

# THE GOSPEL PROJECT<sup>®</sup>

## In the Beginning

*Daily Discipleship Guide*

FALL 2018 | VOL. 1 | CSB



# God's Word to You



## A Summary of the Bible

In the beginning, the all-powerful, personal God created the universe. This God created human beings in His image to live joyfully in His presence, in humble submission to His gracious authority. But all of us have rebelled against God and, in consequence, must suffer the punishment of our rebellion: physical death and the wrath of God.

Thankfully, God initiated a rescue plan, which began with His choosing the nation of Israel to display His glory in a fallen world. The Bible describes how God acted mightily on Israel's behalf, rescuing His people from slavery and then giving them His holy law. But God's people—like all of us—failed to rightly reflect the glory of God.

Then, in the fullness of time, in the Person of Jesus Christ, God Himself came to renew the world and to restore His people. Jesus perfectly obeyed the law given to Israel. Though innocent, He suffered the consequences of human rebellion by His death on a cross. But three days later, God raised Him from the dead.

Now the church of Jesus Christ has been commissioned by God to take the news of Christ's work to the world. Empowered by God's Spirit, the church calls all people everywhere to repent of sin and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. Repentance and faith restores our relationship with God and results in a life of ongoing transformation.

The Bible promises that Jesus Christ will return to this earth as the conquering King. Only those who live in repentant faith in Christ will escape God's judgment and live joyfully in God's presence for all eternity. God's message is the same to all of us: repent and believe, before it is too late. Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe with your heart that God raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved.



Suggested for  
the week of

## Unit 1: Creation and the Fall (Genesis; Job)

September 2	<b>11</b>	<b><i>Session 1</i></b>	God's Good World
September 9	<b>20</b>	<b><i>Session 2</i></b>	God's Good People
September 16	<b>29</b>	<b><i>Session 3</i></b>	Sin and God's Good News
September 23	<b>38</b>	<b><i>Session 4</i></b>	Sin and God's Grace
September 30	<b>47</b>	<b><i>Session 5</i></b>	Sin and God's Authority
October 7	<b>56</b>	<b><i>Session 6</i></b>	Suffering and God's Presence

## Unit 2: God Establishes a Covenant People (Genesis)

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October 28	<b>84</b>	<b><i>Session 3</i></b>	God Provides for His Promise
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## Unit 3: God Grows His Covenant People (Genesis)

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## ***The Gospel Project®***

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### **Eric Geiger**

Senior Vice President, LifeWay Resources

### **Ed Stetzer**

Founding Editor

### **Trevin Wax**

General Editor

### **Brian Dembowczyk**

Managing Editor

### **Daniel Davis**

Content Editor

### **Josh Hayes**

Content and Production Editor

### **Ken Braddy**

Manager, Adult Ongoing Bible Studies

### **Michael Kelley**

Director, Groups Ministry

### **Send questions/comments to:**

Content Editor by email to  
daniel.davis@lifeway.com or mail to  
Content Editor, *The Gospel Project: Adult  
Daily Discipleship Guide*, One LifeWay Plaza,  
Nashville, TN 37234-0175; or make comments  
on the Web at lifeway.com.

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## A Word from the Editor



### Trevin Wax

General Editor—*The Gospel Project*  
AUTHOR OF MULTIPLE BOOKS, INCLUDING  
*This Is Our Time: Everyday Myths in  
Light of the Gospel*

For a story to be great, it must include  
a great beginning. The story of the Bible,  
which tells the true story of our world, is  
no exception.

In the Book of Genesis, we see God the Creator in all  
His majesty and goodness as He spins the world into motion  
and lavishes His image bearers with love. We have an “inciting  
incident” that introduces conflict into this good world, as the first  
humans raise their fists in defiance toward their loving Father and  
bring havoc into this peaceful paradise. But even here, we have a  
promise—God will make things right again. God will cover His  
people’s sins and crush their adversary. The rest of Genesis shows  
how even though sin spread throughout the world, God remained  
faithful to His promise to Eve, His promise to Noah, and His  
promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The Book of Genesis is a glorious and earthy tale of rebellion  
and redemption, of sin and salvation, of failings and faith. Here is  
a book that shows us who we are in our sin and who God is in His  
grace. May this study lead you to express gratitude for God’s love  
toward you and then extend His love to everyone who inhabits this  
world He has promised to restore.

# EDITOR



## About the Writers



**J.D. Greear** (unit 1, sessions 1,3-5) is pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, which *Outreach Magazine* has ranked as one of the fastest-growing churches in the United States. Greear has a PhD in systematic theology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the author of many books, including *Not God Enough*, *Gaining by Losing*, *Jesus Continued...*, and *Gospel*. J.D. lives in Raleigh with his wife, Veronica, and their four children.



**Philip Nation** (unit 1, session 6) is the pastor of First Baptist Church of Bradenton, Florida. He is the author of the Bible study *Pursuing Holiness* and the book *Habits for Our Holiness*. He serves as an assistant professor of leadership at Houston Baptist University. He and his wife, Angie, have two sons. Find out more about Philip at [philipnation.net](http://philipnation.net).



**John Onwuchekwa** (unit 1, session 2; unit 2, sessions 1-3) is the lead pastor of Cornerstone Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He studied at Dallas Theological Seminary and is now completing a doctorate of education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Shawndra, have been married since 2007 and have one daughter.



**Chris Pappalardo** (unit 1, sessions 1,3-5), PhD (SEBTS), is a researcher, editor, and writer at The Summit Church. He is also the co-author of *One Nation Under God: A Christian Hope for American Politics* (2015). Chris has the joy of being married to the love of his life, Jenn, and being the father of two eminently adorable littles—Lottie and Teddy.



**Mary Jo Sharp** (unit 2, session 4; unit 3, sessions 1-3) is an assistant professor of apologetics at Houston Baptist University and the founder and director of Confident Christianity, a non-profit apologetics ministry. She is an itinerant speaker on apologetics throughout North America and has engaged in formal debates on Islam.



# THE GOSPEL PROJECT

A Journey Through the Storyline of Scripture

## Fall 2018

### *In the Beginning*

Creation and the Fall (Genesis; Job)  
God Establishes a Covenant People (Genesis)  
God Grows His Covenant People (Genesis)



## Winter 2018-19

### *Out of Egypt*

God Redeems His People (Genesis; Exodus)  
God Provides for His People (Exodus)  
God Receives Worship from His People (Exodus; Leviticus)

## Spring 2019

### *Into the Promised Land*

God Guides His People (Numbers; Deuteronomy)  
God Gives His People a Home (Joshua)  
God Delivers His People (Judges; Ruth)

## Summer 2019

### *A Kingdom Provided*

God Provides a King (1 Samuel)  
God Provides a Godly King (1–2 Samuel; Psalms)  
God Provides a Wise King (1 Kings; Ecclesiastes)

## Fall 2019

### *A Nation Divided*

God Speaks to His People (1–2 Kings)  
God Judges the Sin of His People (2 Kings; Prophets)  
God Shows Mercy to His People (2 Chronicles; Prophets)

## Winter 2019-20

### *A People Restored*

God Sustains His People (Daniel)  
God Restores His People (Ezra; Prophets)  
God Prepares His People (Nehemiah; Esther; Malachi)



**Spring 2020**

***Jesus the Messiah***

Jesus Comes into the World (Luke)

Jesus Begins His Ministry (Gospels)

Jesus Among the People (Gospels)

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**Summer 2020**

***Jesus the Servant***

Jesus the Healer (Gospels)

Jesus the Teacher (Gospels)

Jesus the Miracle-Worker (Gospels)

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**Fall 2020**

***Jesus the Savior***

Jesus and the Kingdom (Gospels)

Jesus the Savior (Gospels)

Jesus the Risen King (Gospels)

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**Winter 2020-21**

***The Mission Begins***

The Holy Spirit Comes (Acts; Epistles)

Fundamentals of the Faith (Acts; Epistles)

New Life in Christ (Acts; Epistles)

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**Spring 2021**

***The Church United***

Living Like Jesus (Acts; Hebrews)

The Sent Church (Acts; Epistles)

Don't Forget (Acts; Epistles)

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**Summer 2021**

***All Things New***

Paul in Prison (Acts; Epistles)

Facing Adversity (Acts; Epistles)

Jesus Will Come Again (Revelation)



Unit 1, Session 2

2

Group Time

Point 1: We bear God's image in how we rule over the world (Gen. 1:26-31)

“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the animals that crawl on the earth.’”

“So God created man in his own image; he created them in the image of God, he created them male and female.”

“God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.’” God said to them, “I have given you every living plant on the surface of the entire earth and every animal whose flesh contains blood. This will be food for you.” “For I have said to you, ‘I have given you every living plant on the surface of the earth, and every creature that crawls on the earth—everything living by the breath of life in it—I have given you every green plant for food.’ And it was so.” “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening and morning, the sixth day.”

“Now that we know what's wrong with our creation: from within and our culture's shifting landscape of humanity's flourishing in from outside, it is very far from what God had provided the direction for playing as.”

“In what ways, do you use the word of attempting to redefine what it means to be human?”

**Image of God in Humanity:** The image of God in humanity is understood as \_\_\_\_\_ God's \_\_\_\_\_ in our nature, actions, and relational capacities.

God has placed us in a world over all creation, and our role should reflect to value and more importantly the value of the Creator. The creature we are this, the creature we bear the image of God, is by valuing the process of this creation—humanity.

“How should all people bearing the image of God impact how we relate to one another?”

God's Good People

**SESSION in a NUTSHELL:** People were created by God to bear His image in every aspect of our lives.

**MAIN PASSAGES:** Genesis 1:26–2:35; 1:28-2:3

“When have you underestimated something or someone? What happened as a result?”

“We have each experienced the sting of underestimating an object, but we haven't made it a goal—more costly than a win. And many of us continue to report this regularly in life and in play and we do not value humility as much as we should, and in others, as we should.”

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Date of My Bible Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit 1, Session 2

**1** Gather with your group for Bible study and fellowship. Use the **Group Time** in your *Daily Discipleship Guide* to follow along and participate in the session. Mark up the Scripture passages, answer the questions, fill in the blanks, do the activities, write out questions and thoughts—Make this guide yours!

[illegible]

2 At the conclusion of the session, use **My Mission** to respond to the truths from God's Word. Choose at least one of the questions on the page to drive your response in faith, in community, and in mission for Jesus Christ, the center of God's Word and our purpose in life.



## Daily Study

### Day 1: Read Genesis 3:1-7

When you read through Genesis 1-2 for the first time, the final verse of these chapters might seem rather odd: Adam and Eve were ruled and instructed. Why would God include that detail—one that is prone to make us blush?

We find the answer seven verses later. After Adam and Eve sinned, their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked and, in shame, they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. These two verses work together, as bookends to the first sin. The first verse shows God's intention for Adam and Eve. They were to enjoy complete intimacy and acceptance of one another in marriage. There were no barriers between them. The second verse shows sin's immediate and degrading consequences. What God had intended for Adam and Eve to enjoy was lost. Intimacy and acceptance gave way to barriers and shame.

Our blushing reminds us of what was lost. Just reading of Adam and Eve's nakedness makes us uncomfortable. They alone, when we read Genesis 2:25, we feel what the first couple didn't feel in their moment—shame—revealing how deeply sin has affected us. And that's how Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:7, we do all we can to cover our shame from one another and from God.

❓ How do you try to hide your sin from God and others?

#### Voices from Church History

"Adam's first sin was not that he ate of forbidden fruit, but that he turned away from truth and turned to himself—the sin of self-reliance, and sin's degrading work began. It was not that he ate of forbidden fruit, but that he called his very name 'myself'."  
—Augustine (254–352)

### Day 2: Read Genesis 3:8-13

"Where are you?" This is a curious question that God asked Adam in Genesis 3:9. Our intuition, contemporary God knew exactly where Adam was, exactly where Adam and Eve had done, and why they were covering in the bushes that day. So why ask? Because God wanted to give Adam the opportunity to confess his sin, to come clean to what had happened as a critical step toward repentance.

This did not stop with Adam. God strategically asked individual questions throughout Scripture. God asked Job if he knew more than Him and Joseph if he had the right to care more about a city full of people than the worst prophet and about a plan. Jesus questioned a man why he was asking about what is good and inquired of Peter repeatedly if he loved Him. None of these questions were designed to obtain knowledge. Instead, they each pointed the person to the heart of the issue, to what mattered most, to each would see God and themselves properly in light of Him, His Word and His people.

❓ What sins do you need to confess to God?

### Day 3: Read Genesis 3:14-21

Like Adam, Jesus was tempted by Satan (see Luke 4:1-13). Adam was tempted once and yielded to that temptation. Jesus was tempted three times and He resisted each by doing what Adam failed to do: trust in God's word. While Adam doubted God's word, Jesus clung to it.

Adam was tempted in paradise, surrounded by hordes of God's faithful provision and beauty. Jesus was tempted in a barren wilderness. Adam's failure in paradise led to humanity being expelled into the wilderness of sin and death. Jesus' resisting temptation in the wilderness affirmed He was the One who would bring sinners out of that wilderness and into paradise.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God, ate from a tree, and died. Jesus willingly obeyed God by being nailed to a cross in the for us. He took the bite of the serpent and the poison of the cross so that we could be released from both. And in doing so, Jesus crushed the serpent's head.

❓ Even in the midst of God's judgment of sin in Eden, we see His grace. How have you experienced God's kindness in times you have been disciplined by Him?

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Daily Discipleship Guide

Unit 1, Session 3

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During the week following the session, use the five **Daily Study** devotions to build on the foundation laid during the "Group Time." These devotions will help you get into God's Word for yourself and take initiative in your own discipleship. Read the Scriptures, respond to the questions, and grow in the faith.

### Day 4: Read Genesis 3:22-24

The first man, Adam, had given to us temptation and rebellion against God by eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, resulting in disastrous consequences for him, his wife, and all humanity. That God turned His attention toward the second natural man in Eden—the tree of life. To prevent Adam from eating of this tree and living forever in Eden, God banished the pair from the garden and named cherubim—angelic creatures—as its entrance with a flaming sword to bar access.

Just as God's judgment of sin earlier in the chapter had been intended with grace, so was this expulsion. God had a plan to provide life for Adam and Eve and the rest of humanity. And that plan included a tree, but it wasn't the tree of life. God would provide life through His Son, bringing us to us—the cross. Salvation would not come through what man could do but through what God would do.

❓ How are you prone to try to "fix" things when they go wrong in your life instead of relying on God?

### Day 5: Read Genesis 4:1-8

We often talk about "falling" into sin. One thing leads to another, and a married man "falls" into an affair. Trying something one time leads to a woman "falling" into an addiction. It's almost as if we are innocent victims—the just happens to us.

While there are times when we can "fall" into sin, the reality is that most often that we, we choose to jump into it. That's what Cain did. God never wanted him. "Do what is right and you will be okay. Cain. But look out because sin is cranking at the door, ready to enter you."

As we know, Cain failed to heed God's warning. He chose the cranking lion, but his brother into the fields, and killed him. In God's kindness, He warns us of the danger of sin and promises us the beauty of obedience—both for us to heed and to share with others.

❓ Whom do you know who needs to be warned of sin? How can you share with him or her this week?

## Encourage One Another

*Join together with 2-4 people from your group, or with your family, sometime during the week to reflect on the session and to share how God is working and you are responding.*

Share your thoughts and reflections on the truths from Scripture in this session:

- Sin is defiance against God (Gen. 3:1-7).
- Sin brought death and repaid our created purpose, but hope remains (Gen. 3:14-22).
- Sin and death have spread to all humanity (Gen. 4:1-8).

❓ How have you responded to these truths from Scripture?

❓ How have you witnessed the consequences of sin this week?

❓ What are some ways we can show the hope of the gospel in this world of sin and death?

#### Notes

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Daily Discipleship Guide

Unit 1, Session 3

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Finally, **Encourage One Another** provides a brief guide for small groups of 2-4 people to meet sometime during the week to reflect on the session and to share how God is working and they are responding. Meet up with a group once a week for fellowship, encouragement in the faith, and mutual accountability.



## Unit 1

# Creation and the Fall

*Genesis; Job*

### Memory Verses

*“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him.”*

—Colossians 1:15-16



# God's Good World

**SESSION IN A SENTENCE:** God created everything out of nothing by the Son, through the Son, and for the Son.

**MAIN PASSAGES:** Genesis 1:1-13; Colossians 1:15-20



What are some of your favorite book or movie beginnings, and what did they introduce?

Every story has a beginning. And the story of the Bible begins with four astounding words: “In the beginning God.” God wasn’t just there *at* the beginning; He was there *before* the beginning. What this means is that everything and everyone has an origin, that is, except God.

The depiction of God we see in the Bible takes our simple ideas of religion and blasts them to pieces. It shows us a God who is so fundamental to all of life that even time itself must bow to His will as one of His creations. Here is a God whom we cannot control, cannot contain, and often cannot predict.



# Group Time

## Point 1: God created everything (Gen. 1:1-2).

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

Every world religion (and for that matter, every individual in the world) has an idea of how the universe came to be. In ancient times, creation accounts like the one we find in Genesis 1 were quite common. But this particular creation account is unique in one major way: God created everything *out of nothing*.

**Creation Out of Nothing:** Because God created out of nothing, creation has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and points us to the Creator.



How should knowing God as Creator impact how we understand who He is, who we are, and why we should obey Him?

It is important that we know God created everything out of nothing, but it also matters that we see *how* God created everything. When God created everything, He did it by starting with a formless void and then shaping it with His Word. In the same way, our lives are formless and void until God's Word comes in to bring life and peace, beauty and order.

Where would you put the shape of your life on this scale?



Formless and Void

Beautiful and Orderly



God created the universe, including people, for a purpose. Why is this important for us to know and remember?



## Point 2: God created everything good (Gen. 1:3-13).

<sup>3</sup> Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day.

<sup>6</sup> Then God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the expanse “sky.” Evening came and then morning: the second day.

<sup>9</sup> Then God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land “earth,” and the gathering of the water he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> Evening came and then morning: the third day.

The author of Genesis 1 doesn’t just want us to see the greatness of God’s creation; he wants us to see the goodness of it. The goodness of creation is really just an overflow of God’s goodness because He made it. We see that in the phrase repeated throughout Genesis 1: “God saw that it was good.”

### The Goodness of Creation:

Creation is good, in God’s judgment, because He created it for a purpose that it fulfilled—to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the good character of the Creator. God’s people should \_\_\_\_\_ and seek to \_\_\_\_\_ the goodness of God’s creation.



How should the intrinsic goodness of God’s creation impact how we live in it?



### Voices from the Church

“Nothing comes from the hand of God that is not intrinsically good. He is the good God who does all things for good.”<sup>1</sup>

—Barnabe Assohoto and Samuel Ngewa



### Point 3: God created everything for His Son (Col. 1:15-18).

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and by him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is also the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

Creation has always been about Jesus. It has only ever been about Jesus. He is the center of it all. He is the Word with God in the beginning, spinning galaxies into existence. And He will be the center when all is said and done. Since Jesus is the center, Lord, and goal of all creation, it only follows that life works best when He controls it.

What people, places, things, or ideas might we put at the center of our lives?



How have you seen sin—centering life on anything other than Jesus—de-create and destroy?

The Story of the Bible:

\_\_\_\_\_—\_\_\_\_\_—\_\_\_\_\_—\_\_\_\_\_.

This is the story of \_\_\_\_\_.

This is the story that begins with “In the beginning God...”



# My Mission

Because Christians have been given new life through faith in the Son of God, through whom and for whom all things were created, we honor Him in our stewardship of His creation as we help others see their purpose in Him.

- **If you believe God created the world through the Son and for the Son, how will you honor the Son this week?**
- **How can your group work together to steward God's creation well for His glory and the good of others?**
- **What are some opportunities you have this week to show and tell about our good God and the good news of His Son, Jesus Christ, Creator, Sustainer, and Savior?**

## Notes

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# Daily Study

## Day 1: Read Genesis 1:1-2

The creation account raises many disputed issues about the origin of the earth. Many Christians become passionate when discussing the finer details of these issues, assuming that anyone who disagrees with their stance is intellectually naïve or untrue to Scripture. The conversations can get tense in a hurry.

While the finer details of these discussions matter, we need to consider a larger question as we study the creation account in Genesis: *Why was this passage written?* Concerning the creation of the universe in Genesis, it seems rather obvious that the author, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, never intended to answer many of our questions. Much more important to him and for us is the notion *that* God created, and He did it by the power of His spoken word.



### Voices from Church History

"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over *all*, does not cry: 'Mine!'"<sup>2</sup>

—Abraham Kuyper  
(1837-1920)

What unites us is much more critical than what threatens to divide us here. And what unites us is our affirmation that we are all part of God's glorious creation—a creation that He spoke into existence and a creation He sovereignly rules over with love, grace, mercy, and justice.



How would unity on God as the Creator of all things benefit the world?



## Day 2: Read Genesis 1:3-25

Thinking about God's creative power makes our minds want to explode. Astronomers tell us that there are an estimated two hundred sextillion stars in the universe. That's a 2 followed by 23 zeroes: 200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.<sup>3</sup> The magnitude of a number like this stuns our puny minds. As it should.

God spoke each and every one of these stars into existence with but a few words (1:14-19). And the prophet Isaiah reminds us that He knows the name of each one (Isa. 40:26).

The God who created such an immense universe and intimately knows every millimeter of it can't just be thought of as "big." He's bigger than big. He's not just great; he's greater than great. We have no words to describe fully the magnitude and power of the God who simply said "Let there be..." and suddenly, it was.



How does what you have been taught about the origin of the universe line up with the story of creation in Scripture?

## Day 3: Read Psalm 19:1-6

God's creation tells a story. It's a story of majesty, splendor, beauty, and greatness. But the story creation tells isn't about itself—it is about the Creator. As majestic and beautiful as creation is, God the Creator is even more so, always greater than His creation. This is the story creation whispers, and sometimes shouts, to us every day.

Think about what you believe to be the most beautiful or amazing part of creation, something that makes your jaw drop. What do you envision? Perhaps a towering mountain range or a white sandy beach. Maybe a field of flowers or a leopard in mid-stride. Whatever you picture, as beautiful and glorious as it is, it pales in comparison to God's original creation before the fall. Even now, stained by the curse of sin, creation continues to declare the glory of God! That's how glorious He is.

Creation was designed to point us to the greatness of God and to elicit worship toward Him in our hearts and lives. That is the story creation tells.



What are some parts of creation that make you marvel the most? What do they tell you about God?

## Day 4: Read Colossians 1:15-20

When we hear “firstborn,” we naturally think of the child born first into a family, namely, the oldest child. But that way of understanding what firstborn means gets us into trouble when we see it used of Jesus in the Bible.

The Son of God is eternal. He has always existed and always will exist, without beginning or end. So when the Bible says that Jesus is firstborn over all creation (1:15), that does not mean He was created first before the rest of creation was created. This becomes clear in the very next verse where we read that *everything* was created by Him, which must exclude Himself since self-creation isn’t possible.

So what does it mean that Jesus is firstborn over creation? It means that Jesus is preeminent—He is first in rank above all of creation, being *the* image of God who created all things and holds all things together.



In what areas of your life do you struggle to place Jesus first?

## Day 5: Read John 1:1-4

The apostle John opens up his story of Jesus’ life by connecting Him to the creation story. The Word created all things good, but later the Word took on flesh (v. 14) to enter into this dark, sin-filled, chaotic world that life and light might shine in it once more.

Throughout His ministry, we see Jesus undoing the chaos and darkness left by sin. He heals diseases, opens the eyes of the blind, makes the lame walk, the deaf hear, and the dead come to life. He forgives adulterers, murderers, and thieves. Where sin left a dark void in the world, Jesus came with a thundering word: Let there be light!

But Jesus’ ministry went even deeper. He laid down His life in the darkness and chaos of death, taking upon Himself our sin so that we who had rejected the Word could have light and life again. Jesus allowed Himself to be de-created on the cross so that we could be re-created through His resurrection. Your life may be a picture of chaos, but if Jesus can create everything good out of nothing, He can surely re-create everything in you.



Where is the chaos in your life that you need Jesus to re-create?



# Encourage One Another

*Join together with 2-4 people from your group, or with your family, sometime during the week to reflect on the session and to share how God is working and you are responding.*

Share your thoughts and reflections on the truths from Scripture in this session:

- God created everything (Gen. 1:1-2).
- God created everything good (Gen. 1:3-13).
- God created everything for His Son (Col. 1:15-18).



How have you responded to these truths from Scripture?



When have you witnessed the goodness of God's creation this week?



How can we help others know the God who created us, the world, and everything in it?

## Notes

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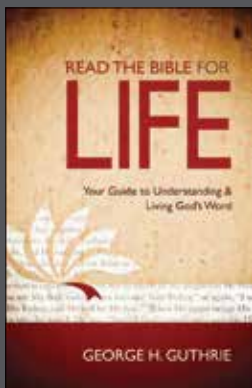
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## Want to go deeper in your study?

If you have enjoyed studying Genesis with *The Gospel Project*, we recommend reading *Read the Bible for Life* to see how all of the books of the Bible fit together as one story.

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# In the Beginning

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. He made everything good, very good, in fact, and the pinnacle of His creation was His image bearers, human beings formed to reflect the Creator's good reign over everything. But they chose to sin and reject God's rule, and so, they brought death and destruction into God's good world. Yet God made a promise of a Son who would one day redeem what they had broken.

Out of the masses of broken and scattered people, God called a man to trust Him and obey and be blessed. He promised this man descendants more numerous than the stars and that all the earth would be blessed through his family. The Lord began to fulfill this promise with a son, but the ultimate fulfillment would come through a future Son provided for the salvation of the world.

The Lord was faithful to His promises, though His people were often unfaithful. In His mercy and grace, He advanced His plan to bless the whole world through one broken family, and from this family would come the One to restore the goodness of creation.

## What's Next?

### WINTER 2018-19

#### Volume 2: Out of Egypt

*God Redeems His People (Genesis; Exodus)*

*God Provides for His People (Exodus)*

*God Receives Worship from His People (Ex.; Lev.)*

### SPRING 2019

#### Volume 3: Into the Promised Land

*God Guides His People (Num.; Deut.)*

*God Gives His People a Home (Joshua)*

*God Delivers His People (Judges; Ruth)*

### SOME OF OUR UPCOMING WRITERS

Matt Chandler

Jennifer Grisham

Sung Jin Park

**Twitter:** @Gospel\_Project **Facebook:** TheGospelProject **Instagram:** GospelProject\_

