Jacob respond to Joseph's dream?

Genesis 37:12-17

- 1. What did Joseph say when Jacob told him to go to Shechem?
- 2. Did Jacob trust Joseph's brothers? Why or why not?

Lesson 18 - Joseph: From Dreamer to Slave

Genesis 37:18-24

- 1. Who argued against killing Joseph? What was his hidden agenda?
- 2. What did they do to Joseph when he arrived?

Genesis 37:25-28

- 1. Rather than leave Joseph in the pit, what did the brothers do with him? Which brother had the idea?
- 2. The brothers betraying Joseph and selling him for silver foreshadows what major Bible event?

Genesis 37:29-36

- 1. How did the brothers convince Jacob that Joseph was dead?
- 2. Jacob has been deceived in consequential ways twice now, but Jacob himself was guilty of deception. What is Scripture teaching us?

Lesson 19 - Pharaoh's Dreams

Genesis 41

Genesis 41:1-8

- 1. How is Pharaoh's dream similar to Joseph's dream in 37:5-11? Why might that be significant?
- 2. Read Genesis 40:8. Why did the magicians and wise men of Egypt struggle to interpret Pharaoh's dream?

Genesis 41:9-24

- 1. How did the chief butler know Joseph could interpret Pharaoh's dream?
- 2. Dreams are one way God communicated to His people in Scripture. If "interpretations belong to God" (see 40:8 and 41:16), what should be our primary guide when interpreting the Bible's dreams and visions?

Genesis 41:25-36

- 1. What is the meaning of the two dreams?
- 2. According to Joseph, why did God send Pharaoh two separate dreams?
- 3. Based on the dreams, what policy does Joseph recommend?

Lesson 19 - Pharaoh's Dream

Genesis 41:37-45

- 1. According to Pharaoh, who helped Joseph interpret his dreams?
- 2. Describe the extent of Joseph's power and authority.

Genesis 41:46-57

- 1. Why could the Egyptians store up so much food in the first seven years?
- 2. Why did Joseph name his sons Manasseh and Ephraim?
- 3. How did Pharaoh show his complete trust in Joseph?

Lesson 20 - Joseph and His Brothers

Genesis 42-45

Genesis 42

- Jacob sent all of his sons except for one. Why did he keep the youngest son home?
- 2. How did Joseph treat his brothers during their first interaction? Why do you think he acted this way?
- 3. After spending three days in prison, Joseph gives his brothers a way to prove their honesty. What does he demand?
- 4. According to Reuben, why are the brothers being mistreated by this Egyptian official?
- 5. What do the brothers discover in their sacks when they return to Jacob?
- 6. What does Jacob fear if the brother keep their word to Joseph?

Genesis 43

- 1. How did the brothers convince Jacob to send Benjamin with them?
- 2. What is the first thing the brothers say to Joseph's steward?
- 3. What does Joseph do when he sees Benjamin?

Lesson 20 - Joseph and His Brothers

4. How does Joseph honor Benjamin?

Genesis 44

- 1. How did Joseph entrap the brothers?
- 2. Summarize Judah's plea for Benjamin.
- 3. Remember the story from chapter 37. Why is it significant that Judah pleads for Benjamin?

Genesis 45

- 1. According to Joseph, why did he end up in Egypt?
- 2. How does Pharaoh honor Joseph's family?
- 3. Paul says in Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." How does the story of Joseph illustrate God "working all things together for good"?

Lesson 21 - Moses

Exodus 1-2

Exodus 1:1-14

- 1. How large was the family of Jacob when it moved to Egypt?
- 2. Describe how verse 7 fulfills part of the promise God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- 3. What type of threat did Pharaoh perceive from the children of Israel?
- 4. How did the Egyptians attempt to subdue the Israelites?

Exodus 1:15-22

- 1. When his first plan failed, how did Pharaoh attempt to subdue the Israelites?
- 2. Why did the midwives disobey the command of Pharaoh?
- 3. The midwives lied to Pharaoh, and God blessed them for protecting the Israelite babies. Both Abraham and Jacob created trouble for themselves because they lied. What differences, if any, do you see between these examples?

Exodus 2:1-10

1. How did the mother of Moses, Jochebed, protect him from Pharaoh's decree?

Lesson 21 - Moses

- 2. Who discovers Moses? How did she feel when she discovered him?
- 3. How did the sister of Moses, Miriam, help her brother?
- 4. So far, several people have defied Pharaoh's command to kill all of the Hebrew male babies. What is one trait all of those people have in common?

Exodus 2:11-22

- 1. Why did Moses kill the Egyptian who was beating the Hebrew man?
- 2. When Moses tried to break up a fight between two Hebrew men, what did one of the men say to him?
- 3. Why did Moses flee to Midian?
- 4. How did Moses defend the daughters of Reuel?

Exodus 2:23-25

What does God remember when He hears the Israelites' cries?

Lesson 22 - The Burning Bush

Exodus 3-4

Exodus 3:1-6

- 1. Where did this encounter with God occur?
- 2. How does God identify Himself?

Exodus 3:7-12

- 1. By delivering Israel from their Egyptian oppressors and giving them the land of Canaan, what prophecy does God intend to fulfill?
- 2. Why do you think Moses was reluctant to go on this mission?
- 3. What sign will God give to show He sent Moses? (see verse 12)

Exodus 3:13-22

- 1. When Israel asks for the name of God, how was Moses to respond?
- 2. What was to be Moses' first request of Pharaoh? If God intends to deliver Israel from Egyptian captivity, why would He have Moses start with this request?
- 3. What will happen to Israel as it leaves Egypt?

Lesson 22 - The Burning Bush

Exodus 4:1-9

- 1. Describe the three signs Moses could perform to convince the Israelites that God sent him.
- 2. What does this teach us about the purpose of miraculous power?

Exodus 4:10-17

- 1. What two objections does Moses raise?
- 2. Even though He was angry with Moses, how did God accommodate his concerns?

Exodus 4:18-26

- 1. What tool from his days as a shepherd went with Moses to Egypt?
- 2. How does God expect Pharaoh to respond? What threat is Moses told to communicate to Pharaoh?

Exodus 4:27-31

- 1. What group do Moses and Aaron meet with first?
- 2. How did the people respond to Moses' mission?

Lesson 23 - The First Nine Plagues

Exodus 5-10

Exodus 5

- 1. What request did Moses and Aaron make of Pharaoh? What did they say would happen to the Israelites if Pharaoh would not let them go?
- 2. In what ways did Pharaoh make the Israelites' situation more difficult?
- 3. Who did the people blame for their increased difficulties? Who was really to blame?

Exodus 6

- 1. How does God attempt to reassure the Israelites?
- 2. What new message were Moses and Aaron to deliver to Pharaoh?
- 3. How does Moses describe his lack of confidence in his speaking abilities?

- 1. What does God say He will do to Pharaoh's heart?
- 2. Why did the signs of Moses and Aaron fail to convince Pharaoh?

Lesson 23 - The First Nine Plagues

3. How did Pharaoh respond to the first plague?

Exodus 8

- 1. Were the Egyptian magicians able to duplicate the second plague? Based on Pharaoh's plea in verse 8, what were the magicians unable to do?
- 2. Verse 15 says Pharaoh hardened his heart. What does this tell us about Pharaoh?
- 3. When the magicians could not duplicate the third plague, what did they conclude?
- 4. How did God distinguish the Israelites and the Egyptians in the fourth plague?

- 1. In the fifth plague, Moses forecasts a specific day when it will strike. What was Moses attempting to prove by forecasting when a plague would begin or when it would end?
- 2. What was missing when Moses and Aaron presented themselves to Pharaoh before the sixth plague?
- 3. In the seventh plague, how did God distinguish between those who feared Him and those who ignored Him?

Lesson 23 - The First Nine Plagues

4. Pharaoh confessed he sinned, but Moses questioned his sincerity. Moses's skepticism turned out to be true—Pharaoh hardened his heart once the storm stopped. What does Pharaoh's example teach us about habitual sin?

- 1. Against the advice of his servants, Pharaoh refused to let all of the Israelites go. He would only release the men. Pharaoh remains concerned about being overthrown, but he fails to see that Egypt is already in ruins. What lesson(s) can we learn about sin from Pharaoh's example?
- 2. Pharaoh again makes a partial concession in response to plague 9. When Moses attempts to correct him, how does Pharaoh threaten Moses?

Lesson 24 - The Passover

Exodus 11-13

Exodus 11

- 1. What plague would finally break the Egyptians?
- 2. How did the plagues impact Moses's reputation?
- 3. How would the children of Israel leave Egypt?

- 1. On what month, day, and time of day were the Israelites to observe this commemorative feast?
- 2. How were they to eat the feast?
- 3. Why did they smear the lamb's blood on their doorposts?
- 4. What feast followed the week after the Passover? How did they keep this weeklong feast?
- 5. What was the punishment for failing to keep these feasts?
- 6. Were any firstborn children or animals spared from among the Egyptians?

Lesson 24 - The Passover

7. What must a foreigner first do to eat the Passover?

- 1. What did the Feast of Unleavened Bread commemorate?
- 2. What else did the Israelites do to remember their exodus from Egypt besides the two feasts?
- 3. Why did God avoid the land of the Philistines?
- 4. Why did Moses carry Joseph's remains with him?
- 5. How did God guide the children of Israel?

Lesson 25 - Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 14-16

Exodus 14

- 1. Exodus begins with a different Pharaoh perceiving Israel as a military threat. Egypt lay in ruins because this Pharaoh refused to let Israel leave. Now, he wants to return Israel to Egypt by force. What is Scripture teaching us about the nature of sin?
- 2. Israel is afraid of the Egyptian army. Why is their fear irrational?
- 3. How did God protect Israel from the advancing Egyptian army?
- 4. What did God do to the Egyptian army as they pursued Israel across the bed of the Red Sea?
- 5. When God released the waters of the Red Sea, how much of the Egyptian army remained?

Exodus 15

Complaints about food and water become a common theme in the wandering through the wilderness. How does God test the Israelites in response to this first complaint?

Exodus 16

1. What did Israel say in their complaint about a lack of food?

Lesson 25 - Crossing the Red Sea

- 2. What were the rules regarding the gathering of bread?
- 3. When the children of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron, who were they really complaining against?
- 4. What lesson did God teach them by allowing the bread to decay after only one day (on every day but the Sabbath)?
- 5. How did the children of Israel commemorate the eating of manna in future generations?
- 6. How long did they eat manna?

Lesson 26 - Moses Receives the Law

Exodus 19-20, 32

Exodus 19

- 1. What did Israel need to do to be God's "treasured possession...a kingdom of priests and a holy nation"?
- 2. How did Israel prepare for the arrival of God's presence on Mt. Sinai?
- 3. Describe the arrival of God.
- 4. Why did Moses put up barriers at the foot of the mountain?

- 1. What do the first four commandments share in common?
- 2. What does it mean to use the Lord's name in vain?
- 3. Compare Exodus 20:13 in the KJV with more modern versions. What is the difference between killing and murder?
- 4. Define covetousness.
- 5. Why did the people ask Moses to be their mediator with God?

Lesson 26 - Moses Receives the Law

6. What type of altar was acceptable to God?

- 1. While Moses was on Mt. Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments written on stone and other commandments, the people grew impatient. What did Aaron lead them to do?
- 2. What did God threaten to do as punishment for Israel's sin?
- 3. Describe how Moses interceded on Israel's behalf.
- 4. What did Moses do when he saw Israel celebrating?
- 5. How was Aaron's account inaccurate?
- 6. Which tribe took "the Lord's side"?
- 7. What does Moses say when he returns to the Lord?

Lesson 27 - The Tabernacle

Exodus 35-40

Exodus 35

- 1. How did the children of Israel come up with materials for building the Tabernacle?
- 2. What did God do to ensure the Tabernacle was built according to His specifications?
- 3. What parallels do you see between the Tabernacle and the church?

Exodus 36

- 1. In verse 1, Scripture says Bezalel and Aholiab will do "all that the Lord has commanded." What principle is God teaching us?
- 2. What does the Scripture say about the Israelites' generosity?

- 1. A cherub is a type of angel who dwells in the presence of God. What do their wings cover on the top of the Ark of the Covenant?
- 2. How did the Israelites transport the ark, the table of showbread, and the altar of incense?

Lesson 27 - The Tabernacle

3. How much gold was required to make the lampstand?

Exodus 38

Who supplied the material for the bronze laver? What was the material's original use?

Exodus 39

- 1. How were the 12 tribes symbolized on the priest's breastplate?
- 2. 14 times in chapters 39-40, Scripture says various tasks were completed "as the Lord had commanded Moses." What should we learn from this example?

- 1. On what day of the year did Moses first erect the Tabernacle?
- 2. What happened when the Tabernacle was fully assembled according to God's specifications?
- 3. How did God signal when Israel was to travel?

Lesson 28 - The Twelve Spies

Numbers 13-14

Numbers 13:1-24

- 1. What were the spies' objectives?
- 2. Whose descendants inhabited Hebron?
- 3. What evidence of fruitfulness did the spies bring back to Moses?

Numbers 13:25-33

- According to most of the spies, what obstacle stood in the way of conquering the land?
- 2. Which spy disagreed? What tribe was he from?

Numbers 14:1-12

- 1. What did the children of Israel want to do instead of invading Canaan?
- 2. What two men stood against the multitude?
- 3. Why were these two men confident that Israel would be successful?
- 4. According to God, who had the people rejected?

Lesson 28 - The Twelve Spies

5. What did God propose to do as a consequence for the peoples' rebellion?

Numbers 14:13-19

- 1. What two reasons did Moses use to persuade God to reconsider?
- 2. Did God relent because the Israelites deserved it? Or did He relent because of His character?
- 3. What does this example teach us about God and forgiveness?

Numbers 14:20-38

- 1. What would be Israel's punishment?
- 2. Why did God choose 40 years for the length of punishment?
- 3. Who would be spared from the punishment?

Numbers 14:39-45

- 1. How did the people attempt to change God's mind?
- 2. Who and what did not go with them?

Lesson 29 - The Rebellion of Korah

Numbers 16-17

Numbers 16:1-11

- 1. What is the accusation against Moses and Aaron?
- 2. What important role did these men perform for the nation of Israel?

Numbers 16:12-22

- 1. According to their critics, what promise have Moses and Aaron failed to keep?
- 2. What was the company of Korah to bring to the tabernacle of meeting the next day?
- 3. What was God prepared to do to the congregation of Israel?

Numbers 16:23-35

- 1. What did Moses tell the congregation of Israel to do?
- 2. What happened to the households of all the men aligned with Korah?
- 3. What happened to the 250 men with censers offering incense?

Lesson 29 — The Rebellion of Korah

Numbers 16:36-50

- 1. How did Eleazar memorialize this terrible day?
- 2. What accusation did the congregation level against Moses and Aaron? How did God respond?
- 3. How did Aaron intercede on behalf of the people?

Numbers 17:1-5

How did God propose to settle this controversy decisively?

Numbers 17:6-13

- 1. What distinguished Aaron's rod from the rest of Israel?
- 2. What did Moses do with Aaron's rod to memorialize this series of events?
- 3. What lesson did Israel learn from Korah's rebellion?

Lesson 30 - Moses Strikes a Rock

Exodus 17, Numbers 20, 1 Corinthians 10

Exodus 17:1-7

CONTEXT: The children of Israel left Egypt, crossed the Red Sea, and watched the Egyptian armies destroyed (chapter 14). They rejoiced at their redemption but soon complained about a lack of water (chapter 15) and food (chapter 16).

- 1. Why does Moses warn Israel about "tempting God"?
- 2. How does God describe Moses's rod?
- 3. What did God tell Moses to do to bring water from the rock?

Numbers 20:1-5

CONTEXT: Numbers 20 records the conclusion of the forty years of wandering. The congregation arrives in Kadesh (verse 1) where Miriam, the older sister of Moses, dies. They travel from Kadesh to Mount Hor (verse 22) where Aaron dies. According to Numbers 33:38, Aaron died "in the fortieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, on the first day of the fifth month." The account of Moses drawing water from a rock in Exodus 17 happens within 3 months after the exodus. The account in Numbers 20 happens approximately forty years later. At this point, an entire generation of Israelites have perished in the desert.

- What did the congregation wish had happened to them?
- 2. What else does this region lack besides water? What promise did Israel accuse Moses of failing to keep?

Lesson 30 — Moses Strikes a Rock

Numbers 20:6-9

Compare God's instructions in 20:8 with His instructions in Exodus 17:5-6. What is similar? What is different?

Numbers 20:10-13

- 1. Read verse 10 carefully. What was Moses's first mistake?
- 2. Why do you think God gave Israel water even though Moses struck the rock rather than speak to the rock?
- 3. What was the penalty for Moses's error?

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

- 1. What important Christian ritual is foreshadowed by the crossing of the Red Sea and the protection by a cloud?
- 2. What New Testament truth is foreshadowed by God providing food and water in the wilderness?

1 Corinthians 10:5-11

What do we learn from Israel's idolatry, their episodes of sexual immorality, their tempting of God, and their complaining? Why did God preserve these accounts in Scripture?

Lesson 31 - Balaam and Balak

Numbers 22-25, 2 Peter 2:15-16, Revelation 2:14

Numbers 22

- 1. What city sat across the Jordan from the camp of Israel?
- 2. What did Balak, King of the Moabites, fear?
- 3. What did Balak pay the prophet Balaam to do?
- 4. Why did Balaam refuse to comply with Balak's request?
- 5. Balaam says, "Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, i could not go beyond the word of the Lord my God..." What does this statement reveal about Balaam?
- 6. Did Balaam obey God's command only to go if men arrived to call on him? How did God respond?
- 7. What was the Angel of the Lord's specific command to Balaam?
- 8. How did Balaam continue to profit from Balak?

Numbers 23

1. Why did Balaam refuse to curse Israel?

Lesson 31 — Balaam and Balak

- 2. How does Balaam respond when Balak asks Balaam to curse Israel a third time?
- 3. What does Balaam reveal about himself when he tells Balak to build seven altars and prepare seven rams?

Numbers 24

- 1. Why was Balak angry with Balaam?
- 2. What does Balaam prophesy about the future of Israel's enemies?

Numbers 25

- 1. How did Moab corrupt the children of Israel?
- 2. Read Numbers 31:15-16. Who counseled Moab to corrupt the children of Israel in this way?

2 Peter 2:15-16

What lesson(s) does Peter want us to learn from the story of Balaam?

Revelation 2:14

How were the false teachers in Pergamos like Balaam?

Lesson 32 - Moses Dies, Joshua Succeeds

Deuteronomy 34-Joshua 1

Note About Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy means "second law." God gave the Law to Moses, the children of Israel refused to invade Canaan, that generation died, and a new generation was poised to invade. Deuteronomy consists of Moses recounting lessons from the rebellious generation and reminding the next generation of various commands God revealed forty years earlier.

Deuteronomy 34

- 1. Why does God take Moses to the top of Mount Pisgah?
- 2. Why, do you suppose, did God hide the body of Moses?
- 3. How did God bless Moses in his advanced years?
- 4. What made Moses unique among the prophets?
- 5. What lesson(s) should we learn from Moses failing to enter the promised land?

Deuteronomy 34 concludes the five books of Moses. We call these books "The Law." The Jews call it "The Torah" or "The Pentateuch."

Joshua 1:1-9

We are first introduced to Joshua in Exodus 17:8-16 when he leads Israel in a great victory over the Amalekites. Exodus 24:13 tells us he accompanied Moses up Mt.

Lesson 32 — Moses Dies, Joshua Succeeds

Sinai. According to Exodus 33:11, Joshua never left the tent where Moses met with God. He represented Ephraim when 12 spies were sent into Canaan and, along with Caleb, urged the first generation to trust in God and invade Canaan. Consequently, Joshua, Caleb, and their families were the only ones to survive the forty years of wandering in the wilderness.

- 1. What was Joshua's relationship with Moses?
- 2. How does God promise to support and help Joshua?
- 3. What does God say to Joshua three different times in verses 6-9?
- 4. What must Joshua do for God to bless him and his mission?

Joshua 1:10-18

Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh received an inheritance on the east side of the Jordan. In exchange, they pledged to help their fellow tribes secure their inheritance on the west side of the Jordan (see Numbers 32:20-28).

- 1. Where would the families and possessions of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh go during the invasion?
- 2. When will the pact between those three tribes and the rest of Israel be fulfilled?
- 3. How do they assure Joshua that they will keep their side of the agreement?

Joshua 1 begins the section of the Old Testament known as the books of history. They conclude with Esther.