

Dwelling Richly  
COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

A hand holding a globe with stars hanging from above. The background is a textured, light-colored fabric. The globe is painted with green continents and a blue ocean. The hand is painted in shades of brown and tan. Stars of various colors (yellow, orange, and purple) are hanging from the top of the image by thin black lines.

# GENESIS:

Lost & Found

Lesson Nine

Genesis 31:1-34:31





"Let the Word of Christ  
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

*Dwelling Richly*

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# Lesson Nine Day One

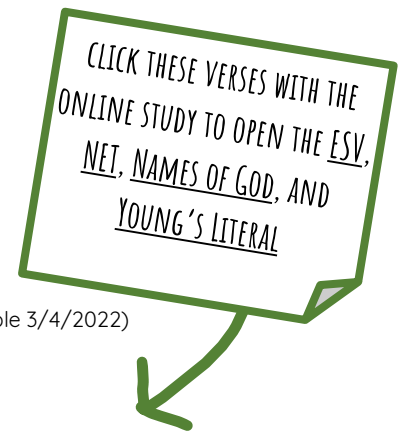
## - Introduction -

Here's an overview of the study for this lesson.

### ...Day by Day...

Write in the date you plan to complete each day.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>My Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Content</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>March 1 or 2</u>	Day 1...	<a href="#">Lesson 8 Review Message</a> (available 3/4/2022)
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 2...	<a href="#">Genesis 31:1-34:31 &amp; Proverbs 16</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 3...	<a href="#">Genesis 31:1-16</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 4...	<a href="#">Genesis 31:17-55</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 5...	<a href="#">Genesis 32:1-21</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 6...	<a href="#">Genesis 32:22-32</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 7...	<a href="#">Genesis 33:1-17</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 8...	<a href="#">Genesis 33:18-34:31</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 9...	<a href="#">Proverbs 16</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	Day 10...	Create & Share



### ...Memorize...

Select any verse or verses from Proverbs 16 to memorize

If you'd like a wallpaper for your verse, message me and I'll make one for you 😊



# Lesson Nine Day One



## ...Quiet Time...

- **Shift gears and prepare** for our Bible study group time ahead. Breathe. Pray. Reflect and Prepare quietly on your own and allow others to do the same
- **Shhhh...** Please refrain from talking to others during this time, instead - Quietly reflect on the questions here and prepare your heart for your Grace Group time.
- **New?** Didn't finish the previous study? We're glad you're here! Complete the following prompts, or read/skim Genesis chapters 24-30.

1. **Evoking Emotion.** What emotion comes to mind when you think about these people? Why is that feeling connecting by you to that person?

Abraham -

Eliezar -

Laban -

Rebekah -

Isaac -

Jacob -

Esau -

Leah -

Rachel -

2. **Q & R Time follows the teaching time.** If you have questions for Pastor Jennifer, you can make a note of those here:

3. **Get Ready.** Read the Grace Group questions on the next page and prepare to share.

# Lesson Nine Day One

## ...Grace Groups Guidelines...

- ☐ God's Word is our standard. We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the New English Translation (NET) Bible for this study.
- 🤝 We come from varying religious & political backgrounds. Remember: 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'
- 🚫 Avoid commentaries or study notes in your Bible - do your own thinking. Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.
- ❤️ We're all learning. Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
- 👉👍 This is a Bible study - not a personal-opinion group. So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers in keeping with the truth of God's Word.
- 🗣️ You don't have to share, but if you did the reading and the study this week, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share!
- 😊 Discussion questions are written with care to move you through the previous lesson and prepare you for the lesson to come. Please read and answer them all and do not skip over any.
- 👉 Didn't finish the study this week? That's ok. Life gets busy. **You're here! Yay you!** This will be a good week for you to listen and perhaps jot down thoughts as others share.
- ⌚ Be considerate of how much you're talking. Share your thoughts and allow time for others to do the same - limit yourself to about 2 minutes maximum. Your group leader will help with that.
- 🕒 Watch the time. Leaders will wrap up the discussion time allow for prayer and a bathroom break before teaching time.

## ...Grace Group Discussion...

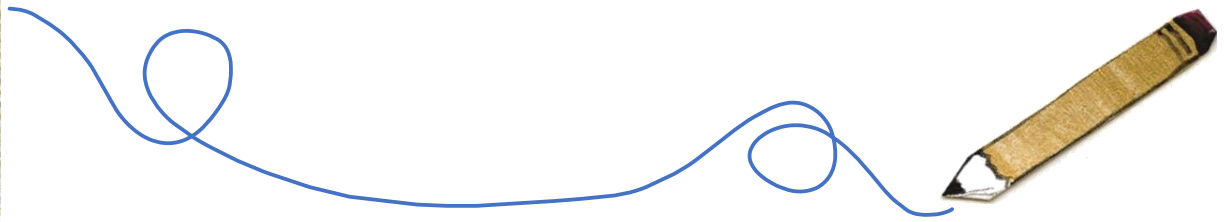
- **During Grace Group:** If you completed that day of the lesson, please share your response. If you didn't finish that day, please reserve your comments for another question, and take notes instead.
  1. **Share** a take-away from the Lesson 7/Genesis 19-23 review message (Notes page 184)
  2. **Read "My Heart to Yours"** (Lesson 8, pg 186) Share your response to one of the "Quiet Time" questions, pg 206
  3. **Day Three**, pg 187-188, #'s 2, 6, 12
  4. **Day Four** pg , 189-90, #'s 4, 5, 8
  5. **Day Five**, pg 191-92, #'s 1, 5, 7, 8
  6. **Day Six**, pg 193-94, #'s 4 and 10
  7. **Day Seven**, pg 195-96, #'s 1, 7, 9
  8. **Day Eight**, pg 197-98, #'s 7, 5, 8
  9. **Day Nine**, pg 199-200, #'s 2 and 5, 6, or 7
  10. **Day Ten**, Read aloud the Create & Share introduction then share

Next up: teaching time. Take notes on the next page. 😊

# Lesson Nine Day One

Review of Lesson Eight / Genesis 24-30

*This teaching session is available on the Dwelling Richly podcast  
(iTunes, Spotify, any podcast app) or on YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond*



# Lesson Nine Day Two

## Memorize & Meditate



- Pray:** Ask God to help clarify your purpose as you begin.
- Memorize:** Write this lesson's verse in the box at the beginning of each lesson
- Read:** Genesis the following passages as noted

### Today's Focus: Getting the Big Picture

- ✓ **Preview Day Ten**
- ✓ **Big Idea:** Always ask, "What am I understanding about the nature and character of God?"
- ✓ **BIBLE NOTES TIP:** highlight **people/brown, places/green, God/blue, key ideas/orange or yellow**
- ✓ **Look for foods** mentioned and jot any down in your Bible journal for our Genesis feast at the end of this study

#### 1) Day Three: Genesis 31:1-16

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

Connecting to Proverbs 16

#### 2) Day Four: Genesis 31:17-55

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

Connecting to Proverbs 16

#### 3) Day Five: Genesis 32:1-21

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

Connecting to Proverbs 16 (Really cool one today!) 😊



# Lesson Nine Day Two

4) **Day Six:** Genesis 32:22-32

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

Connecting to Proverbs 16

6) **Day Seven:** Genesis 33:1-17

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

Connecting to Proverbs 16

7) **Day Eight:** Genesis 33:18-34:31

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places

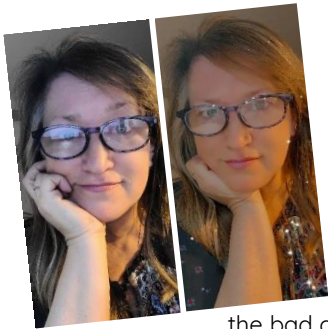
Connecting to Proverbs 16

8) **Day Nine:** Proverbs 16

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

## ...My Heart to Yours...



Have you seen these filters that are super popular on social media these days? It's incredible! You hold your camera in selfie mode with a filter in place and, voila!, perfect skin tone, large colorful eyes, long lush lashes, lips...teeth...hair - everything perfected! With not one flaw in view, it's tempting to post as if that's really you...and people do! Of course, if you have actual relationships in real life, there's no way to live up to that version of yourself. Even on your very best hair and makeup day you couldn't achieve that level of perfection. What if there were a filter that you could hold over your heart instead? What if instead of holding your phone in selfie mode you could hold it over yourself and see a perfected heart? God's word doesn't give us a filter. It allows us to see the real, flawed, rough, even hateful and hurtful actions of people - and not just

the bad guys you expect to be awful, but the ones who were chosen to be God's people! They shock us with their reality. They manipulate, hurt, lash out, and we are not kept from any of it - we see it filter-free. *God doesn't reach down and give us a filter to fix our lives - instead He gives us a life to fix our filter.* We need to see and live in God's way - fearing and trusting Him - and then we have a filter that allows us to see how things really can and should be in His grace, His power, His lovingkindness and strength. What a difference that makes, and it's the only before and after that actually matters. Pray and study in these days ahead and ask God continually to give you His view and His filter. ❤️



# Lesson Nine Day Three

Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** Select a portion from Proverbs 16 to focus on in your prayer time today.
- Memorize:** Write your verse in the box above. Share the verse you chose with your study buddy.
- Read:** [Proverbs 16](#) and [Genesis 31:1-16](#) - Reading from various translations for clarity. If you're not already, I recommend reading this passage from the NET - excellent and illuminating wording!

— . . — **Today's Focus:** Family, Fortunes, and Following God — . . — . .

1. **Update on Jacob.** Review Genesis 30:25-43. What is Jacob's mindset concerning Laban and what are his plans?  
.....
2. **God of the Promise.** How is God keeping his promise to Abraham, Isaac, and now Jacob as you think back to Jacob's family and experience with Laban in particular?  
.....
3. **Laban's Sons.** Consider Proverbs 16 (any verse) and Genesis 31:1-2. Now think about the way Laban's sons are characterizing their father's situation with Jacob. Which verse from Proverbs 16 gives you spiritual insight about this kind of scenario? Have you ever experienced this kind of misrepresentation? What does their (Laban's sons) behavior tell you about their character?  
.....
4. **Jacob sees. The Lord Speaks.** What does Jacob realize and what does the LORD say? What is theWhat does this reveal to you about the nature of God?  
.....

# Lesson Nine Day Three

5. **The Flock, the Field and Falling from Favor.** After the LORD speaks to Jacob, what does Jacob do next? With whom does he meet? Where?(Genesis 31:4-5)

6. **Father-in-Law -vs- Father of Abraham.** Note how Jacob characterizes Laban and God when he meets in the field with his two wives. (Genesis 31:5-13)

Laban

the LORD

7. **Reading Genesis, Seeing God.** God is named in four ways as Jacob relates his encounter. Note these four names below along with the verse where you found it.

<u>Verse</u>	<u>Name of God</u>	<u>Who Gives that Name?</u> (implicitly or directly stated)
31:3	-----	-----
31:5	-----	-----
31:11	-----	-----
31:13	-----	-----

8. **Remember Your Vow.** What does the God of Bethel remind Jacob of? What was Jacob's vow? (Genesis 31:13, 28:18-22)

9. **Laban's Lamentable Legacy.** Summarize Laban's daughters' lament (at least 5 issues) about how their father has treated them. (31:14-16) What have they resolved? (31:16b)

10. **Avoiding the Lure of Laban's Sons.** Think back to Genesis 31:1 - how Laban's sons view the situation regarding their brother-in-law Jacob. How should having a true understanding of God impact the way we engage with one another in our families?





# Lesson Nine Day Four

5. **A Rash Vow.** What does Jacob vow and what's the potential big issue? (31:32)

6. **Draw the scene.** Genesis 31:33-35

7. **Jacob Makes His Case.** List the key points of Jacob's case: (31:36-41)

8. **Credit where credit is due.** What do Jacob's final words in his case tell you about his priorities? (31:42)  
Note anything unique in Jacob's wording.

9. **Heap of a Treaty.** What three names are given to the heap/stones/pillar? What is the significance of "Mizpah?" (31:43-52)

10. **The Last of Laban (at last!)** What does Jacob do to signify the peace and treaty between his family and Laban's?

# Lesson Nine Day Five

## Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** for your Study Buddy and Grace Group.
- Memorize:** Recite aloud as you write.
- Read:** Genesis 32:1-21 – Read from the ESV as well as your usual translation.

### Today's Focus: Detour to Reconcile

1. **The Past Behind Me?** Who and what life experience is in Jacob's rear view so to speak? (31:55b) Who is in view ahead of him? (32:1)

2. **One Mission-Two Camps.** What does Jacob name this place? Why?

3. **Malakeh and Malakim.** Note who greets Jacob and who Jacob sends. (In Hebrew it's the same word.)  
*Read this passage on BibleHub.com for the Hebrew.*

4. **A Difficult Detour.** Where has Jacob been commanded to go? (31:13, 18)

Where is he headed? (32:3) \_\_\_\_\_ Is there any geographic reason to head in the direction he's going in order to get to where he was commanded to return?

5. **Violent Vow.** What were Esau's last words concerning Jacob and what prompted that vow? (27:41)

6. **Two Camps. Three messages. One Estranged Brother.** What are the three basic appeals Jacob sends with his messengers to Esau? (32:4-5)

# Lesson Nine Day Five

7. **Encounters with Elohim.** Consider Jacob's previous angelic encounter and the timing of this one. What happened immediately after the Genesis 28:12 encounter? What is about to happen after the Genesis 32:1-2 encounter? What is God doing for Jacob?

8. **Return to Sender.** What information do Jacob's messengers return with and how does Jacob respond? (32:6-8)

9. **Jacob's Prayer.** (Genesis 32:9-12) How does Jacob address God?

What does he acknowledge about himself?

What is he counting on from God? Note the repeated phrasing. (32:9, 12)

How does Jacob's prayer capture the content of Proverbs 16:1-3, 9?

10. **A Parade of Presents.** Summarize Jacob's strategic plan from Genesis 32:13-20.

11. **Reconciliation Done Right?** Read Matthew 5:23-25. Consider Jesus' teaching and how Jacob approaches this reconciliation with Esau. What biblical principle do you see in Jacob's approach? How is this a reminder to you in the difficult relationships in your life today?



# Lesson Nine Day Six

## Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** Lift up your Bible study leaders before you begin the lesson
- Memorize:** Close your eyes and recall your memory verse, then write it from memory above.
- Read:** [Genesis 32:22-32](#) – read from the ESV as well as your usual Bible

### Today's Focus: Victory in Surrender

1. **Find the Ford.** Locate the ford of the Jabbok. Where is it located in relation to the Jordan River?
2. **Facts at the Ford.** Imagine you're a reporter who's been traveling with the Jacob clan and documenting their story. Write the facts of the scene taking place in Genesis 32:22-23 – who, what, when, where, and what led up to this moment:
3. **Feelings at the Ford.** Now, from the perspective of Rachel, what is she feeling in this moment? (Genesis 32:22-23)
4. **Face-Off at the Ford.** Review Genesis 32:20. What is Jacob's thought process? Specifically, what does Jacob plan to do after Esau is (hopefully) appeased by the parade of presents? Please read this from the ESV, KJV, or NASB – even better, Young's Literal Translation (all available at [Biblehub.com](http://Biblehub.com))
5. **Forgotten at the Ford?** How does the author describe the scene in Genesis 32:24a?

Who does scripture say has been with Jacob? (Genesis 32:1-2) Read also Hosea 12:5

# Lesson Nine Day Six

6. **Who wrestles with whom?** From Genesis 32:24-30 – who wrestles with whom? Who initiates the struggle?

How is the wrestler identified and by whom?

v. 24 - \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

v. 25 - \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

v. 28 - \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

v. 30 - \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

7. **Blessing at Daybreak.** Note each request made in this encounter and how each was answered.

8. **What's in a Name?** Note the meaning of and circumstances for each naming. What similarities/differences do you see?

Genesis 25:22-26

Genesis 32:26-28

9. **First Things First.** Compare Jacob's expectation in 32:20 (ESV, NASB) and what happens first (32:30).

10. **Lived to Tell.** What does Jacob's comment about having seen God say about his understanding of what could/should have happened to him? (32:30)

11. **Lasting Impact.** from this encounter, what lasting impact did it have on...

Jacob -

the people of Israel -

12. **Let Scripture Interpret Scripture.** Read what the prophet Hosea says about this encounter. What added details do you get from this passage about Jacob's encounter with God? Hosea 12:3-4

How does Hosea preach the application of this encounter? In other words, what does Hosea say we should do with the information about Jacob's wrestling match? (HINT: three things)

# Lesson Nine Day Seven

## Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** Ask God to help you grow in your ability to have discernment as you study.
- Memorize:** Write your verse in fancy lettering.
- Read:** [Genesis 33:1-17](#)

### Today's Focus: Mindset & Maturity

1. **Where have you been? Where are you going?** Note where Jacob and Esau were as their reunion approached. Find these areas on a map. TIP: [BibleAtlas.org](#) is a great resource!

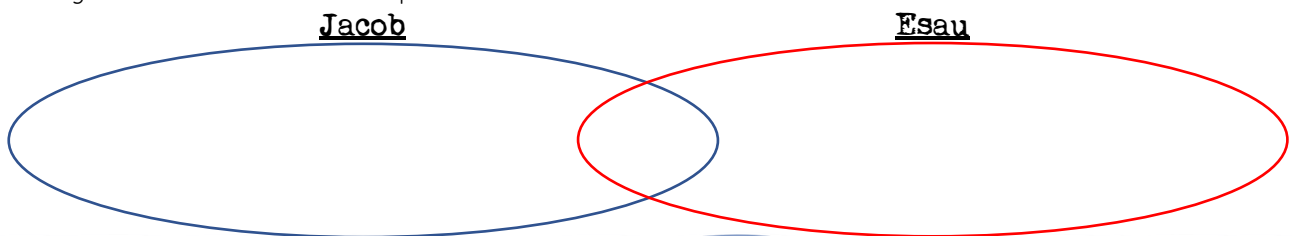
	Jacob	Esau
32:2-3	_____	_____
32:22	_____	(Traveling)
32:30	_____	(Traveling)
33:1	_____	_____

2. **Face to Face.** Whose face has Jacob most recently seen - how did that go?

Whose face is he now preparing to see and how do you think Jacob is feeling about this face-off? Explain why Jacob is feeling this way. (32:30, 33:1)

3. **Picture the scene.** Draw or outline the scene unfolding in Genesis 33:1-2

4. **A Family Reunion.** From Genesis 33:3-4, note how each brother behaves in this reunion, then note also what that action says about their mindset and expectations:





# Lesson Nine Day Seven

5. **What he saw.** Compare what each brother saw as noted in Genesis 33:1 and 33:5

6. **"Reunited and it feels so good..."** Describe the reunion of Esau and Jacob in terms of how you imagine their expectation and then the reality of what happened (Genesis 33:3-15)

Expectation

Reality

Jacob

Esau

7. **Credit where Credit is Due.** How does Jacob account for his great wealth when Esau inquires? Review Genesis 33:5-11 How, if ever, does Esau account for his own success/wealth?

*Especially note the wording in 33:5 and 33:11. The ESV, NIV, NASB, and others - not the NET - are more consistent in their rendering of the Hebrew word (צַן/"chanan") in how Jacob describes how God has dealt with him.*

8. **If he only knew.** Consider the incredible inside story Jacob has on his mind as he engages with Esau as recorded in 33:10-11. Compare this to what Jacob has literally experienced (32:30). Make a note of this in your Bible. What does this tell you about Jacob's mindset and maturity in this moment?

9. **See you in Seir?** What travel arrangements do the brothers agree to? Is that what happens? (33:12-17) Locate where Jacob says he'll go as well as where Jacob actually goes on a map. What does this tell you about Jacob's mindset and maturity?

10. **Persistent Grace and Problem Children.** Consider how God has demonstrated His grace in Jacob's life and how Jacob continues to make selfish and self-protecting decisions. Does this surprise you? Shouldn't God's chosen people behave more, well...chosen!? What do you think about the way Jacob has behaved in light of the great grace he has received from God?

# Lesson Nine Day Eight

Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** Ask God to reveal any tendency you have to justify selfish actions and make that right before Him today
- Memorize:** Write the verse in ALL CAPS
- Read:** [Genesis 33:18-34:21](#)

## Today's Focus: Ways that Seem Right

1. **Map it.** Locate Sukkot/Sucloth and Shechem on a Bible map. Estimate the distance to travel from one area to the next. About how long might this take?
2. **In His Grandfather's Footsteps.** What does Jacob buy and then do in this land and what had happened there before? (Genesis 12:6-7)
3. **A Vow Fulfilled.** How is Jacob's naming of God a fulfillment of his promise back in Bethel? Review Genesis 28:20-22.
4. **A Promise Broken.** What had Jacob promised God he would do? (Genesis 28:20-22)
5. **Avoidable Trouble.** Considering the promise and where Jacob was to be heading, what happens next is tragically avoidable. Summarize Genesis 34:1-5


# Lesson Nine Day Eight

6. **Pagans, Proposals, and Promises.** How does Shechem's father's proposal (consider all that would accompany what he was offering) compare with God's promise to Jacob - Genesis 28:13-15.
7. **Using God's Covenant.** What is the plan of Jacob's sons in response to their sister's rape? How is this a misuse of God's covenant of circumcision? (Genesis 34:13-24)
8. **No Shalom in Shechem.** Summarize what happens in Genesis 34:25-29
9. **Defiling, Deception, and Disregarding God.** How does Jacob's initial disregarding of God's command lead to this scenario? What does Jacob's response to his sons tell you about his maturity in faith or lack thereof?
10. **The Last Word.** In spite of Jacob's complaint, his sons get the last word. What do they say? Do you think they are right? Justified in their actions? Share your thoughts...
11. **The Ways of Man.** Consider the wisdom of Proverbs 16:2, 29-30. What does this teach you in connection with the account of Simeon and Levi?

# Lesson Nine Day Nine

## Memorize & Meditate

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- Pray:** Ask God for clarity as you read and study
  - Memorize:** Write your verse above
  - Read:** [Proverbs 16](#) - (ESV preferred for this day)

### Today's Focus: A Wise & Worthy Life

**NOTE:** "man" is used in scripture in the general sense: mankind, all people, men and women

1. **The Heart of the Matter.** Note the connection between the heart and another body part in the following passages. What connection do you see and how have you experienced this truth in your own life?

16:1

16:21

16:23

2. **Let Scripture Interpret Scripture.** What connection does Jesus make between the heart and the mouth? Read Luke 6:43-45 - and keep this in context with the entire sermon Jesus is teaching. HINT: read the passages leading up to and following this passage. Don't take Scripture out of context.

3. **Look for the LORD.** No, really...go back through Proverbs 16 and highlight in blue the LORD. Then note below every *action* the LORD takes:

4. **The Importance of Fearing God.** Read Genesis 22:12 with Proverbs 16:6 in mind. What connection do you see in Abraham's actions and the truth of this proverb?

# Lesson Nine Day Nine

5. **The Greatest Cause and Effect.** What would Proverbs 16:7 look like on a practical level in your life throughout the week?
6. **The Highest Motivation.** What should be the greatest motivator in your life according to Proverbs 16:7-9?
7. **Work and Family.** How are the truths of Proverbs 16:10-15 a reminder to you in the way you are interacting at work and with your family?
8. **This not That.** Contrast the interests and the mindset of the world versus the ways of God illustrated in verses 16-20.
9. **Gracious Words.** Illustrate 16:21-24 and include three ways speech/words are described.
10. **Ways of Man.** The ways of these kinds of people seem right to them, but what actually is going on according to 16:25-30. If you see yourself in any of these, what can you do today to end this behavior?
  - worthless man...
  - dishonest man...
  - whisperer...
11. **A Righteous Life.** From 16:32-32, consider two key behaviors of one who, at the end of their life, is considered righteous. What can you prayerfully submit to the LORD so this can be said of you?



# Lesson Nine Day Ten

Memorize & Meditate



- Pray.
- Memorize. Write your memory verse



## Create & Share

*When I think of ...*

*...it reminds me that...*

From the following accounts, select one and write or draw what comes to your mind that is true about God, your faith, and living a life with God's filter and as a follower of Yahweh.

Genesis 31:19-34

Genesis 31:42

Genesis 32:9-12

Genesis 32:22-32

Genesis 33:18-20

*optionally...*

Select a verse or passage from Proverbs 16





"Let the Word of Christ  
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

*Dwelling Richly*  
COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY



# GENESIS:

## Lost & Found

Do you not know? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God  
The Creator of the ends of the earth  
Isaiah 40