

Family Worship Guide Week 7

Gen. 12-17

READ

❖ **Day One: Genesis 12**

- ❖ The Lord keeps in promises, even when we try to mess it up. Here in Genesis 12 we are told of one of the great promises in scripture. God told Abram and his family to go to a land they had never seen and God would bless the entire world through them. God did not tell them where they were going or when they would get there, but Abram went anyways. The journey wasn't easy, and as you see Abram messed things up pretty quickly. Our lives are like Abrams journey though. God is calling us to go. We don't know where we will end up or what we will do, but we must step out in faith like Abram. We will mess up for sure, but the Lord is a gracious God and keeps his promises. The fulfillment of this promise came with Jesus, who now offers the entire world forgiveness through his blood.
- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** The Lord keeps his promises.
- ❖ **Questions:** Would you be scared if God asked you to do this? How can we be more like Abram? How did God answer his promise through Jesus?

❖ **Day Two: Genesis 13:1-14:16**

- ❖ Often times in our life we will face conflict, even with our own family. Ok, especially with our family. Abram wasn't any different. His nephew Lot and he had a disagreement while travelling. There literally wasn't enough room for the two of them! Instead of trying to win the fight though, Abram allowed Lot to pick what he wanted and Abram went the other direction. Most of the times fights happen because we are selfish. We feel like we need to win at all cost, instead of being like Jesus. Here, Abram turned the other cheek, and look at how it worked out. Pretty soon Abram was having to rescue Lot from danger. Never think you need to win the fight. Instead, be humble and be like Abram.
- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** Turn the other cheek.
- ❖ **Questions:** Have you ever fought with someone? How did you handle the disagreement? How could you have handled it differently? How would God want you to handle that?

❖ **Day Three: Genesis 14:17-15:20**

- ❖ Both the story of Melchizedek and God's covenant with Abraham are stories worthy of their own day. I would encourage you to read Hebrews 7 to get a little more information on who Melchizedek was and how he was a promise for Christ right here in Genesis. When we look at God's covenant with Abram I am hit by one truth in particular. God has a will and his own timing, and it will not always match up with our

own plan nor will it make sense to us. Abram himself said that he was as good as dead. How could they have children? Sometimes God is going to tell you to do weird things, or he is going to wait to do something in your life when you really wish he would hurry up. I would say to you to trust in God. He knows what he is doing, even if we don't understand it.

- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** God's timing and purpose is always perfect?
- ❖ **Questions:** Have you ever had to wait on God? Did you ever want God to just hurry up and answer your prayer? Do think it would be better if God did it His way or your way? Why?

❖ **Day Four Genesis 16**

- ❖ This is what happens when we do things our own way. We try to hurry God up, and we get into situations like this! (I understand if you don't feel like explaining exactly what Abram did here with your young children. I leave that up to your discretion as a parent.) If you think you know better than God, just look here. Not only did Abram rush God, but Ishmael is the father of the Arab nations. God blessed Abram and Ishmael, but at the same time because Abram rushed God these two and their ancestors have had much conflict.
- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** Bad things happen when we try to rush God
- ❖ **Questions:** Have you ever rushed God before? Did anything bad happen? What did you learn from that? Why should Abram have waited?

❖ **Day Five Genesis 17**

- ❖ When we have faith in God, then God will change us. God gave Abram a sign of his promise, sort of like baptism for us, and changed his name to Abraham. God gave Abraham a new identity, and when we place our trust in Christ, then we have a new identity in Jesus. The old person is dead, and we are now a new person. For us we have died to sin and are now alive in Christ
- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** We have a new identity in Christ.
- ❖ **Questions:** What does it mean to die to sin? What does it mean to be alive in Christ? How do we change when we become followers of Jesus?

❖ **Day Six Psalm 4**

- ❖ Are we confident in God? Psalm 4 was written in a time of distress, but look at what David wrote. "For you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." Many of us worry. There are different things we are scared of, but do you know to whom you should turn? David is saying that in all the scary moments in life, he had confidence and trust in God.
- ❖ **The Bottom Line:** We can always trust God.
- ❖ **Questions:** What are you afraid of? How can you show trust in God?

PRAY

- ❖ October is pastor appreciation month. Spend time praying for your pastor this week. Pray that God would use him, guide him, and protect him. Pray for the persecuted Christians in the middle east. Pray that God would give them the strength and courage to continue to tell others about Jesus. Pray for our country that we would follow Jesus and not the world.

MEMORIZE

- ❖ **“Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 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.” Gen. 12:1-3**

