

Bible Study Questions

Genesis: The Story Begins – The Long Road to Maturity

Focus

As part of His sanctifying and maturing work in us, God humbles His chosen ones whom He loves so that they can better see the glory of His sovereign power and grace which alone saves us.

Read

[Genesis 29:1-30:24](#)

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Genesis which can be found on our [website](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Questions for Review

(The purpose of these opening questions is to review the passage that was recently preached on in order to make sure that everyone understands the basic structure, events, people, and point of the passage.)

1. Work through some basic review questions for this passage:
 - What's the context? (Where are we in Genesis; the Pentateuch; the Old Testament; and the Bible as a whole?)
 - Who are the main characters in this section?
 - Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?
 - Is there a conflict or high point in this passage? (What is the structure of this passage that builds to that point?)
 - What was the main point or theme of this passage that was identified in Sunday's sermon?
 - What surprises are there in this passage?
2. What questions do you still have about this passage that you'd like to discuss?

Questions for Reflection and Application

(The purpose of these reflection questions is to help each other not just understand what the passage is saying, but to think more deeply about what it means so that we can then accurately apply it to our lives today.)

1. Do you believe that people really can be changed? Why or why not?

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2. How do you explain what happened to Jacob at the end of chapter 28 to what now takes place in chapters 29-30?
3. Why do you think it took so long for Jacob to be changed?
4. In what way is learning to walk with God and to trust His providential ordering of our lives a mark of Christian maturity?
5. Why does God bring hard providences into the lives of those whom He loves? (See Hebrews 12)
6. Are there any ways in which God is doing that in your life right now? What are you learning from His disciplining work? How are you responding? Etc.
7. In what ways do we see the power and grace of God working despite and even in and through all this messiness?
8. What are some lessons you can draw for your own life from all of this?
9. Have you found in your own life that you can sometimes see the glory of God's grace better from the low place of humiliation? Explain.
10. Are there any sins you're struggling with right now for which you'd like prayer? Do you need to be reminded that God isn't giving up on you despite your sin?
11. What are one or two ways you'd like to grow in becoming more mature in Christ over the upcoming year?

Ongoing questions to ask of any passage:

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1. How does the gospel inform your understanding and application of this passage?
2. Has studying this passage in any way challenged your understanding about who God is and what He's like? If so, how so?
3. In light of studying this passage, is there any behavior or attitude that you need to personally address in your life? If so, how specifically will you address it?
4. How does this passage help you to love, trust, and worship Jesus more fully?