

Lesson 4 – Genesis 17:1-22

NIV

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. **2** I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.” **3** Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, **4** “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. **5** No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. **6** I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. **7** I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. **8** The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.” **9** Then God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. **10** This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised. **11** You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you. **12** For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring. **13** Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. **14** Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.” **15** God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. **16** I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.” **17** Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?” **18** And Abraham said to God, “If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!” **19** Then God said, “Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. **20** And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. **21** But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year.” **22** When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him. **23** On that very day Abraham took his son Ishmael and all those born in his household or bought with his money, every male in his household, and circumcised them, as God told him.

NLT

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. **2** I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to make you into a mighty nation.” **3** At this, Abram fell face down in the dust. Then God said to him, **4** “This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of not just one nation, but a multitude of nations! **5** What’s more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram; now you will be known as Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. **6** I will give you millions of descendants who will represent many nations. Kings will be among them! **7** “I will continue this everlasting covenant between us, generation after generation. It will continue between me and your offspring forever. And I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. **8** Yes, I will give all this land of Canaan to you and to your offspring forever. And I will be their God. **9** “Your part of the agreement,” God told Abraham, “is to obey the terms of the covenant. You and all your descendants have this continual responsibility. **10** This is the covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Each male among you must be circumcised; **11** the flesh of his foreskin must be cut off. This will be a sign that you and they have accepted this covenant. **12** Every male child must be circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. This applies not only to members of your family, but also to the servants born in your household and the foreign-born servants whom you have purchased. **13** All must be circumcised. Your bodies will thus bear the mark of my everlasting covenant. **14** Anyone who refuses to be circumcised will be cut off from the covenant family for violating the covenant.” **15** Then God added, “Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai; from now on you will call her Sarah. **16** And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings will be among her descendants!” **17** Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief. “How could I become a father at the age of one hundred?” he wondered. “Besides, Sarah is ninety; how could she have a baby?” **18** And Abraham said to God, “Yes, may Ishmael enjoy your special blessing!” **19** But God replied, “Sarah, your wife, will bear you a son. You will name him Isaac, and I will confirm my everlasting covenant with him and his descendants. **20** As for Ishmael, I will bless him also, just as you have asked. I will cause him to multiply and become a great nation. Twelve princes will be among his descendants. **21** But my covenant is with Isaac, who will be born to you and Sarah about this time next year.” **22** That ended the conversation, and God left Abraham. **23** On that very day Abraham took his son Ishmael and every other male in his household and circumcised them, cutting off their foreskins, exactly as God had told him.