

THE STORY

THE BIBLE AS ONE CONTINUING STORY OF GOD AND HIS PEOPLE

CHAPTER 2 – GOD BUILDS A NATION

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL QUESTIONS

- ❶ What is God saying? (This is a good time to ask any questions that you had while you were reading)
- ❷ For what does this section lead me to give thanks? (See God’s grace and promises!)
- ❸ What sins does this section lead me to confess? (See God’s expectations for his people)
- ❹ For what does this section lead me to pray? (As you ponder the Word, what needs of heart and life for yourself and others come to mind? Consider every word you read as an invitation to turn it into a prayer you speak back to your Lord!)

DIGGING IN

- 1) We might define “faith” as trust in God’s promises. What promises had God made to Abraham and how did Abraham demonstrate his faith? Give examples of the promises that God has made to us and explain how we then demonstrate our faith.

- 2) God tested Abraham’s faith when he told him to sacrifice his son Isaac. How did God bless Abraham through this test? What tests of faith have you experienced or heard of others experiencing? How does God use tests of faith for our benefit?

- 3) God used flawed people like Abraham, Sarah, and Jacob to accomplish his plan and purpose. Can you think of other flawed Biblical characters that we'll meet along the way? What does it teach us about God that he used flawed people to carry out his plan of salvation?

- 4) Abraham and Sarah waited 25 years for God to fulfill his promise of a child. God's timetable was obviously not their timetable. Why is it so hard for us to wait? What would you say to a Christian who has been praying about something but it seems like God is not answering?

FOR NEXT TIME

- 5) Chapter 3: Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh
Bible Reference: Genesis 37; 39; 41-48; 50

6) After God had created all things he said that it was very good. He created Adam and Eve in his image. All that God had made was in perfect harmony with him. Everything changed after sin entered the world. Compare the following relationships before and after sin's entrance:

- ✓ God and mankind
- ✓ Adam and Eve (human relationships)
- ✓ Mankind and the rest of creation

7) The Flood is a key event in the history of our world and in the history of God's plan of salvation. How is this account both a demonstration of God's mercy and his judgment?

FOR NEXT TIME

Chapter 2: God Builds a Nation

Bible Reference: Genesis 12-13; 15-17; 21-22; 32-33; 35; Romans 4; Hebrews 11