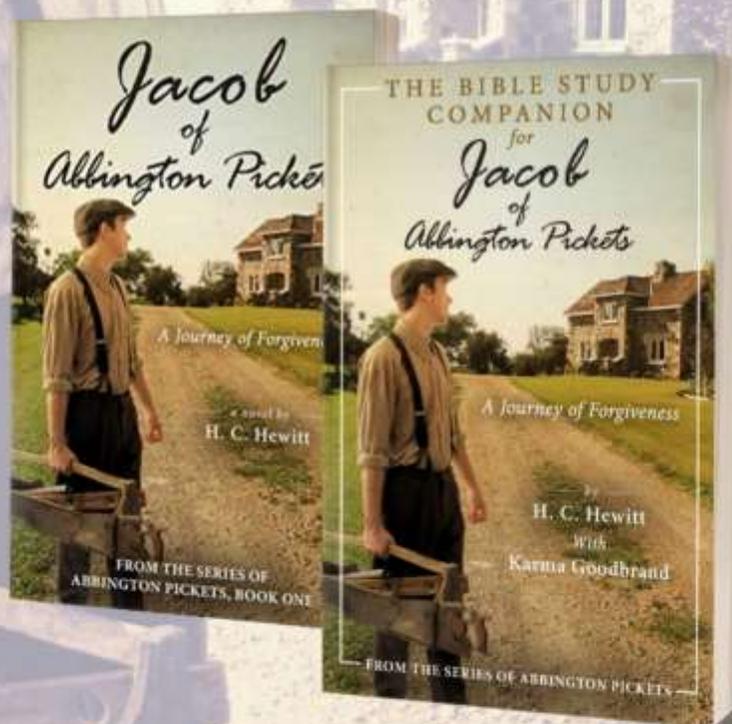


Leader's Guide

for

The Bible Study Companion for Jacob of Abbington Pickets



By
H. C. Hewitt
with
Karma Goodbrand

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The Bible Study Companion for Jacob of Abbington Pickets

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Thank you for choosing our Bible study for your group. It is our intention that this guide will give you some ideas for structuring your study time. You will get to know the way your group functions the best as you go along, but the ideas here can give you a place to start. Your group may choose to complete each lesson individually and come together to discuss it once everyone has worked through it or you could work through the lesson together. You may choose to meet weekly, or less often, depending on what is best for the group. Our prayer is that the time spent studying God's Word will be rich and profitable for your group.

Before your first meeting:

- **Ensure that all participants have copies of both the novel *Jacob of Abbington Pickets*, and the study guide *The Bible Study Companion for Jacob of Abbington Pickets*.**
- Let your group know that they should **read *chapter one* of the novel** in preparation for the first meeting. At the end of each meeting moving forward, encourage the participants to read the chapter of the novel that corresponds with the next lesson.

For each meeting:

Begin the meeting by welcoming everyone. Either you or a member of the group could open in prayer.

Read the opening verse (or verses) out loud that is printed on the first page of the chapter you are studying. You may choose to read the portion of the novel that is included as well.

The **first 3 questions** of each lesson will get the group considering the topic that you will be studying. Encourage input from the group. Use the *answer key* (which is printed in the back of The Bible Study Companion and is also included in this document) to guide the discussion if the group isn't sure about the answers.

The **next 7 questions (#4 to #10)**, will direct the group to what the Bible says about the topic. Encourage members of your group to take turns reading the verse(s) for each question out loud. Encourage participants to answer the questions as well. If you get stuck, you can refer to the answer key to guide your discussion for each question. If participants have questions that arise out of the text you can choose to spend some time discussing those questions. If you are unsure of how to respond you could make a note of the question and research the answer before the next meeting. Then you can share with the group what you have found.

There are **4 discussion questions** that follow the Bible questions. Encourage the group members to discuss the questions. Try to ensure that even the quietest group members have a chance to respond if they would like to. If time is short or if your group tends to veer off track, you may choose to limit this portion of the meeting to a set time limit, such as 10 minutes.

The next section is *passages for further* study which is a list of 8 Bible references that go deeper into the topic of each particular chapter. If time permits you may want to work your way through the list by having participants take turns reading them out loud. Alternatively you could encourage the group to go through each of these at home.

There are many possible uses for the *notes* section in each chapter. Participants could jot down questions they may have that arise out of the lesson or particular things they want to remember that arise out of the passages for further study. This section could also be used for personal journaling after the meeting is finished and they are thinking through what has been studied. It could also be used as space to write out the words of a particular verse that the individual wants to remember.

There is space at the end of each lesson for *prayer requests*. Encourage your group to share the praise items and concerns they may have. Suggest that group members jot down the things that are shared in order to pray for those requests at home as well. Depending on the size of the group you can choose to pray as a whole group with one person praying through the list or several people taking turns to each pray for a few requests. Alternatively, you could break into smaller groups that could pray through the list together.

To close the meeting, remind the participants to read the next chapter of the novel in preparation for the next session. You may choose to close in **prayer** using the prayer that follows the prayer requests section.

At any point in the course of working through the study you may want to refer the group to the *afterword*. It will provide a gospel refresher for some and a good foundation for those in your group who may be new to the faith.

If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to **contact** us:

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If you and your group enjoy this study and would recommend it to others, please consider leaving reviews on Amazon. This helps to spread the word to others who may be looking for a unique Bible study.

answer key

chapter one - fear:

1. Mr. Hudson feared what others thought, Jacob feared what it would do to his mama
2. no; his father was a proud man
3. distancing from other people, lying
4. the LORD, knowledge
5. do not be wise in your own eyes, fear the LORD, shun/turn away from evil
6. health/healing to your flesh; health/healing to your body, nourishment/refreshment/strength to your bones
7. fear God, keep His commandments
8. blessed/happy, falls into trouble/hardens heart
9. walking in/going on in/living in the fear of the Lord, in the comfort of/encouraged by the Holy Spirit
10. that you may not sin/keep you from sinning

chapter two - deception:

1. lie
2. Jacob should have told his mom
3. told the truth
4. lying lips
5. do not steal, do not deal falsely/lie, do not lie to one another/deceive one another
6. throat is an open tomb/grave, use their tongues to practice deceit/to deceive, poison/venom of asps under/on their lips
7. deceitful above all things, beyond cure/desperately wicked/desperately sick
8. the LORD, cannot hide anything from God
9. lay aside/put away falsehood/lying, speak truthfully
10. laid aside old self/man with evil practices, put on new self/man which is being renewed in knowledge according to/after the image of its Creator

chapter three -anger:

1. God and his father
2. his upbringing
3. He needed to confess the truth about Lucy, but instead he lied. He needed to become humble so he wouldn't become angry.
4. angry with his brother, insults his brother, says "You fool!"
5. be quick/swift to hear/listen, slow to speak, slow to anger/wrath
6. the anger/wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God/bring about the righteous life that God desires
7. refrain from anger; turn from/forsake wrath; fret not yourself; tends/leads only to evil/causes harm
8. stirs up strife/dissensions; causes/abounds in much transgression/commits many sins
9. bitterness, wrath/rage, anger, clamor/brawling, slander/evil speaking, malice
10. kind to one another, tenderhearted/compassionate, forgiving one another

chapter four - haughtiness:

1. Mr. Hudson was demeaning, he had a haughty spirit
2. because he didn't meet his own expectations and he compensated for the lack by putting Jacob down
3. Jacob began to hate his father and bitterness set in
4. haughty eyes/a proud look
5. pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall/stumbling
6. live in harmony with one another/be of the same mind toward one another, do not be haughty/proud/do not set your mind on high things, do not be wise/conceited in your own sight/estimation/opinion
7. repays/recompenses/pays back in full the one who acts in pride
8. humble/afflicted people, He saves; the haughty, eyes are on them to bring them down/low/abase
9. his heart was proud/lifted up
10. Hezekiah humbled himself/repented for the pride of his heart; the wrath of God did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah

chapter five - wickedness:

1. Mr. Hudson was meanspirited and hurtful
2. he treated Jacob with a lack of respect and without compassion
3. Mr. Hudson was hurting inside and needed forgiveness
4. the wicked and those who love violence
5. eat the bread of wickedness, drink the wine of violence
6. the people groan
7. the hand of the wicked/unjust/unrighteous/evil, cruel man/wrongdoer, and ruthless man
8. invites insult/gets himself abuse/shame for himself, incurs abuse/injury/harm/dishonor
9. love your neighbour as yourself
10. do no wrong/harm to a neighbour

chapter six - kindness:

1. no acknowledgment from his father, his mother loved and missed him
2. Jacob had a broken relationship with his father, and he felt rejected by his father
3. it took inner strength
4. heart of compassion/tender mercies, kindness, humility, gentleness/meekness, patience/longsuffering
5. a man who is kind/merciful
6. render true judgments/dispense true justice, show kindness and mercy to one another/show mercy and compassion
7. show the kindness of God to someone in the house of Saul
8. Mephibosheth (King Saul's grandson) was given all that belonged to Saul and his household, the land would be tilled for him and produce brought in for food, he would eat at King David's table like one of the king's sons
9. gave me food, gave me drink, welcomed me/took me in, clothed me, looked after me/visited me (when sick), visited me/came to me (in prison)
10. the King (Jesus)

chapter seven - friendship:

1. Jacob
2. that she didn't feel the same way toward him as he did toward her; he understood her need to keep her promise to Patrick
3. he encouraged her to keep that promise
4. a friend
5. gave him leave/liberty to go to his friends and be cared for/so they might provide for his needs
6. they have a good reward/return for their toil/labour
7. lift each other up if they fall, keep warm, can withstand one who might otherwise overpower one of them
8. face to face, as a man speaks to his friend
9. lay down his life for his friends
10. do what He commands, He has made known to us all the things He heard from His Father

chapter eight - temptation:

1. he didn't take advantage of a vulnerable situation
2. he wanted her to have a sober mindset if she were to declare her love for him and he knew it wasn't right
3. God sees and knows our heart at all times
4. lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil/the evil one
5. God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one
6. sure to come/bound to come/inevitable that stumbling blocks come
7. watch and pray
8. the way of escape/a way out
9. the Spirit led Him, the devil tempted Him
10. in all points/in every respect/way He has been tempted as we are, yet without sin

chapter nine - distress:

1. he was distressed and sad, Abigail was sad
2. because she was following through with her promise
3. he will be sad, but will carry on as before
4. makes the heart sick
5. deeply/greatly distressed/in bitterness of soul
6. the LORD
7. the LORD
8. turn to me, be gracious to me/have mercy on me, bring me out of my distresses/free me from my anguish
9. desolate/lonely and afflicted, troubles of my heart are enlarged/have multiplied
10. relief

chapter ten - drunkenness:

1. whiskey
2. peer pressure
3. guilty, he lost the horses and wagon belonging to Mr. Rodgers
4. do not get drunk with wine, be filled with the Spirit
5. drunkards and gluttonous eaters of meat, will come to poverty
6. woe, sorrow, strife/contentions, complaining, wounds without cause/needless bruises, redness of eyes/bloodshot eyes
7. in the end it bites like a serpent/snake and stings/poisons like an adder/viper
8. eyes will see strange things, your heart/mind will utter perverse things/imagine confusing things, like one who lies on the top of a mast (dizzy and sick)
9. another drink
10. the Lord Jesus Christ (be transformed into His image)

chapter eleven - joy:

1. very happy
2. happy/joyful
3. he still had strong feelings for Abigail
4. a glad/joyful/happy/merry heart
5. a joyful/merry/cheerful heart
6. the joy of the LORD
7. sings for joy/triumphs
8. joyful, sells all that he has and buys the field with the treasure
9. the angel brought good news/tidings of great joy that will be for/to all the people
10. unto/for you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord

chapter twelve - hospitality:

1. if someone was lost, that person would have a place of refuge
2. it was a signal that saved Bert from the storm
3. her hospitality
4. contribute to needs of the saints/share with God's people who are in need, seek to show/practice/given to hospitality
5. show hospitality/entertain strangers, some have entertained angels unawares/without knowing it/unwittingly
6. offer/show hospitality to one another, without grumbling/complaint
7. to serve one another/minister it to one another
8. God, through Jesus Christ
9. the poor, the crippled/maimed, the lame, the blind
10. you will be blessed, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just/righteous

chapter thirteen - work:

1. develop his own business and work at it
2. that it wasn't anything special or worthy
3. he didn't believe selling tables would be successful
4. to work/cultivate it/tend and keep it/take care of it
5. the ground was cursed, working to produce food would be difficult, there would be thorns and thistles and sweat
6. confirm/establish the work of our hands
7. whatever you do, work heartily/work at it with all your heart, as for the Lord and not for men
8. you are serving the Lord Christ
9. six days you shall labour and do all your work, do no work on the seventh (Sabbath) day
10. in six days the LORD made creation and He rested on the seventh day, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy/hallowed it

chapter fourteen - service:

1. serving
2. Jacob mostly, to bring him joy and make him happy
3. Anna brought food, cleaned and helped make his place a home
4. good works/deeds of kindness, and acts of charity/helping the poor
5. serve one another
6. love and good works/deeds
7. whoever would be great among you must be your servant
8. to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many
9. He washed the feet of the disciples like a servant would
10. wash one another's feet (serve one another)

chapter fifteen - death:

1. the death of Jacob's mother
2. Lucy and his mother were together now; he knew what had happened to his sister
3. because he was only close to his mother and now she was gone
4. he would surely die
5. death
6. to retain the spirit/over the wind to contain it/to restrain the wind with the wind, authority over the day of death
7. dust (the ground)
8. precious in the LORD's sight is the death of His saints
9. the days that were formed/ordained/fashioned for me
10. it shall be no more

chapter sixteen - purity:

1. because of appearance, being together by themselves
2. he assured her they aren't doing anything wrong
3. with respect; being told by Jacob that he would treat Anna with the utmost respect
4. whatever is true, honourable/noble, just/right, pure, lovely, commendable/of good report/admirable/of good repute, excellent/virtue, worthy of praise
5. in speech/word, conduct/life, love, faith, purity
6. sexual immorality/fornication, all impurity/uncleanness, covetousness/greed
7. sexual immorality/adultery, fornication; impurity/uncleanness; sensuality/debauchery/lewdness
8. by guarding it/taking heed/living/keeping it according to the Word
9. a temple of the Holy Spirit within you/who is in you
10. glorify God

chapter seventeen - grief:

1. heartbroken/sorrowful
2. when Jacob didn't care if he lived or died
3. God
4. weeping and mourning, grieving
5. Jacob tore his garments, put sackcloth on his loins/waist, mourned many days, refused to be comforted, wept
6. He was deeply moved in spirit/groaned in the spirit and troubled
7. He wept
8. sorrowful/grieved, deeply distressed/troubled, exceedingly sorrowful/deeply grieved, even to death/the point of death
9. despised and rejected/forsaken, man of sorrows, acquainted with grief/familiar with suffering, like one from whom men hide their faces, despised, not esteemed
10. He has borne our griefs/took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows

chapter eighteen - salvation:

1. God wanted Jacob to go to Him
2. he fell down and started to cry
3. he felt like the heaviness had lifted
4. What must I do to be saved?
5. believe in/on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved
6. confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead
7. Jesus Christ of Nazareth/the Nazarene
8. I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except/but through me
9. God, by grace
10. the believer would boast (give him/herself credit)

chapter nineteen - forgiveness:

1. Mr. Hudson wanted to confess to Jacob what he had kept in his heart for so long
2. he was surprised and forgave him
3. God's forgiveness
4. forgive each other/whatever grievances you may have against one another
5. How often/many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to/as many as seven times?
6. not seven times, but seventy-seven times/seventy times seven (innumerable times)
7. he took pity on the servant/felt compassion, canceled/forgave the debt, let him go/released him
8. he refused to be patient and he put/threw the man in prison until he could pay the debt/what he owed
9. this is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart (his trespasses)
10. if you forgive others their trespasses/transgressions/sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses/transgressions/sins, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses/transgressions/sins

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