

<p>A</p>	<p><u>“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening”</u> (Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1Sam 3:9 Gen 29-36</p>
<p>B</p>	<p><u>Salvific Work is a Family Affair</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Isaac to Jacob, and to his twelve sons, the righteousness of Abraham may not be seen consistently. Yet, God chooses them with patience and continues with His salvific work through them. This is because salvation is a family affair according to God’s will. Human beings come from God’s family and through baptism will be returned to God’s family. • Since God’s family is the final destiny of humanity, we should understand and live in this three-tiered mystery: family (ecclesia domestica), Church (familia Dei), and the Trinitarian Family. 	<p>HA 94 <u>Catholic for a Reason I</u>, p 4</p>
<p>C</p>	<p><u>The Twelve Sons of Jacob</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leah: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun • Rachel’s Maid, Bilhah: Dan, Naphtali • Leah’s Maid, Zilpah: Gad, Asher • Rachel: Joseph, Benjamin • Jacob loves Joseph the most. • Reuben loses his birthright due to incest and is replaced by Judah – this is a continuation of the motif of the first born / second born. 	<p>Gen 29-30 Gen 37:3 Gen 48:4, HA 92</p>
<p>D</p>	<p><u>The Interesting Wrestle between Jacob and God</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A change of name precedes God’s assignment of important missions. • “Israel” = “the one who wrestles with God” → struggling against God with faith and perseverance. As a result, one is blessed and conquers God with love and faith. • Being struck on “hip socket at the thigh muscle” – One must persevere throughout God’s trials and suffering. The relationship between Israel and God is likened to wrestling; they embrace each other lovingly at times like lovers while other times they strike each other. The fate of Israel is reflected in its name. 	<p>Gen 32:23-33 Gen 17:4,15 Mt 16:18 S.Butler et al, <u>Jesus, Peter & The Keys</u>, p 6 Gen 32:30b St. Louis de Montfort, <u>True Devotion</u>, n. 144 HA 89-90</p>

<p>E</p>	<p><u>Jacob's Spiritual Growth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacob relies on himself and has no regards for others as he tries to achieve his goals in his youth. When he is older, he learns to pray in face of difficulties. • The vision at Bethel (ladder) has opened Jacob's heart. God has found a dwelling place in his heart through his life and ups and downs in Haran. Jacob's faith and trust in God has also been strengthened through the mysterious experience of wrestling with God. Jacob's return to Bethel to cleanse his household name is a sign of his renewed spirit. 	<p>Gen 32-33, HA 157, 160 Gen 32:10</p> <p>Gen 35:1-7</p>
<p>F</p>	<p><u>"Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening"</u></p> <p>(Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1 Sam 3:9 Gen 37-41</p>
<p>G</p>	<p><u>Joseph's Dream and His Betrayal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-coloured cloak – authority and respect • "the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me", twelve stars = Israel → the twelve Apostles, the Church. • Foretelling of the drought in the future: the whole family of Israel must rely on Joseph. • According to the tradition of the Church, the murdered Abel, the sacrificed Isaac, and the betrayed Joseph all prefigure Jesus. 	<p>Gen 37:1-11 HA 98, Gen 9:23, 2 Sam 13:18 Gen 37:9, Rev 12</p> <p>Chinese Bible Ref. 4 HA 105</p>
<p>H</p>	<p><u>Judah and His Daughter-in-Law Tamar</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Promiscuity" is one of the reasons of the Church's objection to artificial contraception. • Tamar in OT is one of the many women who prefigure Mary: an unusual marriage, an unusual pregnancy that is misunderstood by the community. • Tamar has become one of the five extraordinary women included in Jesus' genealogy → salvation starts with sinful women and is fulfilled by an immaculate woman – the Blessed Virgin Mary. 	<p>Gen 38</p> <p>Chinese Bible Ref. 1</p> <p>B. Ruby, <u>Mary of Galilee</u>, Vol. II, p 110-111</p>