



## **WEEK 2: September 30 - October 6 -- The Story 31 Week Lectionary**

### **GOD Build's a Nation - Abraham**

#### **Simple Devotion Format:**

Leader: Lord God Heavenly Father, forgive us for our sins of this past day, help us to serve you this new day ahead, empower us now to hear your Word and put it into practice. In Jesus name.

**Family: AMEN**

#### **Reading from Holy Scripture**

Monday – Gen. 12-13, Tues. – Gen. 15-16; Wed. – Gen. 17; Thurs. Gen. 21-22; Fri. Gen. 24;  
Saturday & Sunday Genesis 32-33, 35, Romans 4, Hebrews 11

*If Time Allows: Gen. 11-35; Ps. 8-14; Pr. 6-9; Romans 4, Hebrews 11 (Allows Reading the Bible through in 31 Weeks)*

#### **Reflection Questions: (See Reverse Side)**

**Prayers** (One person may lead prayer or let everyone pray.)

- What is one thing you are thankful about today?
- Who should we pray for today?
- What does today's scripture move us to pray about?

Leader: Go in peace serve the Lord.

**Family: AMEN**



## Questions for the Week: September 30 - October 6 -- Chapter 2

*Consider journaling your response to these questions. The Story Bible puts Genesis 11-35 into one flowing chapter with bits and pieces of Hebrews 11 and Romans 4 inserted. If you have time consider reading: Genesis 11-35; Ps. 8-14; Pr. 6-9; Romans 4, Hebrews 11*

1. Monday (Sept. 30): Read Genesis 12 & 13. (The Story pg. 13-14) God destroyed the earth in last week's reading because of sin, but saved Noah's family in an ark. In Genesis 10 God punished the world again for selfishly building the tower of Babel by scrambling the languages which forced them to fill the earth. Abram (later Abraham) is God's instrument of grace. Our reading today says, "All peoples on earth will be blessed through you." In other words, Abram would have a son (great great...grandson – Jesus) who someday who would save the world. Abram's family was poor, small, and disliked because he was a shepherd. Why did God choose a family that is not powerful? Does God choose you because you are good or better than others? Can God use you just the like you are? Would you follow God to a strange land and serve him?
2. Tuesday: Read Genesis 15 – 17. (The Story pg. 15-17) If Abram did not have a son, how could God's promise happen? Does God always keep his promises? Abram tries to do things his own way: Since Sarai his wife was not getting pregnant, Abram had a baby with Hagar his servant. Do we ever try to get what we think God wants without waiting for God? Why is it so hard to be patient? God made a covenant (promise with Abraham). What was it? Think of some other promises that are still true for us today, do we trust God? See Hebrews 11:1-12. God has promised Jesus will come again. Are we waiting patiently?
3. Wednesday: Read Genesis 21- 22. (The Story pg. 17–19) Abraham lives at a time which was no less sinful than today. God shows up on his way to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of it's great wickedness (which included homosexuality, selfishness, not caring for orphans, widows, etc.) Even Abraham's family is sinful as we see in Genesis 20 when Abraham pretends not to be married to Sarah. Are we perfect as Christians today? What is so comforting about today's reading that God fulfills His promise by sending a son to Abram even though he is sinful?
4. Thursday Oct. 3 (The Story pg 19-20) Genesis 22. God tests Abraham. Does Abraham trust God this time? How are we tested today by God? Do we trust him? When we fail the test what should we do? Who just like Abraham went up on a mountain and sacrificed his son, except there was no ram caught in thorns? (Clue it was on Mount Golgotha)
5. Friday Oct. 4 (The Story pg. 21-22) Genesis 24. God provides a wife for Isaac. Here we see the servant praying to God and God answering that prayer. How does God continue to answer prayers according to His will? (For example it is God's will that all nations be saved. If we pray, Lord raise up missionaries to new nations. The answer is always yes!!! He may even send you or use you to help send someone else!)
6. Saturday & Sunday Oct. 5-6 (The Story pg. 22-27) Read: Gen. 32-33, 35; Jacob is the second son of Isaac. At first Jacob (Jacob – means heel catcher/trouble maker) is what we would call a wicked unbeliever. He is all about himself. He gets his brother Esau's birthright and then later his Father's blessing. Yet, God wrestles with Jacob both literally and through many life experiences and changes Isaac into a believer. (The name Israel means "Wrestler of God") Do we ever wrestle with God? How is it good to wrestle with God? What must we ultimately do with God's will?