

Bible Challenge 2014
Going Deeper – Questions for Readings
Week 3

What is the covenant that God makes with Abram (Genesis 12:2-3)? How does this covenant differ from the covenant God made with Noah? Why did God choose Abram for this special call?

Where did God tell Abram and his family to go (Genesis 12:4-5)? Who did God promise Abram would inherit this land? What nation calls this land home today?

Why do Abram and Sarai go to Egypt (Genesis 12:10)? What happens to them while they are there? What does the story in Genesis 12:11-20 tell us about Abram? What does it tell us about ourselves as human beings?

Why does the King of Sodom offer Abram a reward in Genesis 14:17-24? How does Abram respond to that offer? Why? What does Abram give to Melchizedek in Genesis 14:20? Why? What faith tradition are we called to practice today in honor of this event?

What must happen for God's covenant with Abram to be fulfilled (Genesis 15:4-6)? Does Abram trust in this promise? Does Sarai? How do we know? What does Sarai do to try and make this promise a reality (Genesis 16:1-2)? What happens to this plan? What does this story tell us about human plans and God's plans?

What is the name of the son born to Abram and Hagar? What does God promise will happen through Hagar and this child? What is predicted about this child (Genesis 16:7-12)? Who are the descendants of Hagar and her child today?

Why does God change Abram's name in Genesis 17:3-7? What is Abram's new name? What does it mean? What is the new name God gives to Sarai? What does it mean? (Genesis 17:15-16)

What is circumcision? Who is supposed to be circumcised according to God? Why? (Genesis 17:9-14)

How old are Abram and Sarai when God promises they will have a son together? How do they respond to this promise? What does the fulfillment of this promise tell us about God and our relationship with God? (Genesis 17:17-18:15)

What does the story of Sodom and Gomorrah reveal about the nature of human beings? What does it tell us about God's judgment?

Why does Lot's wife turn into a pillar of salt (Genesis 19:26)? What do you think this symbolizes?

What is the name Abraham and Sarah give to their son (Genesis 21:1-5)? Why? What does his name mean?

Why is Sarah upset with Hagar and Ishmael in Genesis 21? What does she ask Abraham to do? What does God do for Hagar and Ishmael? What does this tell us about God?

Why do you think God commands Abraham to sacrifice Isaac? How does Abraham respond? How does God respond to Abraham? (Genesis 22)

What does the story about Abraham's servant finding Rebekah to be Isaac's wife tell us about the power of prayer? (Genesis 24)

What is a prophecy? What is prophesied about Rebekah and Isaac's twins, Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:22-23)?

What was Esau's birthright? Why did Jacob want it and what did he do to get it? (Genesis 25:29-34)

How does Isaac's life mirror that of his father, Abraham's, in the events that take place in Genesis 26?

What causes the conflict between Esau and Jacob in Genesis 27? What does this tell us about human behavior?

What does Jacob see and hear in his dream in Genesis 28:10-17? Has there been a time in your life when you experienced God's presence in such a powerful way?