



Bible Reading Guide December 2015

Genesis 1-25

Introductory notes

Genesis speaks of beginnings—of the heavens and the earth, of light and darkness, of sea and air and land animals, of human beings (made in God's own image, the climax of his creative activity), of marriage and family, of society and civilization, of sin and redemption. A key word in Genesis is "account," which also serves to divide the book into its major parts.

The book of Genesis is foundational to the understanding of the rest of the Bible. It is supremely a book that speaks about relationships, highlighting those between God and his creation, between God and humankind, and between human beings. It is thoroughly monotheistic, taking for granted that there is only one true God who is sovereign over all his creation. It introduces us to the way in which God initiates and makes covenants with his chosen people, pledging His love and faithfulness to them and calling them to promise theirs to Him. It establishes sacrifice as the substitution of life for life (ch. 22). It gives us the first hint of God's provision for redemption from the forces of evil.

Historically, Jews and Christians alike have held that Moses was the author/compiler of the first five books of the OT. These books, known also as the Pentateuch (meaning "five-volume book"), were referred to in Jewish tradition as the five fifths of the law (of Moses). The Bible itself suggests Mosaic authorship of Genesis, since Act 15:1 refers to circumcision as "the custom taught by Moses," an allusion to Gen 17.

The 40-year period of Israel's wanderings in the desert, would have been the most likely time for Moses to write the bulk of what is today known as the Pentateuch.

《創世紀》簡介

《創世記》講述萬物之始 — 包括天和地, 光與暗, 在海裡, 空中和陸地上的動物, 人類 (照神形象所造, 是祂創造的高潮) 及其婚姻, 家庭, 社會和文明, 並罪與救贖。在《創世記》中的關鍵字是"記在下面" (或翻譯為"來歷"), 這成為把這卷書分部的主要根據。

《創世記》是了解聖經其餘書卷的基礎。首要地, 它是一卷談及關係的書 - 神與祂的創造之關係、神和人類的關係, 及人與人之間的關係。它徹底地把持着「一神論」, 雖沒明言, 但却認定只有一位唯一的真神, 就是憑主權統管其創造之萬有那位。它向讀者介紹神怎樣主動與選民立約, 藉以向他們保證祂所施的慈愛和誠實, 並呼籲他們以忠誠回應祂。它引出一個重要的概念, 就是以犧牲/獻祭代表「以命換命」的原則來成全

救贖(22 章)。它給我們第一個暗示神會提供救贖的途徑，把我們從邪惡勢力中拯救出來。

有史以來，猶太人和基督徒都認定摩西是舊約前五卷書的作者/編撰者。這些書卷，稱為《摩西五經》，在猶太傳統中被稱為五卷「五分一之律法」。聖經本身也支持摩西為《創世記》作者之說，因為徒 15:1 稱割禮為“按摩西的規條受割禮”，是引述創 17 的記載。

以色列在曠野漂流 40 年的期間是摩西撰寫《摩西五經》最可能的時間。

<p>Day 1</p>	<p>Genesis 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to vv1-2, how did the universe come to be? What do we know about God in those verses? 2. What do vv3, 6, 9, 14, 20 & 24 in common? How did God create physical things out of nothing? 3. Vv26-30, how are humans different from other things that God has created? What tasks did God give to human beings to do? 4. Why do you think God said “Let US make man in OUR image”(v26)? <p>創世記 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 根據 1-2 節，宇宙是怎麼來的？從這兩節經文我們可知道神是怎樣的？ 2. 3, 6, 9, 14, 20 及 24 節有什麼共同點？神如何從無有創造有物質的事物？ 3. 26-30 節，人類與神所創造其他的事物有何區別？神給人類什麼任務去做？ 4. 你認為神為什麼說：“我們要照著我們的形像、按著我們的樣式造人”(26 節)？
<p>Day 2</p>	<p>Genesis 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to v.7, how did God make man? What caused the man to become a living being (KJV renders “living soul”; Chinese Union version “a living spiritual being”) different from other animals? 2. What specific instruction did God give the man in vv16-17? Would it have been wiser for God to block human access to or knowledge of the “tree of knowledge of good and evil”? 3. What did God notice about the man in v.18? What did God decide to do? Do you think that was an afterthought, because God overlooked something in His original design? 4. According to vv21-23, how did God make woman? Do you think it was significant that she was created from the man's rib? What was God's design for the man & woman (v.24) 5. Why do you think the Bible records two creation accounts in Genesis 1 and Genesis 2 respectively? <p>創世記 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 根據 7 節，神怎樣創造男人？什麼使他成為一個活生生的人 (和合本譯為“有靈的活人；KJV 譯為“活的靈魂”) 是與其他的動物不同的？ 2. 在 16-17 節，神給人什麼命令(特別指示)？若神使人類根本就不知有「分別善惡樹」的存在，或沒有機會接近它，這會否是更有智慧的做法？ 3. 在 18 節神注意到男人有些什麼問題？神決定怎樣處理？你認為這是否因為神最初設計時疏忽了，而要事後彌補？ 4. 根據 21-23 節，神怎樣造女人？你認為神把她從男人的肋骨創造出來有特別意義嗎？神給男人與女人有什麼安排(24 節)？ 5. 你覺得為什麼聖經記錄了兩個創造的記載，分別記於 1 章和 2 章？兩者分別是什麼？
<p>Day 3</p>	<p>Genesis 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why do you think the serpent focused on the one thing Eve wasn't allowed

	<p>to do (vv1-2)? What effect did this have on Eve?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Was Adam's disobedience deliberate or careless? Would you sympathize with his explanation in v 12? 3. What are the consequences of Adam and Eve's choice (vv16-19)? How do they affect us? How was God's plan for them changed? 4. Vv14-15 is sometimes referred to as "proto-evangelism" (first declaration of the Gospel). Do you see a hint of the Gospel message in it? <p>創世記 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 你認為蛇為什麼專注在<u>夏娃</u>唯一不許做的事情上 (1-2 節)? 這對<u>夏娃</u>產生了什麼影響? 2. <u>亞當</u>的抗命是故意的或是不小心所致? 你會同情他在 12 節的解釋嗎? 3. <u>亞當</u>和<u>夏娃</u>的選擇有什麼後果(16-19 節)? 他們的選擇如何影響了我們? 神對他們的計劃如何改變了? 4. 14-15 節 有時被稱為"原始福音"(福音的第一個宣告)。你在宣告中看到福音的線索嗎?
<p>Day 4</p>	<p>Genesis 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why do you suppose God looked with favour upon Abel's sacrifice but not on Cain's (vv4-5)? 2. How did God try to help Cain in vv6-7? 3. According to Cain's response to God's punishment in vv13-14, do you think Cain was contrite for what he did to his brother? Do you think Cain deserved God's gracious action in v.15? 4. How was Cain's sin passed to the next generation (vv23-24)? 5. How does v.26 reveal God's presence in the midst of dark times? <p>創世記 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 你認為神何以悅納<u>亞伯</u>的獻祭而不接納<u>該隱</u>的(4-5 節)? 2. 神在 6,7 節, 怎樣嘗試幫助<u>該隱</u>? 3. 根據 13-14 節, <u>該隱</u>對神懲罰的的回應中, 你認為<u>該隱</u>有否因他對弟弟所作的而痛悔? 你認為<u>該隱</u>配受神在 15 節所施的恩慈嗎? 4. <u>該隱</u>的罪之後果是如何傳遞到下一代 (23-24 節)? 5. 26 節 如何揭示神在逆景中的同在?
<p>Day 5</p>	<p>Genesis 5</p> <p>Note: Cain's genealogy comes to a dead end. It begins with ungodly Cain, ends with wicked Lamech, and is 'washed out' by the flood. Moses begins chapter 5 with the terminology of chapters 1 and 2 (e.g., 'created,' 'in the likeness of God,' 'male and female,' 'blessed them') in order to indicate to the reader that God's purposes and program for man begun in the first chapters are to be carried out through Adam's seed, but not through the line of Cain; rather through Seth. The whole of chapter 5 is a description of the ever-narrowing line through which Messiah will come.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you think the general long lives documented in the genealogy are intended to indicate? When compared to Isaiah 65:20 what do you understand about God's original intention for men? 2. In contrast, there is a word repeated in every generation of the genealogy. What is it? And why did it occur given your answer to the last question? <p>創世記 5</p> <p><u>該隱</u>的家譜就此結束。它始於不敬虔的<u>該隱</u>, 終於兇惡的<u>拉麥</u>, 其家人都被洪水淹沒。摩西開始第 5 章時, 重用第 1 和第 2 章的語句(例如, "造(創造)", "照著自己的樣式",</p>

	<p>“造男造女”，“賜福”)，是為了向讀者表明神對人類的目的和計劃開始於第一章，並要藉著亞當的後裔成就，不是通過該隱的家族，而是塞特的家系。第 5 章記載的家譜一步步的收緊焦點，顯明彌賽亞將從此族系而出。</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 你認為家譜中記載人一般都非常長壽是表示什麼？，與以賽亞書 65:20 相比時，你可以理解神對人類計劃的原意是怎樣的？ 2. 與此相反的是，有一個字重複出現在家譜的每一代中。鑒於你對前一個問題的答案，它為什麼會出現呢？
<p>Day 6</p>	<p>Genesis 6</p> <p>Notes: The first few verses of Genesis 6 are controversial. The “sons of God” is a term referring to angels that rebelled. “Nephilim” means “fallen ones”, and may refer to fallen angels. According to one view, Satan and his demons wanted to corrupt the genetic stock, so that mankind could not be saved, or perhaps so that the Saviour could not be born.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does v5 describe the world in Noah's days? Are we living in times anywhere near as bad as that? 2. What was God's reaction to the world's situation (v6)? Was God's decision in v.7 appropriate to how He felt in v.6? 3. How do you understand what kind of person Noah was, given that Rm 3:23 declares that “all have sinned”? 4. Would it have been hard for Noah to obey the command of God (vv14-21)? Why? <p>創世記 6</p> <p>註：《創世紀》6 章頭幾節經文是有爭議性的。“神的兒子”是一個術語，有時指反叛的天使。“偉人”這詞的原文意味著“墮落者”，也可能指墜落的天使。有一種見解是撒旦和牠的惡魔想要污染人類的遺傳因子，以至人類不能得救贖，又或使救世主不能藉人降生。</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5 節 如何描述挪亞日子的世界？我們現今時代有那樣糟糕嗎？ 2. 神對當時世界情況的反應是什麼(6 節)？在 7 節中，神的決定是否與祂在 6 節中的感受相乎符？ 3. 鑒於羅 3:23 所聲明，“世人(即所有人)都犯了罪”，你認為挪亞是一個怎樣的人？ 4. 你認為挪亞要服從神的命令(14-21 節) 難嗎？為什麼呢？
<p>Day 7</p>	<p>Genesis 7 & 8</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How long did the flood last? Do you think Noah would have wondered if it would ever end? Have you ever had to wait long for God to resolve a situation for you? 2. V16b tells us that “The Lord shut him in”. It wasn't for Noah to decide whom to open or close the door for. What implication does that have for us? 3. Noah was found righteous (v7:1). The same was not mentioned about his family members, yet they were saved together with him. Conversely, all the living things except for those in the ark were destroyed, including those that had nothing to do with human sin. What do you understand from this about sin and God's mercy? 4. What did Noah do first when he got off the ark? Would that have been your response? <p>Note: Whether the flood covered the whole world or just the Middle East is a controversial point. However, whichever it was, all of humanity could have been destroyed, because the scattering of nations did not occur until later, and not the whole world was inhabited.</p> <p>創世記 7 & 8</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 洪水淹沒了多久？你認為挪亞會否懷疑洪水有結束之日？你會否要等待很長時間仰望

	<p>神為你解除困難的情況？</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16 節下告訴我們，"耶和華就把他關在方舟裡頭"。不是挪亞決定為誰開門或關門(誰得救/不得救)。對我們來說這有什麼意義？ 挪亞被稱為義人 (7:1)。他家庭的成員並沒有得到同樣的評價，然而，他們都和他一起得救了。相反地，除了那些在方舟中的，所有生物都被都淹沒，包括那些與人類的罪惡無關之動物。從這裡，你對罪和神的憐憫可得到什麼瞭解？ 挪亞出方舟所做的第一件事是什麼？這會否是你的反應？ <p>註：洪水是淹沒整個世界或只是中東地區是一個爭議點。然而，不管是那一個情況，所有人類都可被毀滅，因為根據聖經記載，人類是後來才散佈整個世界，洪水之前地球大部份都沒有人居的記錄。</p>
<p>Day 8</p>	<p>Genesis 9</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What do you learn from v3 about human diet? V4 is a command not to eat meat that has blood in it. This later became Jew law, but differs from most others in that this preceded Moses. What do you think was the rationale behind it? Was God's covenant the result of being sorry for His rash decision to destroy nearly all of humankind? If not, what prompted God to make the covenant? Does the covenant mean that God will never destroy the world again? <p>創世記 9</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 從第 3 節你學到什麼關乎人類飲食的事實？ 4 節記載不吃有血的肉之命令。不吃血後來成為猶太人的法律，但它與其他在西乃山上頒布的律法有別，在於它早於摩西。你認為這律法背後的基本意義是什麼？ 神所立天虹之約是因為神後悔祂自己一時衝動摧毀所有人類嗎？如果不是，是什麼促使神立此約？ 這約有否說明神永不會再一次摧毀世界？
<p>Day 9</p>	<p>Genesis 10</p> <p>Although reading through the genealogy is difficult, do glance through it and get a rough impression. This chapter, and the second part of ch.11 provide us with an understanding of who the various nations were and where they originated from, as well as their relationship with the people of Israel.</p> <p>The Japhethites settled in India and Europe. It was primarily into the latter area of the world that the New Testament church spread, under the apostle Paul. The Hamites inhabited northwestern Africa, the western coast of the Arabian Peninsula, and the Fertile Crescent from Egypt to Mesopotamia. Some of these nations figured prominently in biblical history as enemies of Israel, including Babylon, Egypt and Canaan.</p> <p>The Semites inhabited the eastern lands: modern-day Iraq, Iran, and eastern Saudi Arabia. It was Peleg's line of the Semites which led to Abraham and eventually to the nation of Israel.</p> <p>創世記 10</p> <p>雖然詳細閱讀族譜是很困難的，但嘗試翻閱一下，去獲得一個粗略的印象。這一章和 11 章的第二部分為我們提供了對不同民族的來源，他們之間的關係，及與以色列民的關係之理解。雅弗的後代定居在印度和歐洲。這也是後來新約教會藉使徒保羅擴展的主要地域。含的後代居住非洲西北部，阿拉伯半島的西岸，並從埃及到米所波大米的「新月」沃土。其中一些國家後來在聖經歷史中常被提及，成為以色列民的敵人，包括巴比倫、埃及和迦南。</p> <p>閃的後代居於東部的地帶：現代伊拉克、伊朗和沙地阿拉伯東部。閃的後裔<u>法勒</u>的支系後來生了<u>亞伯拉罕</u>，再藉他生出以色列民族。</p>

<p>Day 10</p>	<p>Genesis 11</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What did the people attempt to do in vv3-4? What was the significance and purpose of the tower? 2. Why do you think God was concerned over what the people were doing? Was He paranoid? 3. What was the result of God confusing their language? 4. Do you recall an occasion in the NT when this "curse" of confused language was symbolically removed? (cf. Act2:3-12) <p>創世記 11</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3-4 節述說人們試圖做什麼? 這座塔的目的與意義是什麼? 2. 你認為神為什麼關注當時的人在<u>巴別</u>建塔? 神是敏感過度嗎? 3. 神混淆他們語言的結果是什麼? 4. 你有否記得在新約聖經的某一場合中,這個混淆語言的"詛咒"象徵性地被除去?(參見徒 2:3-12)
<p>Day 11</p>	<p>Genesis 12</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to the book of Hebrews, Abram left his country and people as God commanded, not knowing exactly where he was supposed to go. How do you understand his action? Have you experienced the need for that kind of faith in your Christian life? 2. In v,7 God made him a promise of giving the land to his offspring, at a time when he had no son at the age of 75+, He built an altar there to the Lord. What did that signify? How would you have reacted? 3. What do you think of Abram's action in v.13? Was it consistent with his expression of faith in God this far? Why do you think he behaved differently? 4. In v.17 God acted to prevent the adverse consequence of Abram's unwise action. Why do you think God did that? Was it totally for Abram's sake? <p>創世記 12</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 根據希伯來書, <u>亞伯蘭</u>照着神的吩咐離開他的國家和民族, 但當時並不知道到底是要往那裡去。你明白他何以能作此行動? 你在基督徒的生活中有否經歷這種信心的要求? 2. 在 7 節, 神應許把土地賜給<u>亞伯蘭</u>的後代, 當時他已 75 歲有多, 但沒有兒女, 他就為耶和華建一座壇。這代表了什麼? 若是你, 你會如此反應嗎? 3. 你對<u>亞伯蘭</u>在 13 節的行動有什麼看法? 這與他一向對神的信心符合嗎? 你認為他為什麼現在有不同的表現? 4. 在 17 節, 神採取行動防止<u>亞伯蘭</u>的不明智的舉動帶來不良後果。你認為神有什麼特別的理由那樣做? 是它完全為<u>亞伯蘭</u>的緣故嗎?

<p>Day 12</p>	<p>Genesis 13</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. vv10-11 Lot chose for himself the best land that he could see. Would you have done the same? Was it wrong? Why or why not? 2. Would you have handled the family dispute like Abram did? How do you think Abram's attitude in this matter reflect his character? 3. Was Lot's choice a good choice (cf vv12-13)? Would you have made the same choice if you know about what Sodom was like? 4. In vv14-17 God reiterated His promise to Abram in greater detail, including that his offspring would be numerous as the dust of the earth, at a time when no decedent was in sight. Would you have believed if you were he? <p>創世記 13</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 10-11 節, 羅得為自己選擇放眼所見最好的土地。你會那樣做嗎? 為什麼? 2. 你會像<u>亞伯蘭</u>一樣去處理家庭的糾紛嗎? 你認為<u>亞伯蘭</u>在這件事的態度如何反映他的性格? 3. 羅得的選擇是個好的選擇嗎(參 12-13 節)? 如果你知道所多瑪當時是什麼樣的地方, 你會作出同樣的選擇嗎? 4. 神在 14-17 節更詳細地重申祂對<u>亞伯蘭</u>的應許, 包括他的後代會多如大地的塵土, 但當時他還沒有後繼在望。如果你是<u>他</u>, 你會相信這應許嗎?
<p>Day 13</p>	<p>Genesis 14</p> <p>We do not know where Melchizedek came from, how he came to be in Canaan, how he came to be a worshipper and priest of the true God. Though Melchizedek seems like an obscure figure, he is a very important Old Testament person. Psalm 110:4 says the priesthood of the Messiah is priesthood according to the order of Melchizedek. Hebrews 7:3 describes Melchizedek as without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abram recued Lot despite danger to his own life and possessions, notwithstanding Lot's selfish behavior in Ch 13. Would you have done the same? 2. Melchizedek, as priest, did two things, he blessed Abram and he blessed God (vv19-20). What can you understand from here about the nature of priesthood? 3. What reason did Abram give for refused the spoil (v.23b)? How different is his attitude from the way we normally act? <p>創世記 14</p> <p>註: 我們不知道<u>麥基洗德</u>從哪裡來, 他為何會在迦南地, 他怎樣成為崇拜神的人, 更是至高神的祭司。雖然<u>麥基洗德</u>看來不起眼, 他是舊約中一個非常重要的人物。詩 110 篇說<u>彌賽亞</u>的祭司的職份是按<u>麥基洗德</u>的等次。希伯來書 7:3 形容<u>麥基洗德</u>是無父無母, 無族譜, 無生之始, 無生之終, 與神的兒子相似, 並是永遠的祭師。</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 儘管羅得在 13 章採取自私的行為, <u>亞伯蘭</u>仍冒生命危險拯救羅得。你會照樣做嗎? 2. <u>麥基洗德</u>作為祭師做了兩件事、賜福與<u>亞伯蘭</u>和稱頌神 (19-20 節)。從這裡你可以明白祭司的職份是什麼? 3. <u>亞伯蘭</u>拒絕接受擄物 (23 節下) 的原因是什麼? 他的態度與我們通常的行徑有何不同?
<p>Day 14</p>	<p>Genesis 15</p> <p>v6 states that "Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness". Paul later quotes this example to explain the doctrine of "justification by faith"(Rm4:9)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is this faith that brings justification like, as exemplified by Abram?

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What were the two components of God's promise to Abram? 3. In v.8 Abram asked how he could be sure that he would receive what was promised him? How did God provide him with assurance (vv10-11; 17-20)? 4. What is the nature of a covenant (v18)? Did Abram have any say in the covenant? <p>創世記 15</p> <p>6 節 指出"亞伯蘭信耶和華， 祂就算它為他的義"。保羅後來引用這個例子解釋" 因信稱義" 的教義(羅 4:9)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 以<u>亞伯蘭</u>為例， 帶來稱義的信心是怎樣的? 2. 神對<u>亞伯蘭</u>的應許有兩個部份， 它們是什麼? 3. 第 8 節中， <u>亞伯蘭</u>問祂怎麼能肯定會得到所應許他的。神如何為他提供確據(10-11 節; 17-20 節)? 4. 約的性質是怎樣的(18 節)?<u>亞伯蘭</u>在這份約的建立上有談判權嗎?
Day 15	<p>Genesis 16</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did Sarai believe God's promise to Abram of giving him many decedents? How did she "help" God to deliver the promise? Have you ever "facilitated" by your own method the realization of God's will as you perceived it? 2. How do you evaluate the actions of Hagar, Sarai and Abram in vv4-6? What would have been the solution to that complicated situation? 3. What did Hagar's encounter with God tell you about what God is like? Muslims recognizes Ishmael as an important prophet and patriarch, and believe that he was the forefather of Muhammad, through whom God will raise a great nation promised in 17:20. <p>創世記 16</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>撒萊</u>相信神對<u>亞伯蘭</u>的應許， 要給他很多後裔嗎? 她怎麼嘗試"幫助"神去實現祂的應許?你也曾以你自己的方法去"幫助"神實現(你所認為之)「神的旨意」嗎? 2. 你如何評價<u>夏甲</u>、 <u>撒萊</u>和<u>亞伯蘭</u>在 4-6 節 的行動?這種複雜情況的解決方案是甚麼呢? 3. <u>夏甲</u>與神相遇的敘述告訴你神是一位怎樣的神? <p>註:穆斯林認定以實瑪利為一位重要的先知及他們的先祖， 也相信他是<u>穆罕默德</u>的直屬祖先， 並神會(如 17:20 所應許)藉<u>穆罕默德</u>建立一個偉大的民族。</p>
Day 16	<p>Genesis 17-18:15</p> <p>God renewed His promise to Abram when he was now 99, many years since God first made him the promise of decedents.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God gave Abram and Sarai new names. What was the significance of this (v5, vv15-16)? 2. How did Abram (now Abraham) react in vv17:17-18? How did Sarai (now Sarah) react (18:10-14)? Would you have responded in similar ways? 3. What reason did God have to treat the two sons of Abraham differently (vv19-21, see Rm 9:7-14) 4. Vv9-14 record the institution of circumcision as a sign of the covenant for the Jews. This became one of the most important elements of faith in Judaism. What was its intended significance? <p>創世記 17-18:15</p> <p><u>亞伯蘭</u>現在 99 了， 神重申自己對他的應許， 距神首先應許他必有後代時，已有多年的時間。</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 神給了<u>亞伯蘭</u>和<u>撒萊</u>新的名字。這有什麼意義(5,15,16 節)?

	<p>2. <u>亞伯蘭</u> (現在<u>亞伯拉罕</u>) 在 17:17-18 如何反應?<u>撒萊</u> (現在<u>撒拉</u>) 怎麼反應 (18:10-14)? 你會有相似的反應嗎?</p> <p>3. 神有什麼理由以不同的行徑對待<u>亞伯拉罕</u>的兩個兒子 (17:19-21, 參看 羅 9:7-14) ?</p> <p>4. 18:9-14 記錄神設立割禮作為與猶太人立約的標誌。這後來成為了猶太教信仰的最重要禮儀之一。其原來的意義是什麼?</p>
<p>Day 17</p>	<p>Genesis 18:16-ch.19</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you think God was too lenient for promising not to destroy Sodom for the sake of 10 good people? What limit would you have put? 2. Vv6-8 depict the perverted sense of right & wrong on the part of Lot, strongly defending certain values and overlooking others. Do you think society can still have such influences on Christians today? 3. Why do you think Lot hesitated fleeing Sodom in 19:16? Do you think he would have stayed if the angels hadn't grabbed the hands of him and his family? Have you experienced the Lord's merciful insistence? 4. Why do you think Lot left Zoar and moved into a cave in the mountains, even though the Lord promised not to overthrow Zoar (19:21-22)? Was it a wise move, particularly in consideration of his daughters? Do you think Lot's daughters had been influenced by the values of Sodom? <p>Note: The Moabites and Ammonites became "a thorn in the side" for Israel later on (see Judges 3). Such is the consequences of sin.</p> <p>創世記 18:16-19 章</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 你認為神承諾為了 10 義人就不毀滅<u>所多瑪</u>是否太寬容?你會以什麼數目為限? 2. 6-8 節描述羅得歪曲了的對錯意識, 他強烈地捍衛某些價值觀, 却忽視了別的。你認為今天社會對基督徒仍有這樣的影響嗎? 3. 在 19:16, 你認為羅得為什麼在逃離<u>所多瑪</u>時有所猶豫?你認為若天使沒有拉着他和他家人的手中, 他會留在<u>所多瑪</u>嗎? 你曾否經歷過主仁慈地堅持你順服祂? 4. 儘管主應許不傾覆<u>瑣珣</u> (19:21-22), 你認為羅得為什麼要從<u>瑣珣</u>搬上山洞去?那是明智之舉 (尤其考慮到他的女兒們)嗎? 你認為羅得的女兒們有否受了<u>所多瑪</u>的價值觀影響? <p>註: <u>摩押人</u>和<u>亞捫人</u>後來成了為以色列的後患 (見士 3)。這就是罪的後果。</p>
<p>Day 18</p>	<p>Genesis 20-21</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Look at Abraham's excuse in 20:11. Was Abraham relying on himself or God? How did Abraham rationalize his behavior in v12? Have you ever behaved similarly? 2. What was the difference between Abraham's faithfulness in Gen 20 and God's faithfulness in Gen 21? 3. How do you think people reacted when they found out that Abraham and Sarah had a baby in their situation? Have you experienced hardship which eventually became a testimony to God's mercy and grace? 4. What do you think of Sarah's attitude in 21:8-10? Do you think that was particularly mean, or was a typical human response? <p>創世記 20-21</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 看看在 20:11 <u>亞伯拉罕</u>的藉口。<u>亞伯拉罕</u>是依靠自己或神呢?<u>亞伯拉罕</u>在 12 節是如何為他的行為解釋?你會有相似的表現嗎? 2. <u>亞伯拉罕</u>在 20 章的信實表現與神在 21 章的信實有什麼區別? 3. 當人們發現<u>亞伯拉罕</u>和<u>撒拉</u>在他們的情況下有一個嬰孩, 你認為他們會有什麼反應? 你有否經歷過艱難困苦, 而最終成為了神的憐憫和恩典的見證呢? 4. 你覺得<u>撒拉</u>在 21:8-10 的態度如何?你覺得那是特別的卑鄙, 或者是人類典型的反應?

<p>Day 19</p>	<p>Genesis 22-23</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do you think Abraham felt when God asked him to sacrifice Isaac? How would you have reacted if you were he? 2. When Isaac asked where the sacrifices were (v8), was Abraham trying to hide his plan from his son, or did he believe that God would provide a substitute? 3. Why do you think God tested Abraham? Did He, the all-knowing God not know Abraham's heart? 4. In insisting to buy the land, Abraham desired a permanent possession in the land of Canaan, not just a borrowed tomb. Do you see a connection of this act with what God promised him (see v17:8)? <p>創世記 22-23</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 神要求<u>亞伯拉罕</u>獻<u>以撒</u>為祭的時候，你認為他有什麼感受？如果你是他，你又會如何反應？ 2. 當<u>以撒</u>問祭牲在哪裡時 (8 節) <u>亞伯拉罕</u>是試圖向他的兒子隱藏他的計劃，或是他相信神會提供代替的祭牲呢？ 3. 你認為神為什麼要試驗<u>亞伯拉罕</u>？他是全知的神，難道不知道<u>亞伯拉罕</u>的心嗎？ 4. <u>亞伯拉罕</u>堅持買下土地，是因他要在<u>迦南地</u>得到永久性的產業，不只是借來的墳墓。你看到他這做法與神對他的應許 (見 17:8)的關係嗎？
<p>Day 20</p>	<p>Genesis 24-25:11</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How did Abraham's faith compare/contrast with the servant's faith at the beginning (vv24:5,7)? 2. How did the servant's faith evolve in chapter 24 (vv26, 48) 3. How did Rebekah show her faith in this chapter (especially v58)? Have you experienced God guidance in ways similar to that described in chapter 24? 4. Where was Abraham buried after he died? Do you see a consistent plan when he bought the land for Sarah's burial? <p>創世記 24-25:11</p> <p><u>亞伯拉罕</u>的信心與他僕人起初的信心如何比較/對比(24:5,7)?</p> <p>僕人的信心在第 24 章 (26,48) 又是怎樣地進深呢?</p> <p><u>利百加</u>在這一章(尤其是 58 節)如何展示她的信心?你曾經歷過神類似第 24 章所述的引導方法嗎?</p> <p><u>亞伯拉罕</u>死後埋葬在那裡?你認為當他買地埋葬<u>撒拉</u>的時候是否已有一長久的計劃?</p>