



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: Promised

Suggested Week of Use: February 4, 2024

Core Passage: Genesis 12:1-5a; 13:11-18

News Story Summary

On January 14, the National Football League’s Detroit Lions won a playoff game for the first time in thirty-two years. When head coach Dan Campbell started with the Lions in 2021, he acknowledged that the Lions had been awful for a long time and weren’t providing hope for a region hit hard by economic slowdowns, especially in the auto industry. Campbell told reporters that Detroit felt like a perfect fit for him, and he was determined to reverse the football narrative in the city.

As Campbell started casting a vision for what it might look like to win in Detroit, people got excited. And, when the Lions beat the Los Angeles Rams at home on January 14, the team and its fans took a step closer to realizing Campbell’s vision. Then, they followed it up with another home playoff victory, this time over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. That victory put the team one win away from something the organization has never known—a trip to the Super Bowl. Unfortunately for the Lions, their season ended with a loss to San Francisco in the conference championship game on January 28, but it’s fair to say Campbell has kept his promise to his team and to the city of Detroit.

For more about this story, search “Dan Campbell promises to Detroit.”

Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, encourage adults to share their favorite professional football teams. Discuss how those teams did during the recent regular season. Ask: *What’s the hardest part of rooting for your team? When have you wanted a “do-over” for something your team did?* Share the information about Dan Campbell and the Detroit Lions. Note that the Lions have never been to the Super Bowl. Say: *If fact, before this year, they had not even won a playoff game in more than three decades.* Highlight the promises Campbell made to the team and to the city of Detroit. Note that promises are incredibly important. Share that today’s session focuses on a life-changing promise—made not by a coach, but by God Himself.

Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, reflect again on the promises Dan Campbell made and how he kept those promises. Ask: *How many NFL coaches make promises to their teams and fans? How often are those promises broken?* Note that all coaches promise to win, but most come and go because they can’t make good on their promises. Emphasize that God is perfect and always keeps His promises. Say: *He did for Abram, and He continues to do it for us today.*