

The image features a blue geometric background composed of various overlapping shapes, including triangles and diamonds, creating a complex, crystalline pattern. In the center of the image is a white circle with a double-line border. Inside this circle, the text "GOD'S family" is written in a white serif font. "GOD'S" is in all caps and a bold, slightly condensed serif typeface, while "family" is in a lowercase, elegant script font.

GOD'S *family*

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR JOURNAL

SCHEDULE IT.

The reality is, our lives are busy and distractions abound. One way to prioritize time in God's Word is by putting it in your schedule and designating a space. Whether it's your kitchen table or your favorite spot on the couch, make sure it's distraction-free.

PRAY BEFORE YOU READ.

Pray before you open up your Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal his truth to you in a way that will lead to heart transformation and obedient response. (Ps. 119:18, Eph. 1:17)

USE A STUDY BIBLE.

A good study Bible is a helpful tool, but don't jump to reading the notes too quickly. First, practice the S.O.A.P. method that's outlined on the next page. After you've spent time making observations, applying what you've learned, and praying, you can look to your study Bible for greater understanding and clarity.

**We recommend the ESV Study Bible.

DON'T DO IT ALONE.

Proverbs 27:17 says, "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

There's something about sharing with someone else what God is speaking to you that will keep you accountable to what he's calling you to do! Find a friend to do this with you, or do it together with your Life Group.

HOW TO USE THE S.O.A.P. METHOD

SCRIPTURE

Pray and then open up your Bible to your reading for the day. Read the passage carefully and thoughtfully.

OBSERVATION

Make observations about what you read. What did this passage reveal to you about God? What did it show you about his plan of salvation? What did it teach you about yourself? Is there anything you feel that God is speaking to you in light of what his Word revealed?

APPLICATION

Apply God's Word to your life right now. Did the passage you read reveal an attitude to change, a sin to forsake, a promise to claim, or a command to obey? How will you act upon what you learned?

PRAYER

Respond to what God has revealed to you in prayer. This may look like repenting of a wrong attitude or sin, praying for strength to obey God's Word, or asking for greater faith to trust his promises. Write down your prayer, and then listen for and record God's response.





WEEK ONE

Life Group Notes

WEEK 1

Recall a time when you felt a deep sense of belonging in a community. What elements made that experience meaningful?

Can you think of a situation where unity within diversity was evident and beneficial?

How do your family and friendships either mirror or differ from the concept of unity within diversity.

GENESIS 1:1-3, 26-28

In the beginning, as recounted in Genesis 1:1-3, we witness the foundational act of creation, a profound demonstration of the Trinity at work. The Father, through His command, brings the universe into existence. The Spirit hovers, nurturing and sustaining creation. Then, there is the Word – through whom all things were made. This passage is not just about the power of creation; it is a revelation of the relational nature of God.

This concept of God as a community within Himself – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – offers a glimpse into the perfect unity and harmony that exists within the Godhead. It's a divine dance of distinct persons sharing one essence, one purpose, one love.

In the Gospel of John, particularly in chapters 11 and 17, this relational aspect of the Trinity is further illuminated. John 11 shows Jesus, in His divinity, exerting power over life and death, yet deeply connected in love and empathy with humanity. In John 17:20-23, Jesus prays for His followers, not for uniformity but for a unity that reflects

the Trinitarian relationship – a unity founded in love and mutual indwelling.

Through these passages, the Scripture invites us to understand that being made in God’s image means we are created for relationship – with God and with each other. Our families, friendships, and church communities are reflections of this divine reality, calling us to live in love and unity, mirroring the relational nature of our Triune God.

APPLICATION

- *How can your family and friendships more closely reflect the unity and diversity found in the Trinity?*
-
- *How does understanding God as a relational community equip us to maintain strong relationships during life’s challenges, like contentious elections or economic instability?*

PRAYER

- *Pray that our relationships within families, friendships, and the church embody the unity and love found in the Trinity.*
-
- *Seek God’s strength and wisdom to sustain and grow our relationships, even in the midst of life’s storms.*

Ask for a richer understanding of the nature of the Trinity and how it shapes our view of community and relationships.

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 1:1-13
day 1	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 1:14-31
day 2	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 2:1-3
day 3	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 2:4-25
day 4	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>friday</i>	GENESIS 3:1-7
day 5	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>saturday</i>	GENESIS 3:8-24
day 6	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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WEEK TWO

<i>sunday</i>	GENESIS 4:1-16
day 7	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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Sunday Sermon Notes

MAIN POINTS:

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KEY TAKEAWAYS:

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Life Group Notes

WEEK 2

How do you define 'family'? Does your definition extend beyond biological relatives to include friends?

Have you ever experienced a situation where you felt 'it is not good to be alone'? How did you overcome that feeling?

What role does your faith community play in your understanding and experience of family?

READ GENESIS 2:18-25

In Genesis 2:18-25, we encounter God's profound insight into human need for companionship. Recognizing Adam's solitude in the midst of creation's abundance, God declares, "It is not good for the man to be alone."

This moment transcends the mere act of creating a partner for Adam; it signifies the inception of community among humanity, highlighting the essential nature of relationships in God's design for us as humans. Through the creation of Eve, God establishes a model for companionship not only as connection with one another, but also God's way of supplying help in the fulfillment of your calling.

You cannot do everything you're called to do without other people!

This passage, while foundational for understanding marriage, also offers broader implications for all forms of relationship. It teaches us about God's intent for human interactions to be life-giving and reflective of His own

relational nature. The narrative closes with the man and his wife being naked and feeling no shame, symbolizing the ideal state of vulnerability and trust in relationships.

Genesis 2:18-25 goes beyond the origins of marriage but speaks to the heart of human relationality. It invites us to view our friendships and family ties as divine provisions meant to echo the companionship, support, and unity found in this earliest biblical community. As we navigate our lives, this passage encourages us to cherish and nurture the relationships God gifts us, recognizing them as fundamental to fulfilling our purpose and reflecting God's image within us.

APPLICATION

- *What steps can you take to foster deeper connections with your friends and family members?*
-
- *Reflect on a time when you believe God introduced someone into your life for a specific purpose. What was the situation, and how did that relationship impact you?*
-
- *How can you be more inclusive in your definition and practice of 'family' within your community?*

PRAYER

- *Pray that God continues to bring people into our lives who can support and uplift us, reflecting His love and care.*
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- *Pray for a heart that mirrors God's inclusivity, embracing others as family, regardless of biological ties.*

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 4:17-26
day 8	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 5
day 9	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 6:1-8
day 10	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 6:9-22
day 11	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>friday</i>	GENESIS 7:1-10
day 12	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>saturday</i>	GENESIS 7:11-24
day 13	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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WEEK THREE

<i>sunday</i>	GENESIS 8:1-12
day 14	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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Life Group Notes

WEEK 3

What's one of your happiest memories with your family or friends that still makes you smile?

When there's a misunderstanding or conflict, what is usually your first reaction or response?

READ GENESIS 3:6-7 & ROMANS 3:28, 6:23

Genesis 3 unveils the initiation of dysfunction within God's creation, highlighting the entry of sin through Adam and Eve's disobedience. This narrative sets the stage for understanding the universal nature of sin, as echoed in Romans.

These passages collectively shed light on the profound truth that all humanity is ensnared by sin, leading to inevitable relational dysfunctions not only with God, but also with each other (God's family).

However, these scriptures do not leave us in despair; instead, they point us towards the hope and reconciliation found in Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:23 contrasts the grim reality of sin's consequence with the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, emphasizing His role as the great reconciler. In **Genesis 3**, amidst the declaration of consequences, there's a promise of redemption—a foreshadowing of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

This divine story from the fall to redemption illustrates that while our sin creates barriers and dysfunction within God's family, Jesus intervenes as the bridge, restoring our relationship with God and facilitating reconciliation among us. Through Christ, we find the grace to navigate our imperfections, learning to honor one another despite our fallen nature, and embracing the continuous journey towards reconciliation in our relationships.

APPLICATION

- *How can the understanding of Jesus as our reconciler influence the way you deal with personal and relational sin?*
-
- *Practicing Reconciliation: What are practical steps you can take to foster reconciliation in a relationship that has been affected by sin or conflict?*

PRAYER

- *Pray for God's healing over areas of sin and dysfunction within our families and friendships, asking for the grace to seek and offer forgiveness.*
-
- *Ask for the wisdom and strength to be agents of reconciliation, following the example of Jesus, in our relationships.*
-
- *Give thanks for Jesus Christ, our reconciler, who bridges the gap sin has created between us and God, and between one another.*

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 8:13-19
day 15	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 8:20-9:7
day 16	Main takeaway _____

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 9:8-17
day 17	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 9:18-29
day 18	Main takeaway _____

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>friday</i>	GENESIS 10
day 19	Main takeaway _____

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>saturday</i>	GENESIS 11:1-9
day 20	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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*WEEK
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<i>sunday</i>	GENESIS 11:10-11:32
day 21	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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Life Group Notes

WEEK 4

Can you recall a moment when your family or friends came through for you in an unexpected way?

What's a story from your family's past that inspires you? How does it reflect God's provision or deliverance?

READ GENESIS 9:8-17 & 1 PETER 2:9-12

Genesis 9:8-17 reveals God's covenant with Noah after the flood, marking a profound commitment to never again destroy the earth by water. This covenant, symbolized by the rainbow, serves not just as a promise to Noah but as a timeless assurance of God's patience and sustaining grace towards all creation. It reflects God's desire to deliver and sustain His family, irrespective of the depth of human disobedience.

1 Peter 2:9-12 echoes this theme by reminding us of our identity and purpose as a chosen people, called out of darkness into His marvelous light. This passage encourages us to live lives that reflect God's deliverance and sustaining grace, bearing witness to His mercy in our conduct among others.

Together, these scriptures invite us to reflect on the nature of God as a deliverer and sustainer. Despite the dysfunction that sin introduces into the world and our relationships, God's commitment to His creation remains unshaken.

Through His covenants and the ultimate reconciliation made possible through Jesus Christ, we are given a model of hope, resilience, and deliverance that transcends our earthly circumstances, affirming that no matter our family situation, God is with us, sustaining and delivering us throughout our lives.

APPLICATION

- *How have you seen God's sustaining hand in your own life or family history?*
-
- *Living as God's People: How can we live out our identity as a "chosen people and royal priesthood" in our daily lives and interactions?*

PRAYER

- *Give thanks for God's history of deliverance in your life and the lives of those around you.*
-
- *Pray for the awareness to recognize God's sustaining presence in challenging times.*
-
- *Ask for the strength to live faithfully as God's chosen people, showcasing His mercy and deliverance to the world.*

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 12:1-9
day 22	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 12:10-20
day 23	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 13:1-13
day 24	Main takeaway _____

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 13:14-18
day 25	Main takeaway _____

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A – APPLICATION

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<i>friday</i>	GENESIS 14:1-16
day 26	Main takeaway _____

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<i>saturday</i>	GENESIS 14:17-24
day 27	Main takeaway _____

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WEEK FIVE

<i>sunday</i>	GENESIS 15:1-11
day 28	Main takeaway _____

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Sunday Sermon Notes

MAIN POINTS:

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KEY TAKEAWAYS:

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Life Group Notes

WEEK 5

Have you ever felt like you were part of a spiritual family? Share what made that experience significant.

How have relationships within your spiritual family impacted your faith journey?

Understanding of Spiritual Kinship: How does your concept of spiritual family complement or differ from your biological family?

READ GENESIS 12:1-3 & JAMES 2:25

Genesis 12 introduces God's covenant with Abraham, a pivotal moment that lays the foundation for the concept of spiritual family in the Bible. This covenant promises Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars, referencing not only his literal descendants, but foreshadowing a community bound not by blood but by faith. It's a promise that extends to all believers, symbolizing our inclusion into a vast, diverse spiritual family.

James 2:25, referencing Rahab's story, further highlights this theme. Rahab, though not an Israelite, becomes part of God's people through her faith, illustrating that

God's family transcends ethnic and cultural boundaries. This inclusion is based on faith and obedience, aligns Rahab with the faith of Abraham to the extent that she even finds herself in the lineage of Christ.

These narratives collectively teach us that God's family welcomes anyone who chooses to enter it by faith. This

spiritual community offers support, accountability, and belonging, underscoring the idea that our identity in God's family is a profound aspect of our faith journey.

Through Abraham's and Rahab's examples, we see the fulfillment of God's promise to create a spiritual family that blesses all nations, reminding us of our call to live as part of this divine community, embodying the faith that defines us as God's children.

APPLICATION

- *How can we foster a more inclusive and welcoming environment within our spiritual community?*
-
- *Living Out the Promise: In what ways can you contribute to fulfilling God's promise of blessing through Abraham in your spiritual family today?*

PRAYER

- *Pray for the growth and deepening of bonds within our spiritual family, that we may truly reflect the family of God to the world around us.*
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- *Seek guidance from God on how you can play a part in extending the spiritual family, living out the faith that connects us all as Abraham's descendants.*

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 15:12-21
day 29	Main takeaway _____

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 16:1-6
day 30	Main takeaway _____

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 16:7-16
day 31	Main takeaway _____

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 17:1-14
day 32	Main takeaway _____

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<i>friday</i>	GENESIS 17:15-27
day 33	Main takeaway _____

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<i>saturday</i>	GENESIS 18:1-21
day 34	Main takeaway _____

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WEEK SIX

<i>sunday</i>	GENESIS 18:22-33
day 35	Main takeaway _____

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Sunday Sermon Notes

MAIN POINTS:

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NOTES:

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KEY TAKEAWAYS:

A grid of 5 rows and 20 columns of small dots for taking notes.

Life Group Notes

WEEK 6

What is one culture outside your own you admire or find fascinating and why?

Have you ever had an experience that made you feel connected to someone from a different country? Share about that experience.

Reflection on Matthew 28:19: What does the Great Commission (specifically the words "all nations") mean to you personally?

READ GENESIS 15:5-6, MATT 28:19 & ACTS 13:1-3

In Genesis 15:5-6, God reminds Abraham of his promise to give him descendants as numerous as the stars. Whether or not Abraham knew it or not, this moment signifies the start of a divine mission to establish a family of nations rooted in faith.

This promise encapsulates God's vision for a spiritual family that extends beyond geographical and cultural boundaries, embodying a faith that would unite diverse peoples under the banner of God's love and purpose.

Matthew 28:19 and Acts 13:1-3 build upon this foundational promise, illustrating the early church's commitment to extending God's family to all nations.

The Great Commission commands us to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Acts 13:1-3 shows the church in Antioch being directed by the Holy Spirit to send out Barnabas and Saul (Paul) as missionaries, marking the church's proactive engagement in God's global mission.

These passages collectively emphasize that God's heart for the nations has always been a central theme of His plan for humanity.

As heirs to Abraham's faith and as followers of Christ, we are invited to participate in this divine mission, reaching out to the world with the message of God's love and invitation into His spiritual family. This global perspective challenges us to look beyond our immediate contexts and consider our role in God's broader narrative of redemption and family-building across the earth.

APPLICATION

- *In what ways can you personally engage in God's mission to invite the nations into His spiritual family?*
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- *How can your life group be more involved in global missions or support those called to go*

PRAYER

- *Pray for the nations of the world, that hearts would be open to the message of Christ and the expansion of God's spiritual family.*
-
- *Lift up missionaries and those involved in cross-cultural ministry, asking for protection, wisdom, and fruitful engagement.*
-
- *Seek God's guidance and courage to play your part in fulfilling the Great Commission, locally and globally.*

<i>monday</i>	GENESIS 19:1-22
day 36	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>tuesday</i>	GENESIS 19:23-38
day 37	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 20
day 38	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 21:1-7
day 39	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>wednesday</i>	GENESIS 21:8-34
day 40	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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<i>thursday</i>	GENESIS 22:1-19
day 41	Main takeaway _____

S – SCRIPTURE

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O – OBSERVATIONS

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A – APPLICATION

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P – PRAYER

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Thank you for journeying through this devotional, exploring the depths of God's plan for His family across generations and nations.

As we step forward, let us expand the family of God with grace, courage, and love.

Go in the assurance of His promises and the power of His Spirit, to share the hope of Christ.

Amen.