



# **“In the Beginning”**

The Book of **Genesis**



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# Overview of the Old Testament

1. What do you hope to get out of this study of Genesis? What excites you about the book of Genesis? What questions do you have about the book of Genesis?
2. What are some things we can do to fill our hearts with the Word of God? Why is this so important? What does the Bible say about this?
3. Why do you think it is important for New Testament Christians to read and study the Old Testament? What are some reasons Christians might give for not studying the Old Testament? What does the New Testament say about this?
4. In what ways is the Old Testament a crucial part of your story as a Christian? What does the Bible say about this?
5. Why is it important to read the Bible in context? Has there ever been a time when you misunderstood the Bible because you didn't pay close enough attention to the context? What does the Bible say about this?

6. Briefly tell the story of the Old Testament using these five people:

Adam:

Noah:

Abraham:

Moses:

David:

7. Briefly tell the story of the Old Testament using these five places:

Babylon:

Canaan:

Egypt:

Canaan:

Babylon:

8. Please read through the whole book of Genesis at least once before our second class. Don't stop to ask questions. The goal is to get an overall impression of what the book is all about. I highly recommend listening to an audiobook (just be sure to pay attention!) or reading from a Bible with no chapter or verse divisions (like the ESV Reader's Bible, Six-Volume Set).

# Overview of Genesis

1. If you haven't done so already, read through the book of Genesis. What did you notice as you read? What did you find interesting, surprising, or confusing?
2. In no more than two short sentences, write what you think the book of Genesis is about. At the end of our study, we will come back to this question, and see how our impressions of the book have changed.
3. Watch these two short videos by The Bible Project which give an excellent overview of Genesis 1-11: [youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I) and Genesis 12-50: [youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo).
4. Flip through the book of Genesis in your Bible and read the headings (the uninspired part!) that summarize each section of the book.
5. Create an outline of the book of Genesis. No outline is perfect, so don't worry if yours is right. But think about where the major sections of the book may be, how each section may be divided up, and how those sub-sections may be divided up.

6. What do you think the phrase in 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1, 9; and 37:2 means? What might this repetition tell us about the book's purpose? How might this phrase relate to the many genealogies in Genesis?
  
7. Who wrote the book of Genesis? What does the Old Testament say about this? What does Jesus say about this? During what time period was the book written? How might knowing this help us understand the book better?
  
8. Does the book of Genesis record actual historical events? How do you know? Does any account of history record every detail of what happened? How do you think the author of Genesis chose which details to include and which to leave out?
  
9. Was the book of Genesis written to answer modern scientific questions? Does the Bible claim the world was created in six days (Exodus 20:11; Mark 10:6)? Does the Bible tell us exactly how old the earth is?

# God Creates the World

1. Carefully read through Genesis 1:1-2:3. Highlight all of the words spoken by God. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Mark in red every verb describing what God does. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases in the chapter (there are several!). What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 1:1-2:3.
4. How do the first three days of creation relate to the next three days of creation?

Day 1: Light & Darkness	Day 4: Sun, Moon & Stars
Day 2: Sky & Sea	Day 5: Birds & Fish
Day 3: Land & Plants	Day 6: Animals & People
5. What is described before the six days of creation in 1:2-3? Did anything exist before creation? How would you explain this?

6. What does God separate on Day 1? Why is this significant? Why do you think this chapter repeatedly mentions the passing of time? Why are the sun, moon, and stars called "signs" on Day 4 (Psalm 19:1-6)?
  
7. What does God separate on Day 2? What does God call the "expanse"? What do you think the expanse is? What does God put in the expanse in 1:14-15 and 1:20?
  
8. What does God separate on Day 3? What do the plants have in common with the animals and people on Day 6? What three categories of animals are described?
  
9. What does God instruct the man and woman to do in this chapter? How does this relate to what God does in this chapter? How might this help us understand what it means to be created in the image of God?
  
10. What does this chapter reveal to us about God? What do you think it means that God rested on Day 7?
  
11. How do you think this chapter fits in the context of the book of Genesis as a whole? How do the Old Testament and the New Testament expand on the themes of this chapter?



# Adam and Eve Sin

1. Carefully read through Genesis 2:4-3:24. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by God, the man, the serpent, and the woman. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 3:15, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (ESV).
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 2:4-3:24.
4. What part of creation is the focus of 2:7? What part of creation is the focus of 2:8-14? What part of creation is the focus of 2:18-20? What part of creation is the focus of 2:21-25? What happens at the center of these four sections in 2:15-17?
5. What is significant about God breathing into the man the breath of life (2:7)? How does this relate to 1:2?

6. List all the similarities as you can find between the garden (2:8-14), the tabernacle (Exodus 25-40), and the temple (1 Kings 6-7; Ezekiel 47)? God makes the humans rulers in chapter 1. What role does he give them here?
  
7. What two things were true of every tree in the garden (2:9)? How does Satan distract us from the blessings God has already given us (3:6)? Had God already blessed Eve with the three things Satan promised her in 3:5?
  
8. Did Adam and Eve die on the day they disobeyed God (2:15; 3:4; 5:5)? Was Satan telling the truth?
  
9. Why do you think relationships are a central part of God's creation (2:18, 21-25)? How does sin affect our relationships (3:16)? Is this always true?
  
10. Who was supposed to guard the garden (2:15)? Who ends up guarding the garden (3:24)?
  
11. How does this chapter fit in the context of the book of Genesis? How do the Old Testament and New Testament expand on this chapter?

# Cain Kills Abel

1. Carefully read through Genesis 4:1-6:8. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 4:7, "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it" (ESV).
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 4:1-6:8.
4. Who was created in the image of Adam (5:1-3)? How are the concepts of image and sonship related (Luke 3:38)? What does this tell us about our relationship with God (Romans 8:14, 19)?
5. Why did God have regard for Abel's offering but not for Cain's (1 John 3:12)? What is God's solution (4:7)?

6. When Cain kills Abel, does God's promise in Genesis 3:15 seem to be going according to plan? Why or why not?
  
7. Are you your brother's keeper?
  
8. What does 4:15 tell us about the character of God? How does God initially respond to sin?
  
9. Why are Lamech's actions and attitude so devastating? How do 4:25-26 provide hope once again?
  
10. Why is it significant that chapter 5 repeatedly mentions death? Was it inevitable that all of these individuals would have to die? How do you know?
  
11. How might you explain 6:1-4 in the context of the opening chapters of Genesis?
  
12. How does God respond when we persist in sin (6:5-6)?



# God Saves Noah

1. Carefully read through Genesis 6:9-9:29. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 6:5-6, "The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 6:9-9:29.
4. Why does God destroy his creation with a flood?
5. In what ways do these chapters demonstrate God's grace?

6. In what ways does Noah act like God in these chapters? In what ways does he do what God originally designed humanity to do?

7. What is a covenant? What covenant does God make with Noah?

8. How does Noah resemble Cain in 9:20?

9. What is the first thing Noah says in these chapters?

10. How is Noah like Enoch (6:9)? Is the outcome the same (9:29)? Why or why not?

# God Blesses Abraham

1. Carefully read through Genesis 10:1-12:9. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 12:3, "I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 10:1-12:9.
4. What do these descendants of Ham have in common: Egypt, Canaan, Babylonians, Assyrians, Philistines, Jebusites, Amorites, Gergashites, and Hivites?
5. Why did God have to "come down to see" the tower of Babel? How does God confusing the people's languages relate to what God does in Acts 2?

6. How many generations are listed in the genealogy of Shem? How many sons are listed in the tenth generation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why is it significant that Sarai was barren?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Where were Terah and his family originally headed when they left Ur? Where did they settle instead?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How do the promises God makes to Abraham relate to what happened at the tower of Babel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Where does Abraham go when he arrives in Canaan? What does he do there? What happens at each of these places later in the Old Testament?



# Abraham Saves Lot

1. Carefully read through Genesis 12:10-14:24. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 14:9, "And he blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 12:10-14:24.
4. Why does Abram go to Egypt? Why does he lie about Sarai? Did he need to do this in order to protect himself (12:1-3)? How does God respond to Abram's sin?



# Ishmael Is Born

1. Carefully read through Genesis 15-17. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 15:6, "And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 15-17.
4. What is the first question that Abram asks God? How does God respond? What is it that Abram believes? How does the New Testament apply verse 6?
5. What is the second question that Abram asks God? How does God respond? What is the significance of the carcasses, birds of prey, smoking fire pot, and flaming torch? What does verse 16 reveal about God's character?

6. Who is Hagar? What plan does Sarai propose? How is this chapter similar to chapter 3? Does God approve of polygamy?
  
7. What does God tell Hagar to do? What does God promise her? Does God approve of slavery?
  
8. How much time passes between chapters 16 and 17? What does God promise to do for Abraham? What does God expect Abraham to do?
  
9. What is Abraham's response in 17:17-18? What is Abraham's response in 17:23? What does this reveal about Abraham's character?



# God Destroys Sodom

1. Carefully read through Genesis 18-20. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 18:14, "Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 18-20.
4. Who are the men that visit Abraham? How do you know? What can we learn from Abraham's response?
5. Why are the men interested in Sarah? What can we learn from Sarah's response?

6. Why does God reveal what he is about to do to Abraham? Why is God going down to Sodom?
  
7. What do the men of Sodom want to do to the visitors? Was a lack of hospitality their only sin? How do you know?
  
8. How is the account of the destruction of Sodom similar to the account of the destruction of the world in the flood?
  
9. Why does sexual morality matter to God? Why should it matter to us? (20:3)
  
10. What false assumption does Abraham make about the people of Gerar? How does that false assumption lead to sin? Can we make the same mistake?
  
11. Critics of the Bible argue that the story in chapters 12, 20, and 26 was mistakenly repeated by a careless ancient editor of Genesis. Why does Abraham say these events keep happening?

# Abraham Sacrifices Isaac

1. Carefully read through Genesis 21-22. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 22:5, "Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 21-22.
4. What does the name Isaac mean? Where else do we read about laughter in Genesis? What tension in the narrative does Isaac's birth resolve?
5. What does Hagar expect will happen when she is sent away (21:16)? What actually happens? Why?

6. Why does Abimelech want assurance that Abraham will not deal falsely with him? In what ways does Beersheba become important later in Old Testament history?
  
7. What does God instruct Abraham to do in 21:9-21? How does this relate to the test in chapter 22? Why does God need to test Abraham?
  
8. How does Abraham respond to God's command in 22:2? How would you have responded? Is obedience a necessary part of genuine faith? How do you know?
  
9. Where is Moriah (22:2, 14; 2 Chronicles 3:1, Psalm 125:2)? Why is this important?
  
10. Why does chapter 22 end with a genealogy?



# Isaac Marries Rebekah

1. Carefully read through Genesis 23-24. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 24:21, "The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether the LORD had prospered his journey or not."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 23-24.
4. How long has Abraham lived in Canaan in chapter 23? Why does Abraham insist on paying for the cave of Machpelah? How do the events of this chapter relate to the promises God made to Abraham?
5. Why does Abraham send his servant back to Aram? Why does he insist that Isaac stay in Canaan?



# Esau Sells His Birthright

1. Carefully read through Genesis 23-24. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 24:21, "The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether the LORD had prospered his journey or not."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 23-24.
4. What does Abraham do for the sons of Keturah? How is this different than what he does for Isaac? Why does he send them away?
5. How long does Abraham live? Where is he buried? Who buries him?

6. What happens to Ishmael's descendants? Why do you think the section of Genesis about Abraham's life (11:27-25:18) ends the way it does?
  
7. Why does God allow Rebekah to become pregnant? What does God reveal to Rebekah while she is pregnant? What happens when she gives birth?
  
8. What is significant about Esau's birthright in the context of the book of Genesis? How does his birthright relate to God's promises to Abraham? Should he have given up his birthright?
  
9. Why is Isaac afraid he might be killed in Gerar? Does he need to be afraid? How do you know?
  
10. How are Isaac's interactions with Abimelech similar to Abraham's interactions with Abimelech a generation earlier? Why do you think God chose to reveal this to us?
  
11. Who does Esau marry? How does it go?

# Isaac Blesses Jacob

1. Carefully read through Genesis 27:1-28:9. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 27:36, "Esau said, 'Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing.' Then he said, 'Have you not reserved a blessing for me?'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 27:1-28:9.
4. What is significant about the fact that Isaac cannot see? What is significant about seeing in the book of Genesis?
5. Why does Isaac show preference to Esau? Why does Rebekah show preference to Jacob? What problems does this cause?

6. Why is a father's blessing of his son so significant in Genesis? Couldn't Isaac just change his mind?
  
7. Why does Esau say Jacob is "rightly named"? How many times does Jacob lie to Isaac in this chapter?
  
8. How are Esau's actions similar to Cain's? What stops him? What other similarities are there between Genesis 27 and Genesis 3-4?
  
9. Why does Isaac send Jacob away from Canaan when Abraham insisted that Isaac stay in Canaan?
  
10. What does Esau do when he hears that his parents aren't happy about his wives? Does this solve the problem? How does this relate to God's design for marriage?



# Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel

1. Carefully read through Genesis 28:10-30:24. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 28:15, "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 28:10-30:24.
4. What happens to Jacob at Bethel? What happened at Bethel earlier in Genesis? What does Jacob do in response?
5. How does Jacob meet Rachel? How is this account similar to the way Isaac met Rebekah? How is it different?



# Jacob Escapes from Laban

1. Carefully read through Genesis 30:25–31:55. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 31:3, "Then the LORD said to Jacob, 'Return to the land of your fathers and to your kindred, and I will be with you.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 30:25–31:55.
4. What does Jacob want from Laban? What does Laban want from Jacob? What is divination? What agreement do they make?



# Jacob and Esau Meet Again

1. Carefully read through Genesis 32-33. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 32:28, "Then he said, 'Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 32-33.
4. Who meets Jacob at Mahanaim? Why do you think this happens? Who does Jacob send to Esau?



# Simeon and Levi Avenge Dinah

1. Carefully read through Genesis 34-36. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 35:2-3, "So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, 'Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments. Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 34-36.
4. What does Shechem do to Dinah? Is this the first time something like this has happened in Genesis? What does the Law say about this (Exodus 22:16-17, Deuteronomy 22:28-29)?

5. How do Dinah's brothers respond to Shechem's request to marry her? What do Simeon and Levi do to the men of the city? What do they do to the women of the city? How does this relate to what Lamech does in Genesis 4:23? How does this relate to what will happen in Joshua 5?
  
6. What does God tell Jacob to do? Does Jacob obey? What does Jacob tell his family to do? How does this relate to what will happen in Exodus 32?
  
7. What happens to Rachel? Where do we encounter the descendants of Benjamin later in the Bible?
  
8. What does Reuben do to Bilhah? Why?
  
9. Why do you think God decided to include chapter 36 in the Bible?



# Judah Sells Joseph into Slavery

1. Carefully read through Genesis 37-38. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 37:9, "Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, 'Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 37-38.
4. What does God reveal to Joseph in a dream? Where else has God spoken to someone in a dream in Genesis? What warnings do we find in Deuteronomy 13:1-3 and Jeremiah 23:25?
5. Why do Joseph's brothers want to kill him? What happens instead? How is this similar or different from other accounts about brothers in Genesis?

6. How do Joseph's brothers deceive their father? How is this similar to the way Jacob deceived his father? What can we learn from the theme of deception in Genesis?
  
7. Who does Judah marry? What do we know about the Canaanites from Genesis 9:25? What happens to their first two sons? Why?
  
8. Why does Tamar expect to marry Judah's youngest son (Deuteronomy 25:5-10)? Why doesn't Judah allow this? Is his fear legitimate? Does he keep his word?
  
9. Who is Judah's friend (38:12, 20-22)? Is he a good influence on Judah? Who do Judah and his friend think Tamar was? What is a cult prostitute?
  
10. What are the names of the two sons of Judah and Tamar? In what ways are they related to Judah? Who is the rightful heir of Judah and Shua? Who is the rightful heir of Judah and Tamar? How does this chapter relate to Joshua 2? How does this chapter relate to Joshua 7?

# Potiphar's Wife Tempts Joseph

1. Carefully read through Genesis 39. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 39:8-9, "But he refused and said to his master's wife, 'Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 39.
4. What key words and themes appear in Genesis 37, 38, and 39? Some critics argue that these chapters were originally separate stories carelessly pieced together. Do you think this is accurate? Why or why not?

5. Who are the Ishmaelites? What relationship do they have with the Egyptians? Who is Potiphar? What relationship does he have with Pharaoh? Where else have we read about Egypt in Genesis?
  
6. How does Joseph's interaction with Potiphar's wife relate to the events of Genesis 3? What does this reveal about Joseph?
  
7. Who does Potiphar's wife blame for her actions? What role does a garment play in her deception? What role does laughter play in her deception?
  
8. What does God do for Joseph? Why do you think he does this?

# Joseph Interprets Dreams

1. Carefully read through Genesis 40-41. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 41:16, "Joseph answered Pharaoh, 'It is not in me. God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 40-41.
4. How does Joseph meet the chief cupbearer and chief baker? Describe his relationship with them.
5. What do their dreams have in common? How are they different? What happens to the cupbearer? What happens to the baker?

6. What happens to Joseph? How do the baker's actions relate to Genesis 8:1, 19:29, and 30:22? How long does Joseph have to wait?
  
7. What does Pharaoh dream? What does it mean? How many times does Joseph mention God as he speaks to Pharaoh?
  
8. In what way is Joseph's new role in Egypt a fulfillment of the blessing in Genesis 1? Why does Pharaoh say he is giving Joseph this authority? How does Joseph use this authority?
  
9. In what way is Joseph's new role in Egypt a fulfillment of the promises in Genesis 12? What similarities and differences are there between this famine and the one in Genesis 12?

# Joseph and Judah Meet Again

1. Carefully read through Genesis 42:1-45:15. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 43:9, "I will be a pledge of his safety. From my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 42:1-45:15.
4. What reason does Joseph give for treating his brothers the way he does? What does he want to find out?
5. What does Reuben offer to do in order to ensure Benjamin's safety? Why do you think Jacob refuses?

6. What does Judah offer to do in order to ensure Benjamin's safety? Why do you think Jacob consents?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What does Joseph do for his brothers when they return? Why do you think he does this?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What is significant about Joseph's cup? Why do you think he uses it in the way he does?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What does Judah do in order to ensure Benjamin's safety? What does this reveal about Judah? How does this relate to Judah's actions in chapters 37-38?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. How does Joseph finally reveal himself to his brothers? Why do you think he waited so long? How does the text describe his emotions? What does he say to them?



# Joseph Brings His Family to Egypt

1. Carefully read through Genesis 45:16–47:31. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 50:20, “As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 45:16–47:31.
4. What does Pharaoh command Joseph to do with his brothers? Why do you think he does this? Why do you think Joseph tells his brothers not to quarrel on the way?

5. How does Jacob respond when the brothers return? What does God say to Jacob? When was the last time God spoke in Genesis? Why do you think he speaks again now?
  
6. How many people are part of Jacob's family now? Why is this significant? Who leads the way back to Egypt?
  
7. Why does Joseph give his family instructions about meeting Pharaoh? What does Jacob do for Pharaoh? How does Jacob describe his life? Why do you think he says this?
  
8. What does Joseph do during the years of famine? What do the people say he has done for them?
  
9. What does Jacob make Joseph promise? Why do you think he does this?

# Jacob Blesses His Sons

1. Carefully read through Genesis 48-50. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 49:10, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 48-50.
4. Why does Jacob bless Joseph's two sons (1 Chronicles 5:1-2)? Why do we read about the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh later in the Old Testament rather than the tribe of Joseph? How does this blessing relate to Isaac's blessing of Jacob and Esau?
5. Which of the blessings of Jacob's sons stand out to you? Why? How do these blessings look forward to later Bible events?

6. How do Joseph and his brothers bury Jacob? What are the brothers concerned about after Jacob dies? How is Joseph's response a fitting summary of the book of Genesis?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What happens to Joseph's body after he dies?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What are the major themes in the book of Genesis? What do each of these themes teach us about God? What do each of these themes teach us about ourselves? How can each of these themes help us to be better Christians?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. In no more than two short sentences, write what you think the book of Genesis is about. After you write your answer, compare it with your answer to question 2 in the lesson titled, "Overview of Genesis." How has your overall impression of the book changed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What have you learned in this study of Genesis? How will the book of Genesis help you as you study the Bible in the future?