

Genesis

Breakdown

- Genesis is the foundation of the entire Bible and shows the beginning of everything: creation, sin, family life, civilization, nations, God's chosen people, God's covenant with mankind, plus many other beginnings including judgment, altars, and death.
- Genesis is divided into two parts. Chapters 1-11 are about God and the whole world. Chapters 12-50 are about God and his chosen people beginning with Abraham and his family.
- Genesis is traditionally believed to be written by Moses around 1445 B.C. and covers 4000 B.C. to 1805 B.C.

Main Points

- Because of His overflowing, never-ending love, God created us, and He created a beautiful world for us to live in. His plan was for us to live completely connected with Him, sharing in His love, but we chose to rebel against God. That rebellion severed our connection with Him which completely changed us and the entire world.
- There is good news! Even though we were disconnected from God, His love for us never changed. God promised that one day a descendant would come who would defeat evil and make a way for us to be reconnected with Him. The entire Bible from this point on is the story of the great lengths God went to so that Jesus could make a way for us to be reconnected with Him.

Did you know?

- Genesis covers more time than the rest of the Bible combined.
- God did not actually walk in the garden in the cool of the day until after Adam ate the fruit. Why do you think that is?
- It took Noah 120 years to build the ark. He and his family lived in the ark a full year.
- Abraham was asleep the entire time God was making the covenant with him.
- Even though Joseph's story is the longest in Genesis, Jesus did not descend from him. Do you know which of the 12 sons of Jacob was Jesus' forefather?
- Jacob's fourth son, Judah, unknowingly engaged in a one-night stand with his daughter-in-law, Tamar. Do you know why this story is important for us to know?
- Jacob's oldest son, Reuben, lost his inheritance as first-born son. Do you know why?
- In addition to 12 sons, Jacob had a daughter named Dinah who was disgraced by the prince of a neighboring country. Dinah's brothers violently retaliate. What do they do?

Further Thought

- How does the creation story build your trust in God?
- Why was the Tower of Babel a bad thing for the people to try to build? What can we learn from this story?
- What does God's covenant with Abraham mean for us?
- What similarities did you notice in Abraham and his sons? What can we learn from them?