

Bible Study Questions

Genesis: The Story Begins – Is Anyone Worthy?

Focus

Jesus' death and resurrection purifies us from all sin, equipping us to be a blessing to the world around us as we await His coming again to judge the world in perfect righteousness.

Read

[Genesis 33:18-34:31](#)

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. Review Genesis 28:10-22 and look at Genesis 35:1-4. What seems to be Jacob's mistake in Genesis 33:18-20? Why do you think he might have made that choice?

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2. What danger did Jacob put himself and his family in?
3. How can you and your family heed the warning that this passage gives us about not becoming assimilated to the world, while also at the same time being salt and light to the world? (Note this is a difficult and complex question to answer but is worth taking time to explore in detail together. It's also important to note that not all Christians will come to the same conclusions on the details in response to this question, and thus wisdom and grace should be shown to each other.)
4. Why is it important for the church to remain distinct from the world in order to be a blessing to the world? How might a church do that?
5. How can the gospel help us address the painful matters of this chapter? For example, consider in what ways the cross is both the place of true justice and true salvation.

Ongoing questions to ask of any passage:

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?