**Key Ideas from Genesis Chapters 25-50**

1. Gen. 25.17: Ishmael is also “gathered to his people.”
2. Gen. 26.25-26: “So he built an altar there…” Watch the numerous references to building altars.
3. Gen. 26.34: a commentary type verse about Esau choosing to marry from among the “outsiders.”
4. Gen. 28.16-17: “Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it.’ And he was afraid…” – the fear here is more related to a sense of awe or reverence of the God and less about fear as in worry about danger.
5. Gen. 30.33: an ironic line of Jacob to Laban: “So my honesty will answer for me later…”
6. Gen. 31.3: the repeated phrase from the God: “…and I will be with you…”
7. Gen.34: there is a novel, *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant, which presents the story of Dinah and Shechem, and the murder of Shechem and all his kin from Dinah’s perspective. It’s a great read if you get the chance.
8. Gen. 35.9-15: name change and another covenant between the God and Jacob (Israel).
9. Gen. 35.29: Isaac is “gathered to his people.”
10. Gen. 37.1-2: Jacob settles in Canaan (where descendants of Ham, Noah’s son, live)
11. Gen. 37.3: “Now Israel (Jacob) love Joseph more than any other of his children, because he (Joseph) was the son of his old age; and he made him a long robe with sleeves.”
12. Gen. 37.25: “…looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites…” (descendants of Ishmael).
13. Gen. 37.34-35: signs of grief and Sheol=afterlife
14. Gen. 38 – major story involving the concept of levirate marriage: the obligation for a brother to marry his deceased brother’s widow to continue the family line. Also a story of female initiative and another ancestral link to Jesus of Nazareth. See Matthew 1.1-17
15. Gen. 39.2, 23-24: watch the repeated references to “the Lord was with him” and “whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.”
16. Gen. 39-48, 50: an extended short story of Joseph and his brothers
17. Gen. 49: the blessings (and the curses) of the twelve sons of Jacob/Israel