

The Book of Genesis

3

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God’s Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses that the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we continue our study of the book of **Genesis**, this time reading **chapters 22-36**. This is a sizeable portion of the book, focusing on two generations – Isaac and Jacob.

Hebrews 11:9-10 tells us:

“By faith [Abraham] made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, *as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise*. For [they were] looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.”

Hebrews 11:13-16 continues the saga of faith:

“[Isaac and Jacob] were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth... Instead, they were longing for a better country – a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

As you read the accounts of Isaac and Jacob, answer for yourself these questions:

- Why did Abraham express such great faith in his willingness to offer up Isaac as a sacrifice? (note **Hebrews 11:17-19**).
- What mistakes did both Abraham and Isaac make?
- What was the source of contention between Jacob and Esau, even from birth?
- Why was Esau called “godless”? (note **Hebrews 12:16**).
- What was Esau’s incorrect view of the birthright and the blessing? You may want to read **ES106-02** again to refresh your memory.
- How did God deal with Jacob’s character flaws?

Pull up a comfortable chair, open your Bible, and begin reading the stories of Isaac and Jacob in **Genesis 22-36**.

Memory Verse

By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Hebrews 11:9-10

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!