

## Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

### Session Three: Discussion Question Answers – Page 18

1. God's first step toward restoring his scattered people to himself is to call one man, Abram, to leave everything behind in Ur (interestingly, this is near the location of the Tower of Babel and, even today, is known for the remains of its ziggurats) and follow him to a new land. The restoration God will accomplish for his people is implicit in the blessing he gives Abram, by whom "all the families of the earth will bless themselves" (Genesis 12:3).
2. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are the main patriarchs of Israel. Some also consider Jacob's sons to be patriarchs—particularly Joseph, whose story takes up the final third of the book of Genesis.

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3. Burgundy is the color of blood, the blood that sealed the covenant God made with Abraham.
4. Genesis 12:1-3 says, "Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves.' "This promise can be divided into three parts:  
  
(1) a promise of land for Abram's many descendants  
(2) a promise of a nation and a great name  
(3) a promise of worldwide blessing.

The "Abrahamic Covenant" box on the Timeline Chart lists the second promise as a promise of "royal kingdom" because later in Genesis, God tells Abraham that this is his plan for the nation.

5. The promises of God passed down from Abraham to his son (by Sarah) Isaac; to Isaac's son Jacob; and from Jacob to his twelve sons, with particular emphasis on Judah and Joseph (through his sons Ephraim and Manasseh). Eventually, the promise would extend to all mankind
6. **Land Promise:** Moses / **Kingdom Promise:** David / **Promise of Worldwide Blessing:** Jesus Christ

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7. Those who trust God act on his promises. Abraham is known as our "father in faith." Jeff explains how Abraham's faith is shown when God takes him outside to look at the stars, and again when he offers up Isaac. Consider the following passages from Hebrews 11:8-12 and 17-19:
  - *"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. ...By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only-begotten son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be named." He considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead; hence he did receive him back and this was a symbol"*
8. Answers will vary

## **Session Three: Home Preparation: Looking Ahead – Page 21**

**Period name:** Egypt & Exodus **Approximate dates:** 1800-1446 B.C.

**Period color:** Red **Color meaning:** The Red Sea

**Supplemental Book:** Leviticus

**What Key Person Did God Send?:** Moses

**Name a current event in secular history:** Building Projects of the Pharaohs (Seti I & Ramses II), Code of Hammurabi, 1<sup>st</sup> Urban Civilization in China, Greek Language 1<sup>st</sup> Written

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**Period name:** Desert Wanderings **Approximate dates:** 1446-1406 B.C.

**Period color:** Tan **Color meaning:** The Color of the Desert

**List Key Events:** Covenant at Moab - 12 Spies Sent Out - Aarons Rod / Moses Strikes the Rock – Bronze Serpent

**Narrative Book for this Period:** Numbers

### **Adult Home Study for November 2022**

1. Read Genesis 12-50 (The Patriarchs – Burgundy)
2. Complete any unanswered Discussion Questions for Session Three
3. Using your Bible Timeline Chart fill in the answers on page 21: Home Preparation – Looking Ahead

### **Working with our Children at Home in November 2022**

1. Readings from the **GPS Storybook**
  - Chapter 4 – Patriarchs Part I
  - Chapter 5 – Patriarchs Part II
2. Activities from the **GPS Workbook (Beginner – Intermediate – Advanced)**
  - Chapter 4 – Patriarchs Part I
  - Chapter 5 – Patriarchs Part II