Unit 4



## Promises of God



Answers Bible Curriculum

Unit 4 • Family Devotional

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For more information write: Answers in Genesis PO Box 510 Hebron, KY 41048

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## Introduction

Welcome to the Answers Bible Curriculum family devotional. It is our prayer that God will use this guide as a tool to help you as parents to train and disciple your children. We encourage you to take time in the evening (or morning) during the week to have an intentional time of family Bible study, worship, and Scripture memory. You could do this every night or a couple of nights each week. Make it a habit, and don't let the to-do's and pressures of our busy lives rob you of this precious time together.

While it's true that the church has a God-given responsibility to teach God's Word and lead in worship, God gives the primary responsibility for a child's spiritual development to his or her parents. Below are just a few of the Scriptures that admonish parents to be actively involved in training their children and teaching them the things of the Lord:

Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children—how on the day that you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, the LORD said to me, "Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children so." (Deuteronomy 4:9–10)

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:4–9)

*Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)* 

*Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)* 

We suggest that you read the lesson summary out loud, and then read each of the Scriptures and the questions that follow them and discuss the answers among yourselves. Of course, you'll want to adjust the questions based on the ages of your children. If you plan on having a family devotional time each night of the week, you will want to read ahead and split up each lesson into five or six smaller pieces.

We have included space for family prayer requests. It is important to spend time in prayer, lifting up the needs of each family member and praying for each one's spiritual growth. You can also use this time to lift up the needs in your church, any missionaries you know or support, etc. Record the prayer requests, and then review them from time to time to be encouraged as to how God has answered.

As parents, God has given you a great responsibility and a great privilege to train the next generation. You may not feel up to the task, but remember, our sufficiency is from God (2 Corinthians 3:4–6), and he delights in using the weak and foolish things of the world so that his wisdom and power may be manifest (1 Corinthians 1:26–31).



## **One Race: the Human Race**

## Lesson Summary

Two weeks ago, we talked about how God confused the common language at the tower of Babel. This week we are looking at a related topic—why there are different "races" of people and how we are to view one another and our differences.

The Bible makes it very clear that we are all descendants of Adam and Eve, and more specifically, of Noah through his three sons (Genesis 10:18–19, 10:32). We are all of one race—the human race. The Bible also explains how the various nations and people groups arose; and the science of genetics gives us the answer as to why we look different from one another.

Christians should never be guilty of discrimination or prejudice toward someone because of their external characteristics, such as skin color, language, eye shape, size, or disability.

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Genesis 1:26–28

1. What does it mean that man and woman have been created in the "image of God"?

#### Genesis 9:6

2. Why did God command that whoever kills someone should himself be killed?

#### James 3:1–10

- 3. How is the tongue like a horse's bit and a ship's rudder?
- 4. James calls the tongue "a world of unrighteousness" that is "set on fire by hell." How have you seen this exhibited in your life or the lives of others?
- 5. What does James say about men in verse 9?

- 6. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about our speech and its ability to do good and harm.
  - Proverbs 10:19-21 -
  - Proverbs 18:4-7 -
  - Proverbs 18:21 –
  - Matthew 12:34–37 –
  - Ephesians 4:29 -
  - Colossians 4:5-6 -

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Hebrews 11:1 & 6** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.... And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

## Prayer

Thank God that you (and all people) are created in his image. Ask him to help you be a worthy image-bearer as you interact with others. Ask him for help with your tongue—that you may use it as a source of blessing and not cursing to those around you.

#### Family Prayer Requests:



# Job's Suffering

## **Lesson Summary**

The book of Job is one of the most well-known books of the Bible—it has fascinated theologians, poets, and philosophers down through the ages. In this account, God not only tells us of the life and sufferings of his servant Job, but he also gives us a glimpse into the spiritual realm and some of the reasons behind our suffering.

In much of Western Christianity today, a false theology is taught, which tells us that God wants us to be healthy, wealthy, and happy. If we only have enough faith, or follow certain principles, then we are guaranteed a happy, healthy life. But is this what Scripture teaches? What can we learn from Job's experience and from the rest of Scripture? Is God in control of our suffering, or are we left at the mercy of Satan or accidents?

Read the following passage and discuss the questions together.

#### Job 1:6-22

- 1. What disasters befell Job? What were the means by which these events happened?
- 2. Were these disasters caused by Satan or God (or both)? To whom did Job ascribe his loss (v. 21)?
- 3. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about suffering, tribulation, trials, and the will of God.
  - Acts 14:19-22 -
  - Romans 5:1–5 –
  - James 1:2-4 -
  - 1 Peter 1:3-6 -
  - Romans 8:28–39 –
- 4. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about God's control of events, his power over nature, and his sovereignty in the affairs of men.
  - Isaiah 45:6-7 -
  - Deuteronomy 32:39 -

- Psalm 33:6–11 –
- Psalm 115:1–3 –
- Psalm 135:5–7 –
- Proverbs 16:9, 19:21, 21:1 -
- Isaiah 40:12–26 –
- Isaiah 46:5–11 –
- Daniel 4:34–35 –

Pastor and author Warren Wiersbe wrote:

The main lesson in Job is this: God is completely sovereign in his dealings with his people and will never permit anything to come to the life of an obedient Christian that is not for his good and God's glory. God does not have to explain his ways to us. It is enough for us to know that He cares and that He never makes a mistake. We do not live by explanations; we live by promises. The book of Job shows us how the righteous should suffer. "You have heard of the perseverance of Job" (James 5:11).<sup>1</sup>

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Hebrews 11:1 & 6** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.... And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

<sup>1</sup> Wiersbe, W. W. (1993). Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

## Prayer

Praise God that he is the holy, sovereign Creator and Sustainer of the universe. Thank him that we can trust him in all circumstances, knowing that he is in control and is working all things together for good for those who love him. Ask him for the faith to live in light of this truth, no matter what trials or tribulations may come.

Family Prayer Requests:



## **God Calls Abram**

## **Lesson Summary**

Genesis 12 begins the fascinating narrative of Abram (later renamed Abraham). The Lord spoke to Abraham and commanded him to leave his country and travel to a land that God would show him. And Abraham obeyed—even at 75 years of age.

Hebrews 11:8–10 says, "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God." Abraham obeyed even when he didn't know where God was taking him. Though he did make it to God's promised land, Abraham's deepest longing was the heavenly city.

The New Testament tells us that Abraham proved his faith by his obedience. "No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith" (Romans 4:20). This faith was what God counted to him as righteousness (Romans 4:22), just as it is our faith in God's provided Savior, Jesus, that brings us to a righteous standing before him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Psalm 105:1–12

- 1. What do verses 1–6 call God's people to do?
- 2. What kind of covenant did God make with Abraham (v. 10)?
- 3. What did God promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Did he fulfill his promise?

#### Hebrews 11:1–10

- 4. What is faith according to Hebrews 11:1? What does this mean?
- 5. Why is faith necessary, and what are two elements of faith (v. 6)?
- 6. How did Abraham demonstrate his faith in God?

7. What was Abraham's attitude as he lived in the land of promise? What was he ultimately looking for?

#### 1 Peter 2:9-12

- 8. How is our call as believers like that of Abraham?
- 9. What does it mean that we are "sojourners and pilgrims" (v. 11)? Where is our true home? (See Philippians 3:20-21.)

### **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Hebrews 11:1 & 6** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. . . . And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

### Prayer

Thank God that, like Abraham, he has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Thank him that you belong among his special people, chosen to proclaim his excellencies. Ask God to grant you the faith of Abraham—to trust him even when you don't know where he's leading, and to live in this life as pilgrims, eagerly longing for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and longing for your eternal home with him. Family Prayer Requests:

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## **Abram and Lot**

## **Lesson Summary**

Last week, we saw how God called Abram to leave his home country and travel to an unknown land. And by faith, he obeyed. As we continue to look at Abram this week, we can't help but see him as a faithful example of a servant of God. He shows us the character of Jesus, even though he had his human failings. He sought the welfare of others and trusted in God rather than man.

On the other hand, Lot gives us a negative example in these cases. He sought his own benefit, which brought him into the middle of a conflict. Lot's choices brought others into harm's way, requiring a rescue by Abram and his allies.

But in the midst of the difficulties—the conflict between the herdsmen and the rescue of the hostages—we are given a glimpse of Melchizedek as a priest and king of God. Here we see the scarlet thread woven throughout the Bible, pointing us to Jesus as our perfectly righteous King and our blameless high priest. Rather than a priest to whom we must give tithes and who performs repeated rituals on our behalf, Jesus has completed the roles of Melchizedek and is our high priest forever. His sacrifice was perfect and complete, so there is no need for continued ritual sacrifice.

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Philippians 2:1–4

- 1. How was Abram's attitude in his dealings with Lot an example of Christ?
- 2. What are some ways you can esteem others as better than yourself?

#### Philippians 2:5–11

- 3. What "mind" was in Christ Jesus?
- 4. How did Jesus obey God the Father?
- 5. How should we obey God?

#### Romans 12:9–17

6. What is the basic message of this passage?

- 7. How are we to relate to other believers?
- 8. In what ways did Abram reflect this passage in his dealings with Lot?

#### Hebrews 7:1–28

- 9. Who was Melchizedek?
- 10. Why did Jesus come after the order of Melchizedek rather than Levi (vv. 11–14)?
- 11. In what sense were the rules of the Jewish people "weak and useless"? Why is our hope in Christ a "better hope" (vv. 18–19)?
- 12. How is Jesus a better priest than the former priests?
- 13. Did you know that Jesus is in heaven right now praying for you (v. 25)?

14. How does Jesus' nonstop prayer for you help you to hold firmly to your faith and persevere in the race?

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Hebrews 11:1 & 6** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.... And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

## Prayer

Thank God that your salvation is secure and that Jesus is able to save you to the uttermost. Thank him for his continual intercession on your behalf. Ask God to give you a renewed love for Jesus and a renewed appreciation for your salvation. Ask him to give you boldness in sharing the good news of the gospel with those around you who need to hear it.

#### Family Prayer Requests:



## **Sodom and Gomorrah**

## **Lesson Summary**

The cities of the plain, near the Dead Sea (or Salt Sea), had become immoral to the point that the Lord decided to act. He told Abraham, "the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave" (Genesis 18:20). Abraham pleaded with the Lord that he might spare the city for the sake of the righteous who lived there. He bargained down to 10, and the Lord told him that if even 10 righteous were found, he would not destroy the city. Evidently, there were fewer than 10.

Many people are familiar with the account of the wickedness of the men of Sodom and how the two angels dragged Lot, his wife, and their two daughters out of the city before destroying the cities of the plain with fire and brimstone. Our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29) and will mete out justice, but he is also a refuge for those who have placed their trust in him.

The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is used throughout Scripture as a warning. May we heed the warnings, repent of our sin, and flee to our Deliverer—Jesus Christ—that we may receive his mercy.

Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about Sodom and Gomorrah, and about God's justice and mercy.

- Isaiah 3:8–11 –
- Ezekiel 16:49–50 –
- Matthew 11:20-24 -
- Luke 17:28-32 -
- 2 Peter 2:4-9 -
- Jude 6 –

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Psalm 36

- 1. What are some of the characteristics of the wicked (vv. 1–4)?
- What are some of God's attributes that are extolled in this psalm (vv. 5–7)?

#### Psalm 59

- 3. What was David's prayer concerning God's enemies and the wicked (vv. 5, 11–13)?
- 4. What is God's attitude toward wicked nations who defy him (v. 8)?

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5. Whom did David trust in (vv. 9–10, 16–17)?

#### Micah 6:6-8

- 6. Does God delight merely in our offerings? Can we offer him anything of value?
- 7. What does the Lord require of you?

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Acknowledge God's holiness and justice, and that he must punish all sin. Thank him that he sent Jesus to the cross to pay the penalty for sin. Ask him to give you a proper sense of true justice, a love of mercy, and a humble heart as you interact with others.

#### Family Prayer Requests:

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## God's Covenant with Abram

## **Lesson Summary**

In conjunction with the call to Abram to leave his home, God made a covenant with him. God promised to bless him, to multiply his descendants, to give his descendants the land of Canaan, and that Abram's seed would be a blessing to all nations.

The Apostle Paul in the New Testament makes it clear that Jesus Christ is the offspring, or seed, of Abraham who brings blessing to the nations: "Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, 'And to offsprings,' referring to many, but referring to one, 'And to your offspring,' who is Christ" (Galatians 3:16).

Abraham was patient, waiting for the fulfillment of the promises. Ultimately, he was looking forward in time to Jesus, the Promised One, his descendant. We look back to Jesus our Savior, descendant of Abraham. It is only through a living faith in Jesus that we can inherit salvation, eternal life, and God's righteousness.

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Genesis 12:1-4

- 1. What did God promise Abraham (vv. 2-3)?
- 2. How old was Abraham when he left Haran?

#### Genesis 15:1-21

- 3. What did Abraham ask God (vv. 2-3)? What was God's reply?
- 4. What is the meaning and significance of verse 6? See these New Testament references: Romans 4:1–8, 4:13–25; Galatians 3:1–14.
- 5. What did God promise Abraham (vv. 18-21)?

#### Genesis 16:15-17:16

6. How long was it from the time that God first appeared to Abraham until Ishmael was born? And how much longer until Isaac would be born?

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- 7. What did God promise Abraham (vv. 2-8)?
- 8. What did the name change for Abraham and Sarah symbolize?
- 9. What do we learn from Abraham's faith and patience?
- 10. What does this account tell us about God and his promises?

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Praise God for his faithfulness to Abraham and his faithfulness to you. Thank him for the many physical and spiritual blessings that he has given you. Ask him to strengthen your trust in the faithfulness of God to keep his promises. Family Prayer Requests:

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## **Isaac: Child of Promise**

## **Lesson Summary**

We know that God is faithful to his promises. He had promised to give Abraham a son, and he fulfilled that promise in his own timing. Through Abraham all nations would receive a blessing. Specifically, God sent Jesus through Isaac's descendants to bless all nations with the hope of the gospel.

Salvation comes by God's grace through faith, not by works of righteousness that we have done (Titus 3:4–7). Just like Abraham, when we turn to God in faith we can look forward to eternity in the city whose maker is God (Hebrews 11:10). God is faithful and will fulfill the promises he has made to his children. Abraham is a great example of one whe knew that sure hope and trusted in the faithfulness of God. Even in his stumbling, seeking to bring about God's plan in his own strength, Abraham can still be called righteous—not because of his actions, but because of his faith. As we stumble and sin through our thoughts or actions, we have the same hope Abraham did—Jesus Christ is our righteousness.

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Genesis 21:1-21

- 1. How did God fulfill his promise to Abraham?
- How old was Ishmael when Isaac was born (see Genesis 16:15–16, 21:5)?
- 3. Why did Sarah want to cast out Hagar and Ishmael? How did Abraham feel about this?
- 4. How did God reassure Abraham?
- 5. How did God care for Hagar and Ishmael?

#### Galatians 4:1–11

6. How is an heir as a child the same as a slave as a child?

- 7. What were we enslaved to? What did God do for us?
- What did the Apostle Paul chastise the Galatian church for (vv. 8–10)?

#### Galatians 4:21-5:6

- 9. What does Paul compare Hagar to? What does he compare Sarah to?
- 10. To what two covenants does Paul refer?
- 11. How are believers like Isaac?
- What were some of the Galatians doing in an attempt to be justified (5:2-4)?
- 13. If not by keeping the law, where does our righteousness come from?

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Thank God for your freedom in Christ! Ask him to keep you from all attempts at pursuing your own righteousness, and, instead, to rest in the righteousness of Christ.

Family Prayer Requests:



## Abraham's Test

## **Lesson Summary**

God had called Abraham, had promised that his descendants would be like the stars of the sky and the sand of the seashore, and had identified Isaac as the son of promise. So what might Abraham have thought and felt when God told him to offer Isaac as a burnt offering? The Scriptures don't tell us what went through his mind—only that he knew that if need be, God could raise Isaac up from the dead (Hebrews 11:19).

The Bible says that "God tested Abraham" when he told him to sacrifice his only son Isaac—the son of promise. But what was God testing? He was testing Abraham's faith. God was looking for the kind of obedience (or works) that would demonstrate the reality of Abraham's faith—that it was not a dead faith or useless faith. In the discussion of the role of faith and works in James 2, we are told that Abraham's obedience his works—showed that his faith was genuine. He was not justified (declared righteous) by his obedience. That had occurred earlier when he believed God's promise in Genesis 15:6. But rather, Abraham's obedience demonstrated that his faith was the living kind of faith that produces the "obedience of faith" (Romans 1:5, 16:26).

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### James 1:2–4, 1:12

- 1. How are we to respond to trials and tests? Why?
- 2. What is the ultimate end of our steadfastness under trial?

#### 1 Peter 1:6-7, 4:12

- 3. How are we to respond to trials? Why?
- 4. What is the ultimate goal of our response to trials, and of our faith?

#### Hebrews 12:1–11

- 5. What does God's discipline prove? How should we respond to God's discipline?
- 6. What is the ultimate goal and outcome of the Lord's discipline?

## **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Thank God that he is a faithful Father. And as a faithful Father, he disciplines and chastens his children. Ask God for faith to follow him no matter what, and for endurance under trial, so that the evidence of your faith may result in praise, glory, and honor to Jesus Christ.

#### Family Prayer Requests:

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## A Bride for Isaac

## **Lesson Summary**

By the opening of Genesis 24, Abraham's beloved wife, Sarah, had died (Genesis 23). Abraham was experiencing the blessings of wealth promised by God. However, though God had promised that Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the stars (Genesis 15:5), Isaac, the son of promise, had not yet given him any grandchildren.

Abraham knew that God would be faithful to his promise to multiply his descendants through Isaac, and so he sent his servant Eliezer to find a wife for his son. Arriving at the city of Abraham's brother Nahor, the servant prayed to God and acknowledged his dependence in finding the woman he trusted that God had already appointed.

In kindness toward Abraham, God brought along Rebekah. She completely fulfilled the requests of Eliezer's prayer and just "happened" to be one of Abraham's relatives. But there is no accident in these events; rather, they are an example of God's providence and faithfulness to fulfill his promise. God demonstrated his control over all of these affairs—his sovereign hand guiding all of the details. Through all of this, God provided a wife for Isaac, and through this marriage the nation of Israel would come. Their son Jacob would be the father of the 12 tribes that were the foundation of the people who would eventually inhabit the land promised to Abraham.

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Genesis 24:1-9

- 1. Why did Abraham want his servant Eliezer to find a wife for Isaac from his home country?
- 2. Why didn't Abraham want Isaac to return there?

#### Genesis 24:10–26, 24:50

- 3. What does Eliezer's prayer reveal about his trust in God?
- 4. Have you ever prayed specifically for God's direction? When? What happened?
- 5. What qualifications did Rebekah have to make her the perfect bride for Isaac?
- 6. What did Eliezer do as soon as he realized that God had answered his prayer?

7. What was the response of Laban and Bethuel? Who did they recognize as being behind all of these events?

#### Isaiah 46:5-11

- 8. What are the idols of men like? Can they do anything?
- 9. What is our God like? Can anything thwart his purposes or ruin his plans?

#### Psalm 37:23; Proverbs 16:9, 20:24; Jeremiah 10:23; James 4:13-16

10. What do these verses say about man's plans? About God's plans?

### **Memory Verse**

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Praise God for his sovereignty—that it is his plans that will be established and come to pass. Thank him for the peace and comfort that comes from knowing he is in control of all the details of your life. Ask him for faith to live moment by moment in the knowledge of his sovereignty.

Family Prayer Requests:



## God Is Sovereign

## **Lesson Summary**

In many of the events in the book of Genesis and Job, we have seen that God is in control. The Bible opens with God's creation. God is in control of everything because he created everything. God's astonishing power is demonstrated by creating through nothing but his word.

The flood is an example of God's providential judgment on the wicked and care for the people and the animals in the ark. The same God who created the world shows that he is still in complete control of his world and can do whatever he wants with it.

Babel is another example of God's sovereignty in judgment. This time he expressed his power by scattering the nations and confusing their languages. And he determines the times and boundaries of the nations (Acts 17:26).

And we see God's sovereignty as he called and sustained Abraham and fulfilled the promise of a child to an old couple well beyond the childbearing years. And then God providentially provided a wife for Isaac so that the line that would ultimately lead to the Messiah—the Seed of Abraham—could continue.

We can live in faith and confidence that "our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases" (Psalm 115:3).

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

#### Isaiah 46:9–11

- 1. What does it mean that God is the only God?
- 2. Do God's plans stand? Will what he purposes to do come to pass?

#### Psalm 115:3, 135:6

3. What does God do in the heavens and on earth?

#### Romans 8:28-39

- 4. How many things does God work together for good for his children?
- 5. Is God for you? What does that mean? What does he promise in these verses?
- 6. Can anything separate you from the love of God in Christ?

#### Ephesians 1:3–14

- 7. When were you chosen in Christ (v. 4)?
- 8. What were you predestined for (v. 5)?
- 9. How many things does God work according to the counsel of his will (v. 11)?
- 10. What was God's purpose in doing all these things for you (vv. 6, 12, 14)?

#### Romans 11:33-36

- 11. Can we understand the ways of God?
- 12. What is the proper response to God's sovereignty? (See Job 42:1-6.)

## **Memory Verses**

Review the memory verses with your family.

**Hebrews 11:1 & 6** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. . . . And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

**Genesis 12:1–2** Now the LORD said to Abram, "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."

## Prayer

Praise God for his absolute control over the universe and the affairs of men. Thank him that you can trust him in all circumstances because you know that he is working all things together for good for you. Ask God for more faith to trust him in the difficulties of life.

#### Family Prayer Requests:

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