

Syllabus for 'Reading the Bible Together: Genesis 22'

Class 1: Genesis 22:1–2

- Setting a Slow Pace: Analyzing the deliberate rhythm and its narrative impact.
- The Morality Question: Ethical dilemmas in Abraham's test.
- Grammatical Reviews:
 - - Key Hebrew terms, including הִנְנִי ('Here I am') as a leading word.
 - - Exploring pronominal suffixes as direct objects.

Class 2: Genesis 22:3–4

- Dressing Verbs: Verbs reflecting preparation (e.g., saddling, splitting).
- Kamatz Qatan: Usage in weak roots after Vav consecutive.
- The Root א.כ.ל: Exploring its meanings: 'to eat,' 'to consume,' 'to destroy.'

Class 3: Genesis 22:5–6

- כה – meaning and etymology
- The root א.כ.ל – and its surprising usages
- The slow pace and its importance

Class 4: Genesis 22:7–8

- The Vocative in Family Dynamics: Phrases like אָבִי ('Father') in familial interactions.
- Isaac's Question and its function
- Naming Animals: Cultural significance of terms used for animals in the Biblical context.

Class 5: Genesis 22:9–11

- אֵל vs. לֹא: Differentiating the two prohibitive terms.
- The Word תַּחַת: Dual meanings—'under' and 'instead'—in the context of substitution.
- Binding of Isaac: The emotional depth of this moment.

Class 6: Genesis 22:12–14

- The Ram as Substitution: Exploring its symbolic significance.
- Naming the Place: on toponymic traditions in the Hebrew Bible.
- Covenantal Obedience: The test's implications for Abraham's relationship with God.

Class 7: Genesis 22:15–19

- Key Conjunctions:
 - - כי ('because'), יען, עקב, בי ('by myself').
 - - Structuring covenantal blessings.
- The Blessings to Abraham: covenantal insights.
- Infinitive Absolute: Emphasis on promises through this grammatical form.