**Survey of Old Testament**

**Ishmael and Isaac Descendants Genesis 25**

1. Ishmael’s descendants are listed after Abraham’s death. They lived in open hostility toward all their relatives. V18 We know this is still true today.
2. After Isaac and Rebekah were married, they were unable to have children so Isaac pleaded with the Lord on behalf of his wife. Isaac and Rebekah waited 20 years for the Lord to answer their prayer. Rebekah became pregnant with twins.  During this time Isaac did not approach Rebekah’s handmaid, as Abraham had done, and Jacob afterwards would do; for he loved Rebekah. Isaac never took another wife.
3. The Lord revealed to her that two nations were in her womb and the younger would rule the elder. The twins were born with the second child grasping the heel of the first. So they named him Jacob meaning deceiver  and the firstborn was named Esau meaning hair.
4. Esau became a skillful hunter and Jacob was a homebody. Isaac loved Esau and Rebekah loved Jacob. Favoritism is never good.
5. Esau acts very foolish and sold his birthright as the firstborn to Jacob.

**The Lord appeared to Isaac Genesis 26**

1. A severe famine struck the land, as in Abraham’s time. The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, “Do not go down to Egypt, but do as I tell you. “The Lord reaffirmed the covenant with Isaac that he made with Abraham. Isaac, like his father, lied about Rebekah calling her his sister.
2. Abimelech says of Isaac the same thing he said of Abraham, “we can plainly see that the Lord is with you. Let’s make a covenant.”
3. The Lord appeared to Isaac a second time saying, “Do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you.” I will multiply your descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will do this because of my promise to Abraham, my servant.”
4. At the age of forty, Esau married two Hittite wives.  Esau’s wives made life miserable for Isaac and Rebekah.

**The Journey of Jacob Genesis 27-30**

1. Jacob steals the blessing of Esau guided by Rebekah his mother.
2. We see deception throughout these chapters, so Jacob is sent to Rebekah’s family. God appears to Jacob and says, “I am the Lord, the God of your grandfather Abraham, and the God of your father, Isaac.” Jacob’s response, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn’t even aware of it!” V 28:16
3. Jacob’s vow, “If God will indeed **be with me** and protect me on this journey, and **if he will provide me** with food and clothing, and **if I return safely** to my father’s home, then the Lord will certainly **be my God**. And this memorial pillar I have set up will become a place for worshiping God, and I will present to God a **tenth** of everything he gives me.” V28:20–22

1. Jacob was so in love with Rachel that he was willing to work seven years to earn her hand in marriage (29:18). Laban deceived Jacob and gave him Leah instead. Jacob then works another seven years for Rachel. It was not long until Jacob and Rachel were bickering (30:1–2); until he was given his handmaids (30:3–13); and until Rachel and Leah were at each other’s throats.  (30:14–24). Jacob’s family was one giant mess!
2. Rachel conceives, and bears Joseph, ﻿(30:22–24﻿).  Jacob requests permission from Laban to go to his own country, ﻿(30:25﻿-26﻿).  Laban confesses to Jacob, God has blessed me because of you. Laban offers to give him what wages he shall choose to name, ﻿(30:27﻿-28﻿).  Jacob offers to continue those services for the speckled and spotted among the goats, and the brown among the sheep. (30:31–33﻿).

**Jacob’s Journey Home Genesis 31-34**

1. The Lord tells Jacob to return home. Sin has caused a mess in Jacob’s family and between Laban’s family.
2. Laban confesses I could destroy you but the God of your fathers said, “(31:29) “Leave Jacob alone”. Here we see God’s protection of Jacob. Jacob tells Laban, (31:42) “In fact, if the God of my father had not been on my side, you would have sent me away empty-handed. But God has seen your abuse and my hard work. That is why he appeared to you last night and rebuked you!”
3. The angels of the Lord meet Jacob confirming to Jacob, God is with him. (32:1-2)
4. Jacob speaks to God confessing God’s unfailing love and his unworthiness. (32:10)
5. Jacob wrestles with God and comes away changed. (32:22-32)
6. God’s hand is in Jacob and Esau making peace. (33:1-19)
7. Chapter 34 is a reminder that encounters with God happen individually. Jacob was changed in chapters 32–33. But his sons remained the same. They were deceitful (34:8–24), murderous (34:25–26), greedy (34:27–29), and arrogant (34:31). And, despite his new heart and his distress over their behavior (34:30), Jacob could not change his boys.

**Jacob Return to Bethel Genesis 35**

1. In this chapter we have three communions between God and Jacob and three funerals. God ordered Jacob to Bethel and, in obedience to that order, he purged his house of idols. God caused the people to fear, so no one attack Jacob (1–5). Jacob built an altar at Bethel, to the honour of God that had appeared to him (6-7). God appeared to him again, and confirmed the change of his name and the covenant with him (9–13) Three funerals, Deborah’s (8), Rachel’s (16–20) and Isaac’s (27–29). Here is also Rueben’s incest (22), and an account of Jacob’s sons (23–26).

**Esau Descendants Listed Genesis 36**

1. We have here the genealogy of Esau in his sons and grandsons. Also the blessings of God on Esau and Jacob as the land could not hold both of their families.

**The Journey of Joseph Genesis 37-41**

1. The account of Joseph begins when he is seventeen . Jacob shows favoritism to Joseph which caused his brothers to hate him. (37:2-4)
2. Joseph’s dream from the Lord reveals that he will rule over his family. This would bring the brothers to sell Joseph into slavery and lie about his death. (37:18-36)
3. Judah and Tamar sin as we see the bloodline of Christ continues. (38)
4. Joseph is sold into Potiphar’s house and the Lord is with him. Potiphar sees this so he puts Joseph over all his house. (39:1-4)
5. Potiphar’s wife lies about Joseph and he is placed in prison. (39:7-16)
6. The Lord was with Joseph and showed him faithful love. The Lord also gave Joseph favor in the eyes of the warden so he placed Joseph over everything. (39:19-23).
7. Joseph interprets the dreams of Pharaoh’s cupbearer and baker. Joseph asks the cupbearer to remember him but he forgot Joseph (40).
8. Two years after the cupbearer forgot Joseph, Pharaoh has two dreams and no one could interpret them. The cupbearer remembered Joseph and he is brought before Pharaoh (41:1-15).
9. Joseph confesses it is God who interprets dreams not him. (41:16) Joseph, by the hand of God interprets the dreams and is set over all of Egypt. No one is more powerful than Joseph except Pharaoh. (41:25-46)
10. The next fourteen years everything happens that God revealed through Joseph. (41:47-57)