



January 7: Righteous & Wicked, **Genesis 18:22-33**

1. In Genesis 18:22-33, we witness Abraham pleading with God for the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. How does this passage highlight the tension between justice and mercy?
2. Reflecting on your own understanding, how would you define mercy and justice? How do you see these two concepts intersecting in your own faith journey?
3. In what ways do you think God's mercy and justice are portrayed throughout the Bible? Can you think of specific biblical stories or verses that exemplify the balance between these two attributes?
4. How do you see the concepts of mercy and justice manifesting in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ? In what ways did Jesus embody both mercy and justice during His time on earth?
5. Imagine a scenario where someone close to you has wronged you deeply. How would you navigate between seeking justice and extending mercy in that situation?
6. Reflecting on our society today, what are some instances where you see a need for more mercy or more justice? How can we, as Christians, actively contribute to promoting both mercy and justice in our communities?
7. How does the concept of forgiveness tie in with mercy and justice? How can we extend forgiveness to others while still recognizing the need for justice? Are there any biblical examples that come to mind?
8. How do you think God's mercy and justice work together in the process of redemption and salvation? How does the idea of God's justice being satisfied through the sacrifice of Jesus demonstrate His mercy towards humanity?
9. Can you share a personal experience where you have witnessed the power of both mercy and justice in your own life or the lives of others? How did it impact your faith and understanding of God's character?

Family Questions:

1. *If someone close to you did something very mean, how would you decide what's fair or kind in response?*
2. *What do you think mercy and justice mean? Parents can help explain these concepts!*
3. *How did Jesus show both mercy and justice when He was on earth?*



January 14: Flesh & Lust, **Genesis 19:1-14**

1. How does our society's view of sexuality differ from the biblical perspective? In what ways do you think this influences our understanding of sin in this area?
2. Why is it important to understand and live by the sexual standards in the Bible? What are the benefits? What are the challenges? What are the consequences of disregarding these standards?
3. Why is it important to approach discussions about sexuality with love and grace? How do you think this impacts our conversations and relationships with others?
4. From your understanding of the Bible, what would you say are the main principles that guide Christians in their approach to sexuality and sin? How do these principles shape our behaviors and attitudes?
5. How can we create a safe space within the Christian community for individuals struggling with sexual sin? How does God's grace and forgiveness play a role in this?
6. As Christians, how can we engage in constructive conversations about sexuality and sin with those who may not share our beliefs? What does it look like to speak truth with love on this topic?
7. Reflecting on the topic of sexuality and sin, what are some common misconceptions or stereotypes that Christians may encounter about our beliefs? How can we respond to these in a Christ-like manner?

Family Questions:

1. *Why does God want us to live a certain way? Why is it important to follow God's ways?*
2. *Not everyone we meet is a Jesus follower and lives according to His ways. How can we respect other people and also stand up for what we believe is right?*
3. *What are some ways we can get help when we are confused about God's way of life for us? Who can we talk to? Where can we learn more?*



January 21: Escape & Destroy, **Genesis 19:15-29**

1. How do we understand the concepts of God's mercy and justice in Genesis 19:15-29? How was He just? How was He merciful?
2. What does this story teach us about the consequences of sin and the importance of repentance?
3. In what ways do you think society tends to emphasize one aspect of God's nature over the other (mercy vs. justice)? How can we find a balance in our understanding and application of both?
4. How does God's mercy and justice intertwine in our own lives? Can you share a personal experience where you have seen both aspects at work?
5. How does the concept of God's mercy and justice impact our perception and response to the injustices we witness in the world today?
6. Reflecting on God's mercy and justice, how does it influence our relationship with others? How can it guide our actions and interactions with those around us?

Family Questions:

1. *What does it mean to show mercy? What does it look like?*
2. *Can you think of a time someone showed you mercy? How did it make you feel?*
3. *What does justice mean? What does "fair" look like?*
4. *In Genesis 19, how did God show mercy to Lot and his family?*
5. *But how did God also show justice to Sodom and Gomorrah? Why do you think He did both?*
6. *Do you think God was being fair in how He treated Lot differently than Sodom? Why/why not?*



January 28: Lie & Deceive, **Genesis 19:30-20:1-18**

1. In Genesis 20:1-18, we see Abraham deceiving Abimelech about Sarah, his wife. What do you think motivated Abraham to lie in this situation? Can you relate to any of his motivations?
2. How does deception affect relationships, both with God and with others? Can you think of any personal examples where deception has harmed a relationship?
3. When faced with moments of temptation to deceive or repeat sinful behavior, what are some practical steps we can take to resist those temptations?
4. From a Christian perspective, what are the potential consequences of repeating sins despite knowing the truth? How does sin affect our spiritual growth?
5. Considering the story of Abraham and Abimelech, what does God's response teach us about His character and His expectations for His followers when it comes to honesty and integrity?
6. How can we cultivate a spirit of transparency and vulnerability with ourselves and others we trust, in our small group or Christian community, where we can confess our struggles and receive support?

Family Questions:

1. *In Genesis 20, Abraham lies about his wife Sarah. Why do you think he lied? Have you ever felt like lying to stay out of trouble?*
2. *How can lying hurt relationships with God and others? Share about a time when your lying caused issues.*
3. *What happens when we keep sinning even though we know it's wrong? How does repeating sin affect your closeness with God?*
4. *How can you be more open about struggles with trusted family members and friends who can help you? What would make it easier to ask for help next time?*



February 4: Kindness & Peace, **Genesis 21:22-34**

1. How does the story in Genesis 21:22-34 demonstrate the importance of integrity and accountability in our interactions with others as followers of Jesus?
2. Reflecting on the current cultural climate in the USA, what are some challenges or pressures Christians face in living out their faith authentically? How can we navigate these challenges while remaining true to our beliefs?
3. In what ways do you think the values promoted by the society around us may conflict with the teachings of Jesus? Can you provide some specific examples?
4. How can we effectively engage with individuals who may hold different beliefs or perspectives without compromising our own convictions? Share any personal experiences or strategies that have been helpful in this regard.
5. What does the Bible teach about obeying those in authority over us in our nation?
6. Jesus said that His kingdom “is not of this world.” How does this inform our patriotism or relationship to the physical country in which we live?
7. In what ways can we be more intentional about living out the values of the Kingdom of God in our daily lives, even in the midst of a culture that may prioritize different values?
8. How do we strike a balance between being fully engaged in the world around us, including politics and social issues, while maintaining a distinct Christian identity and witness? How can we seek God’s guidance in navigating this tension?

Family Questions:

1. *What makes it tricky sometimes for you to show you’re a Christian?*
2. *How are some values in our culture different than what Jesus taught? Give examples.*
3. *What does the Bible say about obeying leaders?*
4. *Jesus said His kingdom is not earthly. How should this change how we love our country?*
5. *What’s one way you can better show Jesus’ values in your daily life?*



February 11: Heir & Son, **Genesis 21:1-21**

1. How is God's faithfulness demonstrated in Genesis 21:1-21, specifically in relation to His promise to Abraham and Sarah?
2. In what ways do the characters in this story exhibit doubts or impatience regarding God's promise?
3. Discuss a time in your life when you felt unsure about God's promises. How did you handle those doubts, and what did you learn from that experience?
4. Reflect on a specific promise from God in Scripture that resonates with you personally. How has that promise influenced your faith journey?
5. Even though God's plan was to bless the world through Isaac, Sarah's son, God still made and kept a promise to bless Ishmael, Hagar's son. Why do you think He did that? What does this reveal about God's character?
6. How might God's faithfulness in keeping His promises inspire us to be faithful to our commitments and promises to others?

Family Questions:

1. *God blessed both Isaac and Ishmael. Why do you think He blessed both sons? What does this show about God?*
2. *What are some of God's promises to us in the Bible? What promise gives you hope? How has it helped your faith grow?*
3. *Tell about a time you struggled to trust one of God's promises. What did you do and what did you learn?*
4. *When God keeps His promises, how should that make us want to keep our promises to others?*



February 14 (Ash Wednesday): Lamb & Ram, Genesis 22:1-19

1. How would you define “testing” in the context of our relationship with God? How does it differ from temptation or trials in our lives?
2. Reflecting on Genesis 22:1-19, what aspects of Abraham’s faith were tested by God’s command to sacrifice Isaac? How does this story challenge our understanding of God’s character?
3. In what ways have you personally experienced God’s testing in your life? How did it impact your faith and relationship with Him?
4. Is it possible for God to test us beyond our capacity? Why or why not?
5. How does the story of the binding of Isaac highlight the importance of obedience and trust in our relationship with God?
6. How do you distinguish between a test from God and the consequences of our own choices? How can we discern God’s purpose in both situations?
7. Why do you think God tests our faith? What are some potential lessons or outcomes He may want to achieve through these tests?
8. Reflecting on Abraham’s unwavering obedience, what practical steps can we take to improve our response to God’s tests in our lives? How can we grow in our faith and reliance on Him during these challenging times?

Family Questions:

1. *What does it mean when God “tests” us? How is that different from temptations or hard times?*
2. *In Genesis 22, what parts of Abraham’s faith did God test when He asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac? What does this make you wonder about God?*
3. *Why do you think God tests our faith sometimes? What good things can come from that?*
4. *What’s one way you can get better at trusting God when your faith is tested? Who can help you?*



February 18: Mourning & Weeping, **Genesis 22:20-22; Genesis 23:1-20**

1. In Genesis 23:1-20, why do you think Abraham goes through such a detailed process in purchasing a burial site for Sarah? What does this reveal about the importance of mourning and honoring the departed?
2. How does the concept of death in the Bible differ from secular views? What does the Bible teach about life after death?
3. In times of mourning, how can we find comfort in knowing that death is not the end but a transition into eternal life?
4. How does the reality of death shape our perspective on life? How can a biblical understanding of death impact our priorities and values?
5. How does the Christian belief in the resurrection influence our response to death and mourning?
6. Considering the pain and grief often associated with death, what are some ways we can support and comfort those who have lost loved ones?
7. How can we find hope and healing in times of grief? What biblical principles or practices can help us navigate the mourning process?
8. In what ways does our own mortality impact the way we live our lives? What changes or adjustments can we make to ensure we are making the most of the time we have?
9. Reflecting on Genesis 23, what practical steps can we take to ensure that we honor and remember those who have passed away in our own lives?

Family Questions:

1. *In Genesis 23, Abraham carefully buys land to bury Sarah. Why such detail? What does this show about honoring those who die?*
2. *How is the Bible's view of death different from the world's view? What does the Bible say about life after death?*
3. *What helps you feel hope when you are sad about someone dying?*
4. *What's one way you can honor and remember people in your life who have died?*



February 25: Mission & Maiden, **Genesis 24:1-49**

1. How does the story of Isaac and Rebekah in Genesis 24:1-49 reflect God's guidance and involvement in the realm of relationships and singleness?
2. In today's culture, singleness is often viewed negatively or seen as a temporary phase. How can we, as Christians, challenge this perspective and cultivate a healthier understanding of singleness?
3. What are some potential benefits of being single in terms of personal growth, spiritual development, and service to God's kingdom? How can we fully embrace & utilize these benefits as single individuals?
4. According to 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, singleness allows for undivided devotion to the Lord. How can we practically prioritize our relationship with God as single individuals and ensure that our singleness doesn't become a hindrance to our spiritual growth?
5. What are some common challenges or struggles faced by single individuals in relation to relationships, intimacy, and companionship? How can we support and encourage one another in navigating these challenges in a Christ-centered manner?
6. In a culture that often idolizes romantic relationships, how can we maintain a healthy balance between desiring companionship and contentment in our singleness?
7. How does our understanding of God's sovereignty and His perfect timing influence our perspective on singleness and relationships? How can we trust God's plan while patiently waiting for His timing?
8. What steps can we take to cultivate an environment within our churches where individuals of all relationship statuses feel valued, supported, and embraced as part of the body of Christ?

Family Questions:

(This week's questions are directed more toward teens. Parents of younger children are encouraged to have a discussion centered on friendships and the value of being with friends and being alone at times)

1. In Genesis 24, how did God guide Isaac and Rebekah in their relationship? How is God involved in relationships?
2. 1 Corinthians 7 says being single lets you devote more to God. What's one way you can grow closer to God right now more matter what your relationship status is?
3. What struggles do single people face that those in relationships may not understand? How can we support each other?
4. How can you balance wanting a relationship someday with being happy on your own today?
5. How does knowing God's timing is perfect help you trust His plan for relationships or singleness?



March 3: Marriage & Love, **Genesis 24:50-67**

1. How does Genesis 24:50-67 demonstrate the importance of strong marriages in God's plan for humanity?
2. In what ways can a strong marriage positively impact the individuals involved, their families, and even their communities?
3. Discuss some practical ways in which couples can prioritize and nurture their relationship amidst the busyness and challenges of life.
5. In what ways can a strong spiritual foundation enhance the strength and longevity of a marriage? How can couples cultivate this spiritual connection together?
6. How does effective communication play a crucial role in building and maintaining a strong marriage? Share some tips to improve communication within a marriage.
7. Discuss the importance of forgiveness and grace in a strong marriage. How can couples foster an environment of forgiveness and extend grace to one another?

Family Questions:

1. *Why is it important for parents to have a healthy, loving relationship with each other? How does this make a family better?*
2. *When your mom and dad spend time together do you feel left out? How does it help to remember that it's important for the whole family for your mom and dad to have a healthy relationship with each other?*
3. *How can children help make a family strong and healthy?*
3. *Maybe your parents are not together, or perhaps you have only a mom or a dad, or you live with other family members. No matter who is in your family, what are some ways YOU can help make your family strong and healthy?*



March 10: Older & Younger, **Genesis 25:1-28**

1. How does the story of Abraham and Sarah's struggles with infertility, sibling rivalry, and favoritism in Genesis 25:1-28 help us understand the frustrations and emotions faced by family experiencing these issues today?
2. In the face of infertility, how do we maintain and strengthen our faith in God's plan and timing?
3. How can we support and care for couples experiencing infertility within our Christian community? What practical steps can we take to offer love and encouragement?
4. What can parents do if they have an issue with favoritism? How do parents love all their children deeply whether they are similar to them or not?
5. Sibling rivalry can go too far and even tear a family apart. What can a family do to engage with this issue and work through sibling rivalry?
6. What are the best ways to support a family going through infertility, rivalry or favoritism?

Family Questions:

1. *Abraham had a large family toward the end of his life and they didn't always get along. Why is it sometimes hard for family members to get along with each other?*
2. *How can we show love for family members who annoy us or do things we don't like?*
3. *Can you think of ways you can help your family stay focused on God's best plan for families? What can you do to help or show love to your family every day?*



March 17: Birthright & Stew, Genesis 25:29-34

1. In this passage, Esau sells his birthright to Jacob in exchange for a bowl of lentil stew. What do you think motivated Esau to make such a decision? Can you relate to any instances when you prioritized immediate gratification over long-term benefits?
2. Why do you think Jacob was so eager to obtain his brother's birthright? What does this reveal about his character and ambitions?
3. How do you think their parents' favoritism towards different sons contributed to the tension between Jacob and Esau? Can favoritism within families lead to similar conflicts today?
4. Reflecting on Esau's impulsive decision, what are some potential consequences of prioritizing immediate desires over making wise choices? How can we learn from Esau's mistakes in our own lives?
5. In Genesis 25:34, Esau "despised" his birthright. What does this suggest about his attitude towards his heritage and spiritual blessings? How can we ensure that we don't undervalue or take for granted our own spiritual inheritance?
6. In what ways do you see God's providence working in this passage? How does the story of Jacob and Esau remind us that God can work through flawed individuals to accomplish His purposes?
7. Consider the theme of reconciliation in this story. How might Jacob and Esau have experienced healing and forgiveness in their relationship? In what ways can this story inspire us to pursue reconciliation and restoration in our own relationships?

Family Questions:

1. *Why do you think Esau traded his birthright for food? Have you ever chosen something fun over something important for later?*
2. *What bad things could happen from only caring about what you want right now versus thinking ahead? What can we learn from Esau?*
3. *Even though people aren't perfect, God can still work in their lives. How can God use anyone to accomplish His purposes? What could God use you to accomplish?*
4. *Do you think Jacob and Esau will ever forgive each other? (try looking ahead in Genesis to find out!)*