

Year **1**

Quarter 3

God Is Faithful

Family Devotional

*Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.
Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You
established the earth, and it abides.—Psalm 119:89–90*



Answers
BIBLE CURRICULUM

GOD'S WORD FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Answers Bible Curriculum

Year 1 • Quarter 3 • Family Devotional

Second Edition

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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 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 and teaching their children the things of the Lord:

Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, especially concerning the day you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb, when the Lord said to me, "Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children." (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, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 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, and when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

We suggest you read the lesson summary out loud, and then read each of the Scriptures 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).



Catastrophe: the Flood **1**

Lesson Summary

God brought a huge catastrophe—a worldwide Flood—as punishment for sin and wickedness. Disobedience—any disobedience—grieves God and leads to His judgment. The Flood was judgment on the sins of the people in Noah’s day. But God provided an Ark for Noah and his family to save them from the terrible judgment of the worldwide Flood. Noah was saved because he “found grace in the eyes of the Lord” (Genesis 6:8). Noah had faith in God and wanted to obey Him—he was righteous.

Just as God saved Noah from judgment on sin through the Ark, God has provided us a way to be saved from our sins. That way is Jesus Christ. Because God is holy and just, He must judge sin. But Jesus has taken the punishment—God’s judgment on Himself—for all those who will repent of their sin, and turn to Jesus for forgiveness.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Genesis 6:5–9

1. What was the condition of man's heart before the Flood? Is it any different today?
2. What was God's response to man's wickedness?
3. How was Noah different from the rest of mankind?

Hebrews 11:7

4. What motivated Noah to build the Ark?
5. What was Noah's righteousness based on?

Genesis 9:11–17

6. What was the covenant that God established after the Flood (vv. 11, 15)?
7. With whom was the covenant established? How long will it last?

2 Peter 3:1–7

8. What do the scoffers willfully forget (vv. 5–6)?
9. How will the future judgment differ from the judgment of the Flood?
10. How can we be saved from God's future judgment?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Peter 2:5 And [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

Prayer

Thank God for His true Word. Praise Him for His holiness and justice demonstrated in the Flood, but also for His grace and mercy shown to Noah. Thank Him that we can be saved through faith in Christ—who is our Ark of salvation.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



2 God Saves Noah

Lesson Summary

Last week we began to look at the second C of history—Catastrophe—God’s judgment on a wicked world through the global Flood. But we also saw His mercy as He provided a way for Noah and his family to be saved.

The Flood was a terrible catastrophe that covered the whole world and killed everyone on the earth. God was in complete control of this catastrophe. He warned the people through Noah. God gave Noah detailed instructions for the Ark and sent the animals to the Ark. After shutting the door of the Ark, God started the rain and opened up the earth to start the Flood. God stopped the rain when the right time had come.

Only Noah and his family—eight people—were saved from the Flood. Only two of each kind of land animal (and seven of some) were saved. Everything else was destroyed!

God must judge sin because He is holy and just. That is why He had to destroy the world with the Flood. But God shows us through Noah that He is merciful and that He rewards faith and obedience.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Genesis 6:13–7:5

1. What were the details that God gave to Noah concerning the building of the Ark?
2. Who or what in addition to Noah was saved in the Ark?
3. Why did God have Noah take a male and female of each land animal kind?
4. Why were seven of the clean animals taken on board (see Genesis 8:19–20)?

5. Did Jesus believe that Noah was a real person and the Genesis Flood was a real event?

6. In what ways will the future judgment on the wicked compare to the judgment in Noah's day?

7. How can we be saved from God's future judgment?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Peter 2:5 And [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

Prayer

Take time to praise God for His attributes demonstrated in the Flood. Thank Him that we can trust His word to tell us the true history of the world. Ask Him to show you how to be faithful and obedient, as Noah was.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Was the Flood Global?

3

Lesson Summary

This week we are continuing our study of the Flood of Noah's day.

The only way we could know for sure whether this event really occurred and whether it was global or local is if there is an eyewitness record of what happened. And there is! The God of history moved men by His Spirit to write His Word. In God's Word, we are told that Noah's Flood was a real event. The Flood lasted for 371 days and covered all the high hills under the whole heaven (Genesis 7:19).

A clear reading of the Flood account in Scripture gives us an understanding of how catastrophic this Flood was. The depth of the water (more than 20 feet above the high hills), the destruction recorded in Scripture (the destruction of all land-dwelling creatures on the entire earth), and the duration of the Flood (371 days) are a few of the scriptural evidences given to us by God.

And as we would expect, what we see in the world confirms what we read in the Word. What would we expect to see on the earth if this Flood were real? Wouldn't we expect to find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth? Yes! And that is exactly what we find. The rock layers and fossil records are just a couple of the evidences that confirm the reality of a global Flood.

3. How do verses 10–30 show the care of God for His creation?

4. What responses to God are triggered by the psalmist's meditation on God's creation and His care for it?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Peter 2:5 And [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

Prayer

Praise God for His amazing creation. Praise Him for His providence in caring for all the animals He has created, and in caring for us too. Acknowledge that God is holy and must judge sin, as He demonstrated in the global Flood. Thank Him that He has provided His Son Jesus Christ as our Ark of salvation. Jesus took upon Himself God's wrath that we might have forgiveness of sin and eternal life.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



How Large Was the Ark?

4

Lesson Summary

Last week we saw that the Flood was a global event. Scripture clearly describes the Flood as being worldwide, and it doesn't make sense that Noah would need to spend years and years building a huge boat if it were merely a local flood. He could have just hiked over the mountains.

In fact, the sheer size of the Ark confirms that this was a global Flood and that Noah did have representatives of the land-dwelling, air-breathing animals on board so that they could survive the watery catastrophe. The Ark was a massive ocean-going vessel, very similar in size to large cargo ships today.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passage and discuss the questions together.

Genesis 6:9–22

1. What do you think it means that “Noah walked with God”?

2. Why did God decide to flood the earth? Why was Noah chosen to be spared?

3. What were the specific instructions that God gave Noah for building the Ark?

4. If a cubit is about 20 inches long, what were the dimensions of the Ark? What is its total volume in cubic feet? Hint: Length x Width x Height
5. Who were the people who were to be on the Ark?
6. Which categories of animals did God bring to the Ark?
7. Did Noah have every species of animal on the Ark?

8. What were some of the jobs that probably had to be done on the Ark?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Peter 2:5 And [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

Prayer

Thank God for His Word, that it is true and trustworthy, and that it presents the true history of the world. Praise Him for His grace and mercy in preserving Noah, his family, and the animals. And praise Him for His grace and mercy in providing for our salvation through Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



5 Reshaping the Earth

Lesson Summary

We have spent five weeks looking at the Flood of Noah's day and have really only scratched the surface of this major event of history. Be sure to see the Online Resource Page for articles that take a more in-depth look at the biblical and scientific issues surrounding the Flood.

When we look at the world around us, we see rock layers and fossils spanning the globe. These are best explained by the results of a global Flood. If there was a global Flood, we would expect to find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth. And that is exactly what we see today.

We would also expect to see erosional features that can only be explained by truly massive amounts of water moving across the continents. We see features like Devil's Tower in Wyoming, Grand Canyon, Ayer's Rock (Uluru) in Australia, and other landmarks around the globe that stand as testaments to the Flood. God's Word is true, and we can trust the historical information it contains, just as we can trust its gospel message.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Genesis 1:9–10

1. What does this passage suggest about how many oceans and continents there were on the pre-flood earth?

Genesis 7:10–12

2. What were the two sources of the rainwater for the Flood?
3. How long did it rain on the earth?
4. What were the “fountains of the great deep”?

5. How long were the “windows of heaven” open? How long did the “fountains of the great deep” pour forth?

6. How long did it take until the tops of the mountains appeared?

7. How does the Genesis Flood demonstrate God’s power? His justice? His mercy?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Peter 2:5 And [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

Prayer

Thank God for His inerrant Word, which gives us the true history of the universe. Thank Him for those who study the Bible and science to help us better understand. Ask God for the faith to believe His Word even when we don't have all the evidence. Thank Him for Jesus, and ask Him for boldness to share the life-changing gospel with friends and family.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Confusion: Dispersion at Babel

6

Lesson Summary

Last week we concluded our look at the Flood of Noah's day and its effects on the entire earth. This week we move forward about 150 years after the Flood ended. Shem, Ham, and Japheth have had children, who have had more children. In fact, the Bible indicates that the population grew quickly in the years after the Flood. Japheth had seven sons, Shem had five, and Ham had four (as well as their daughters who are not mentioned in the text). In the next generation, Japheth had 23 grandsons; Shem had 14, and Ham had 28. You can see how the population grew exponentially, so that at the time of the Tower of Babel event, there were likely many hundreds of people on earth. Many of them (perhaps all of them) were living together in the plain of Shinar—most likely located in modern-day Iraq.

It was here that the disobedient descendants of Noah began to build a city and a tower. They disobeyed God's command to populate and fill the earth (Genesis 9:7). Instead of honoring God, they became proud and wanted to make a name for themselves. But God's plans will not be thwarted. He confused their common language, and so they departed from Babel by family groups and began to fill the earth, as Genesis 10 records.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Genesis 11:1-9

1. What was the attitude and goal of the people who started building the city and tower?
2. What was God's response to them?

1 Peter 5:5-7

3. What is God's attitude toward the proud? Toward the humble?

4. Who is God's mercy upon?
5. What has God done to the proud and mighty?
6. What does God do for the lowly?
7. In what ways can you demonstrate humility rather than pride?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

Prayer

Praise God for His perfect goodness and justice. Thank Him for His Word and for His Holy Spirit. Ask Him to work humility and meekness in our lives, and to root out all pride and rebellion.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



7 One Blood, One Race

Lesson Summary

Last week 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 because of a person’s external characteristics, such as skin color, language, eye shape, size, or disability.

Read and Discuss

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. What was the reason that God commanded 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 iniquity” 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? [Note: The NKJV uses the word “similitude,” while most other translations use the word “likeness.”]
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.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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:



8 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 that 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 and Discuss

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 –

Warren Weirsbe 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).¹

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

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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:



9 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 tells us, “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker 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. “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith” (Romans 4:20). This faith was what God counted 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 and Discuss

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.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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:



God's Covenant with Abram **10**

Lesson Summary

Last week we saw how God called Abraham to leave his home country and travel to an unknown land. And by faith, he obeyed. In conjunction with the call to leave his home, God made a covenant with Abraham. He promised to bless Him, to multiply His descendants, to give His descendants the land of Canaan, and that Abraham's seed would be a blessing to all nations.

The Apostle Paul in the New Testament makes it clear that Jesus Christ is the seed of Abraham who brings blessing to the nations: "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," 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 and Discuss

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)?

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

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.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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 increase your faith in the faithfulness of God to keep His promises.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



11

Sodom and Gomorrah

Lesson Summary

This week we see the continuing effects of sin and the holiness and justice of God as He punishes sin. 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 and Discuss

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)?
2. 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)?
5. Who 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.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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:



12

Abraham and Isaac

Lesson Summary

God had called Abraham, promised that his descendants would be like the stars of the sky and the sand of the seashore, and 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 and Discuss

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 endurance 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?

5. What does God's chastening prove? How should we respond to God's discipline?

6. What is the ultimate goal and outcome of the Lord's chastening?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

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, honor, and glory to Jesus Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



13

The Ice Age

Lesson Summary

Secular scientists tell us that there have been multiple ice ages over hundreds of thousands of years. But the history recorded in the Bible doesn't square with these theories. As we learned in class this week, the Genesis Flood provided the perfect conditions for an Ice Age—warm oceans and cool land temperatures. The one Ice Age most likely lasted for around 500–700 years following the Flood.

While not an issue of biblical theology or history, per se, the secular view of multiple ice ages undermines the biblical timeline, and thus the Bible's accuracy. As believers, we need to be equipped and prepared to defend the historical accuracy of Scripture and to show others how the Bible's history can explain natural phenomenon, such as the evidence of glaciation over large areas of the Northern Hemisphere.

Since events of the Bible occurred in and around the Middle East, and the Ice Age mainly affected the northern and southern regions, there are very few references to ice and snow during the time of Job and the Patriarchs, which is when the biblical Ice Age would have occurred.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Job 37:9–10, 38:29–30

1. How might these verses relate to an Ice Age at the time of Job?
2. What might the “broad waters” and the “surface of the deep” refer to?

1 Peter 3:14–16

3. What should our response be to those who persecute or threaten us?
4. What are we to do before we attempt to answer our critics?

5. What is to be our attitude as we defend our faith?
6. How does this verse relate to questions we might get about the Ice Age (or any other issue that questions the accuracy of biblical history)?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

Acts 17:26–27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

Prayer

Thank God for His Word that gives us the true history of the universe. Ask Him for the ability and desire to study His Word and His world so that you can better answer the questions of others. Ask God, by His Holy Spirit, to work in you meekness and humility so that your responses will be honoring to God and bring glory to Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:
