

Let's Talk: Day 15-One Story

Job & God – Job's Suffering & God's Compassionate Mercy

Today's Reading: Job 38 & 42; James 5:9-11

Today's reading mentions God's creation several times, as well as some scientific concepts. What is your favorite science subject? Check out <http://letusreason.org/Apolo6.htm> for one person's commentary on the Biblical evidence of science. Or watch the video of "Indescribable" with some amazing pictures at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FllchSJoOA>.

Questions:

1. How many references to nature can you find in chapter 38?
2. What are some of the questions God asks Job? What is the overall message God is really asking?
3. How does the story of Job end? What about his friends? Does Job ever understand why he went through his trials? What from the life of Job can you apply to your own life?
4. What is the blessing and patience of Job talked about in James? If you had been Job, would have made his same choices? Explain.

Let's Talk: Day 16

Abraham & God's Call – Abraham's Faith to Follow God & the Promise of the Gospel

Today's Reading: Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:8-10; Galatians 3:7-14

Imagine you were going to a new country and you could only bring items that would fit in one suitcase. What would you bring? Get a grocery bag, go to your room and take five minutes to pick the things you would take with you. Explain your selection.

Questions:

1. What did God tell Abram to do? What did He promise Abram?
2. Did Abram choose to obey? How do you know?

3. How did Abram show faith? If God asks you to do something, will you choose to do it even if you don't understand the why or how? What if your parents ask you to do something?
4. Who can be a son of Abraham? Are you a son of Abraham? [Galatians 3:7-8]

Let's Talk: Day 17

Abraham & Deception – Abraham's Fear of People vs. Sarah's Faith in God

Today's Reading: Genesis 12:10-20; Genesis 20; 1 Peter 3:1-6

On a piece of paper, have every member write down something that could happen in their life that scares them. (Help those that can't write yet or let them draw a picture.) Now exchange papers. Let everyone read their paper and give a way to trust God in this situation despite possible fears.

Questions:

1. Did Abram choose to live by faith in Genesis 12 or 20? How do you know? What do we learn about Sarai in 1 Peter?
2. How did God deliver both Abram and Sarai? How might these chapters have been written differently if Abram had chosen to trust God?
3. When is it hard for you to choose to trust God? Do you have a story of how God took care of your family during a time when you couldn't see a way out?
4. Did Abram learn his lesson the first time? What does that teach you about God's grace and patience?

Let's Talk: Day 18

Abraham & Lot – Lot's Choice of Land vs. Abraham's Promised Land

Today's Reading: Genesis 13; Nehemiah 9:6-8; Acts 7:2-5

Have a family pillow fight. Then discuss: What do you argue about in your family? How do you resolve conflict?

Questions:

1. What conflict occurred between Abram and Lot?

2. How did Abram resolve the conflict? Why do you think he let Lot choose first? In a fight over some possession, do you let others choose first?
3. Did Lot choose wisely? Explain. What did God promise Abram?
4. How is this promise restated in both Nehemiah and Acts? Have you ever had to wait for a long time before your parents fulfilled their promise? What does that feel like?

Let's Talk: Day 19

Abraham & Melchizedek – Abraham Tithes 10% to Melchizedek & Christ's Priesthood

Today's Reading: Genesis 14; Hebrews 5:5-11, 7:1-22

Play charades of various "rescues" and have the family guess the scene. (For inspiration think Disney, action movies, or different life scenarios needing rescue).

Questions:

1. What happened to Lot and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah?
2. How did Abram rescue them? Did he keep anything for himself? Why?
3. How did Abram respect Melchizedek? What do you know about Melchizedek? How is Jesus compared to him?
4. Many adults are uncertain who exactly Melchizedek is. Do you have any questions about him? Some parts of the Bible are more difficult to understand but don't be discouraged.

Let's Talk: Day 20

Abraham & God's Promise – Abraham's Faith in God & God's Unilateral Covenant

Today's Reading: Genesis 15; Jeremiah 34:18-20; Romans 4

Go outside and count the stars. How many can you count? Away from the city lights during a new moon, a person can see between 2,000 and 3,000 stars.

Questions:

1. God has already promised to bless Abram and make him a great nation. What additional promise did he make in today's reading?
2. The key verse to Abram's faith is found in Genesis 15 (believing without seeing yet). Which verse do you think it is and why? How does Romans 4 emphasize the importance of Abram's faith? How does it impact Christians?
3. Abram received a prophecy that his descendants will be servants under difficult conditions for 400 years. Can you guess ahead in history to what Bible story that is?
4. What similarities are there between the sacrifice associated with the covenant in Genesis 15 and that in Jeremiah 34.

Let's Talk: Day 21

Today's Reading: Weekly Day OFF

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? As a family, pick a verse on which to meditate or memorize (suggestions: Job 42:10; James 5:10; Hebrews 11:8; 1 Peter 3:4).

Preview Family Activity: Aretha Franklin sang a song called "Respect." Most people want it but many don't give it. Why do you think that is? Ask your family what respect means to them. Write your own verse to the song "Respect" and perform it for the family. As you read this next week, discuss who gave God respect and who did not.