

STUDY GUIDE ON GENESIS

Volume No. 2

by Dr. Manford G. Gutzke

1. The Covenant with Abraham (Chapters 12-13)
2. The Faith of Abraham (Chapters 14-23)
3. Ishmael (Chapters 16-21)
4. Isaac (Chapters 21-28)
5. The Wisdom of Isaac (Chapter 26)
6. Esau (Chapters 25-27)
7. Jacob (Chapters 25-31)
8. Israel (Chapters 32-36)
9. Joseph in Trouble (Chapters 37-39)
10. Joseph in Power (Chapters 40-45)
11. Joseph in Triumph (Chapter 45)
12. The Faith of the Patriarchs (Chapter 46-50)

I THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM (Genesis 12,13).

1. How is it so important in living by faith to believe everything comes from God? (James 1:17; Plain Talk p. 83).
2. Compare and contrast the men of Babel with Abraham. (Genesis 11:1; Hebrews 11:8; Plain Talk pp. 83-84).
3. What was the first thing Abraham had to do? (Genesis 12:1; Luke 14:33; Plain Talk p. 84).
4. Is it necessary that each person forsake all he has, that he might receive the blessing of God? (Hebrews 11:8; Mark 16:24-26; Plain Talk pp. 84-85).
5. In what sense does "trust God" mean more than "to believe in the reality of God?" (Psalm 37:5-6; Hebrews 11:8-10; Plain Talk p. 85).
6. How could any person promote his own faith in the reality of God? (Psalm 19:1-6; Plain Talk p. 86).
7. What needs to be done to qualify for the blessing of God? (Mark 8:34-37; Plain Talk pp. 89-90).
8. How did Abraham's dealing with Lot show his faith in God? (Genesis 13:8-9; Plain Talk p. 87).
9. How did the career of Abraham demonstrate living according to the Gospel? (Luke 9:23-25; Plain Talk pp. 86-87).
10. How did Abraham's dealing with his own kin manifest the acceptable attitude to God? (Genesis 12:4; 13:11-12; 21:11-14; 22:3; Plain Talk pp. 86-88).

II THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM (Genesis 14-23).

1. What evidence is in the Biblical record that Lot believed in God? (Genesis 13:1-5; 19:14-22; II Peter 2:7-9; Plain Talk p. 89).
2. How was the Spiritual weakness of Lot to be seen? (Genesis 13:9-13; 19:14; 19:17-20; Plain Talk p. 89-90).
3. How was the Spiritual strength of Abraham to be seen? (Genesis 13:8-9, 14-18; 14:13-16, 22-24; 18:19, 22-33; 21:12-14; 22:3-18; Plain Talk pp. 90-92).
4. What godly virtue did Abraham show in his treatment of Lot? (Genesis 14:13-16; 18:23-33; 19:29; Plain Talk pp. 90-92).
5. What could have been Abraham's special interest in the fate of Sodom? (Genesis 18:23-32; Plain Talk p. 91).
6. What shall we understand about Lot's residence in Sodom? (Genesis 13:12; II Peter 2:7-8; Plain Talk pp. 91-92).
7. How shall we interpret Abraham's intercessory prayer? (Genesis 18:17-33; 19:29; Plain Talk pp. 91-92).
8. What did Paul say about the nature of Abraham's faith? (Romans 4:18-25; Plain Talk pp. 92-93).
9. What did James say about Abraham's faith (James 2:21-24; Plain Talk pp. 93-94).
10. Can you see how "works" were related to "faith" in the life of Abraham? (James 2:14-26; Hebrews 11:17-19; Plain Talk pp. 89-94).

III ISHMAEL (Genesis 16-21).

1. Describe the unusual circumstances that surrounded the birth of Ishmael. (Genesis 16; Plain Talk p. 95).
2. What was tragic about Abraham's dealing with Ishmael? (Genesis 21:9-14; Plain Talk pp. 96-97).
3. What was Abraham's attitude toward Ishmael? (Genesis 21:11-14; Plain Talk pp. 96-97).
4. How was Ishmael treated by Almighty God? (Genesis 21:17-20; Plain Talk p. 97).
5. What was the source of Ishmael's faith? (Genesis 18:19; Plain Talk p. 98).
6. What does the story of Ishmael teach about the religious education of children in the home? (Genesis 17:23-26; 18:19; Plain Talk p. 98).
7. How is the sacrament of baptism like circumcision as practised by Abraham? (Genesis 17:23-26; Plain Talk pp. 98-99).
8. What lessons can be learned from the fact that Ishmael was Abraham's child and grew up in his house and yet did not inherit the promise? (Romans 9:6-8; Galatians 4:22-30; Plain Talk pp. 98-99).
9. How does the experience of Ishmael show the limits of religious training. (Romans 9:7; John 3:3-7; Plain Talk pp. 97-99).
10. How does the career of Ishmael show the temporal benefits of having been brought up in a godly home? (Genesis 21:18-21; 25:12-18; Plain Talk pp. 97-99).

IV ISAAC (Genesis 21-28).

1. How important is the Law of the Harvest? (Galatians 6:7; Plain Talk p. 100).
2. What common fault of man becomes evident when fulfillment of promises is delayed? (Genesis 16:1-3; Psalm 37:7; Plain Talk p. 100).
3. Why are the promises of God so hard to believe? (Genesis 18:10-14; Romans 4:18-21; Plain Talk pp. 100-101).
4. What does the Bible teach about destruction being in the will of God? (Genesis 6:7; 19:24-25; Plain Talk pp. 101-102).
5. Is the revelation of the will of God bringing destruction upon man limited to the Old Testament? (Matthew 18:6-9; II Peter 3:7; II Thessalonians 1:29; Plain Talk pp. 102-103).
6. Do the Scriptures reveal clearly that in judgment God remembers mercy? (Genesis 7:1-4; 19:29; II Peter 2:9; Plain Talk p. 103).
7. Can there be any doubt the Scriptures teach the reality of the Spiritual world? (I Corinthians 15:44-49; Plain Talk pp. 103-104).
8. Why is Isaac called the "child of promise?" (Genesis 15:4; 18:10; Plain Talk p. 104).
9. How was the birth of Isaac different from natural birth? (Genesis 18:11-14; Hebrews 11:17; Plain Talk pp. 104-105).
10. How was the faith of Abraham indicated in the affairs of Isaac? (Romans 4:19-21; Hebrews 11:17-19; Plain Talk pp. 105-106).

V THE WISDOM OF ISAAC (Genesis 26).

1. What can be learned from Abraham's concern for a bride for his son, Isaac? (Genesis 24:3-4; I Corinthians 7:9; Plain Talk p. 107).
2. How was Abraham's sending his servant to find a bride for Isaac similar to the preaching of the Gospel today? (Genesis 24:7-8; Plain Talk pp. 107-108).
3. How does the procedure of Abraham's servant show the practical use of praying? (Genesis 24:12-20; Plain Talk p. 108).
4. How was the providence of God involved in guidance through praying? (Genesis 24:12-28; Plain Talk pp. 108-109).
5. What practical guidance for witnesses of the Gospel was revealed in the procedure of Abraham's servant? (Genesis 24:33-60; Plain Talk pp. 109-110).
6. How prominent was Isaac compared to his father or his son? (Genesis 21-28; Plain Talk p. 110).
7. How was the wisdom of Isaac manifested? (Genesis 26:18; Plain Talk pp. 110-111).
8. How did the Philistines try to hinder Isaac? (Genesis 26:15,18; Plain Talk p. 111).
9. How did Isaac overcome the opposition? (Genesis 26:18; Plain Talk p. 111).
10. What lessons can we learn from Isaac's procedure that will show the wise course we should follow today? (II Timothy 1:13; Genesis 26:18; Plain Talk pp. 111-112).

VI ESAU (Genesis 25-27).

1. What does the Bible teach about individual responsibility and heredity? (Ezekiel 18:4-20; Plain Talk p. 113).
2. What does the Bible teach about individual responsibility and influence of others? (Genesis 3:12, 17-19; Exodus 32:21-24; Plain Talk pp. 113-114).
3. What does the Bible teach about personal responsibility and the influence of environment? (Genesis 4:1-5; Genesis 25:27-34; Plain Talk pp. 114-115).
4. What does the incident of Esau selling his birthright show about the difference between Esau and Jacob? (Genesis 25:27-34; Plain Talk p. 115).
5. What seems to be the reason why the Word of God says "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated?" (Malachi 1:2-3; Romans 9:13; Plain Talk pp. 115-116).
6. How was the difference between the twins manifested in their attitudes toward the blessing of God? (Genesis 25:32-34; Plain Talk p. 116).
7. How did Esau show his hatred of Jacob? (Genesis 27:41-42; Plain Talk p. 117).
8. How does the story of Esau and Jacob show the grace of God? (Genesis 25:23; Romans 9:10-13; Hebrews 12:15-17; Plain Talk p. 118).
9. What can be seen as the basic principle in Esau's life contrasted to the basic principle in Jacob's life? (Genesis 25:32; 26:34-35; Hebrews 12:16; Genesis 32:9-12,28; Plain Talk pp. 114-118).
10. In what was Demas like Esau? (II Timothy 4:10; Plain Talk p. 115).

VII JACOB (Genesis 25-31).

1. Why was Jacob sent away from home? (Genesis 27:42-45; Plain Talk p. 119).
2. What was the significance of the "ladder" in Jacob's dream? (Genesis 28:12; Plain Talk pp. 119-120).
3. How did the dream affect Jacob? (Genesis 28:16-19; Plain Talk p. 120).
4. What did Jacob vow? (Genesis 28:20-22; Plain Talk pp. 120-121).
5. What was the Spiritual significance of Jacob vowing to give God one-tenth of his increase? (Genesis 28:22; Plain Talk p. 121).
6. How is the providence of God seen in Jacob meeting Rachel? (Genesis 29:1-6; Plain Talk p. 121).
7. How is the love of Jacob for Rachel seen in his arranging an acceptable wage for his service? (Genesis 29:15-20; Plain Talk pp. 121-122).
8. How was Jacob tricked into marrying Leah? (Genesis 29:23-28; Plain Talk p. 122).
9. Why did Jacob plan to leave his uncle Laban? (Genesis 31:1-13; Plain Talk pp. 122-123).
10. What does Rachel stealing her father's idols reveal? (Genesis 31:19-42; Plain Talk pp. 123-124).

VIII ISRAEL (Genesis 32-36).

1. Discuss Jacob's fear of Esau (Genesis 32:3-8; Plain Talk p. 125).
2. What difference can be seen in the frame of mind with which Jacob planned tactics to meet Esau and that in which he prayed to God? (Genesis 32:7-8; 32:21; 32:9-12; Plain Talk p. 125).
3. What insight into the personality of Jacob is revealed in the way he prepared to meet Esau? (Genesis 32:7-21; Plain Talk p. 126).
4. What wonderful truth about the grace of God is revealed in Jacob's confidence in calling upon God? (Genesis 32:9-12; Plain Talk pp. 126-127).
5. What significant trait in Jacob was manifested when he wrestled? (Genesis 32:24-32; Plain Talk p. 127).
6. What remarkable thing happened to Jacob at Peniel? (Genesis 32:27-28; Plain Talk pp. 127-128).
7. What great grace for any sinner who turns to God can be seen as promised in the career of Jacob? (Genesis 32:30-33:20; Plain Talk pp. 128-129).
8. When a believer is assured of great blessing from God what can he expect to receive from other men? (Genesis 37; Plain Talk pp. 130-131).
9. Discuss Jacob's treatment of Joseph. (Genesis 37:3-4, 13-14, 32-35; Plain Talk pp. 129-130).
10. How does the record show that God in providence overcame the wicked plans of the jealous brothers? (Genesis 41; Plain Talk pp. 130-131).

IX JOSEPH IN TROUBLE (Genesis 37-39).

1. Why did his brethren hate Joseph? (Genesis 37:4-5; I John 3:12; Plain Talk p. 132).
2. How did his brethren get rid of Joseph? (Genesis 37:18-36; Plain Talk pp. 132-133).
3. Discuss Jacob's treatment of his sons. (Genesis 37:2-4, 11-14; Plain Talk pp. 133-134).
4. Was Joseph at fault in noting his dreams? (Genesis 37:5-11; Plain Talk p. 134).
5. Comment on the possibility that Jacob's personality was due to pre-natal influence. (Genesis 27:18-20; 37:3-4; Plain Talk pp. 134-135).
6. What do the Scriptures teach about the treatment which will be given to anyone who may want to live in Godly fashion? (I Timothy 3:12; Matthew 5:10-11; Galatians 4:29; John 15:18-19; 16:1-3; I John 3:13; I Peter 2:19-20; Plain Talk pp. 135-136).
7. What encouragement can any sincere believer take from the story of Joseph? (Genesis 50:20; Plain Talk p.136).
8. What misfortune came to Joseph because of Potiphar's wife? (Genesis 39:17-20; Plain Talk pp. 136-137).
9. What were the circumstances that made it practically impossible for Joseph to escape being falsely condemned? (Genesis 39; Plain Talk pp. 137-138).
10. What does Joseph's experiences with his brethren and with Potiphar's wife teach about personal security? (Genesis 37-39; Plain Talk pp. 136-138).

X JOSEPH IN POWER (Genesis 40-45).

1. How does the story of Joseph reveal the amazing ways of providence? (Genesis 50:20; Plain Talk p. 139).
2. How did the plight of Joseph become known to Pharaoh? (Genesis 40:1-41:14; Plain Talk pp. 139-140).
3. Why did Pharaoh send for Joseph ? (Genesis 41:1-15; Plain Talk pp. 140-141).
4. How does the story of Joseph demonstrate that God has a plan for a person's life? (Genesis 50:20; Plain Talk p. 141).
5. How was meekness manifested in Joseph's behavior? (Genesis 50:21; Plain Talk p. 142).
6. Why did Jacob send the brothers to Egypt? (Genesis 42:1-5; Plain Talk p. 142).
7. How did Joseph deal with his brothers when they came to buy corn? (Genesis 42:6-35; Plain Talk p. 143).
8. What affect did Joseph's treatment have on the brethren? (Genesis 42:21; Plain Talk p. 144).
9. How did Joseph deal with the brethren to arouse their consciences and their sense of guilt? (Genesis 42-44; Plain Talk pp. 143-147).
10. How did Judah manifest the change that had come over the brethren? (Genesis 44:18-33; Plain Talk pp. 145-146).

XI JOSEPH IN TRIUMPH (Genesis 45).

1. What natural reaction in his experiences could have been expected in Joseph? (Genesis 39:21-23; Plain Talk p. 148).
2. How did Joseph manifest humility? (Genesis 40:6-8; 41:16; 43:30; 45:1-8; 50:19-21; Plain Talk pp. 148-149).
3. What was the secret source of Joseph's strength? (Genesis 45:5; 50:20; Plain Talk p. 149).
4. What does God look for in preparing to bless men? (Genesis 18:19; Hebrews 11:6,16; Plain Talk pp. 149-150).
5. In view of Jacob's grasping manner of life what seems to have made him acceptable to God? (Genesis 25:33-34; 31:42; 32:26-28; Plain Talk pp. 150-151).
6. What seems so impressive in the meeting of Jacob and Pharaoh? (Genesis 47:7-10; Plain Talk p. 151).
7. As Joseph rose to authority over others who benefited from his labors? (Genesis 39:5, 23; 41:54; 47:26).
8. What arrangement did Joseph make for his burial and why? (Genesis 50:22-26; 46:4; 15:13-14).
9. How is the grace of God manifested in the career of Joseph with his brethren? (Compare Genesis 50:19-21 with John 1:11).
10. Is it possible that some will find themselves blessed of God who do not even realize what has been prepared for them? (Genesis 42:8; 45:26; Matthew 25:37-40).

XII THE FAITH OF THE PATRIARCHS (Genesis).

1. Why did Jacob want Joseph to promise that Jacob should not be buried in Egypt? (Genesis 47:29-31; chapter 23; 50:12-13).
2. What was unusual about Jacob blessing the sons of Joseph? (Genesis 48:5-20, Plain Talk p. 152).
3. Explain the difference between the "sons of Jacob" and the "tribes of Israel." (Genesis 29.32-30:24, 35:18; Numbers 13:4-15; Plain Talk p. 153).
4. What does the Bible teach about a parent's responsibility for the faith of his child? (Genesis 18:19; 21:17; Deuteronomy 6:7, 20-25; Plain Talk pp. 153-154).
5. How is the nurturing of faith in a child like that of culturing a plant? (Plain Talk p. 154).
6. How is the rite of circumcision related to living in faith? (Genesis 17:12-14; 21:4; Plain Talk p. 155).
7. How is the birth of Isaac like the birth of Jesus of Nazareth? (Genesis 18:10-15, Luke 1:26-38).
8. How did the obedience of Joseph to his father compare with that of Jesus of Nazareth? (Genesis 37:13-14; Matthew 21:37-39, Plain Talk pp. 155-156).
9. How was the treatment of Joseph by his brethren similar to the treatment given to Jesus of Nazareth? (Genesis 37:27-28; John 1:11, Matthew 25:14-16; Plain Talk p. 156).
10. How was the deliverance of Joseph from prison to become the ruler of Egypt like the resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth? (Genesis 41:14, 38-46, Acts 2:24, 30-36, Plain Talk pp. 156-157).