

the

# GENESIS

## EXPERIENCE

### Session 1/ Genesis Overview

Group Ice Breaker- When you think about the book of *Genesis* what story comes to your mind first?

#### Watch Video

#### Discussion

1. What are you looking forward to learning in this study of Genesis?
2. If you participated in the *Simply Jesus* Inductive study through The Gospel of John or other inductive studies, what worked well for you in that study? What was challenging? What will you change?
3. Share a couple of ways you have benefited by having a consistent personal study of God's Word?

#### To get the most out of the Inductive bible study of Genesis:

- Schedule to do five studies a week. If you run behind pick up where the group will be at for that week's reading. At the very least, do the scheduled reading that the discussion guide will cover for your group meeting.
- If you're doing the Inductive study for the first time, find someone in your group to get good feedback. Email them a copy of an entry and gather their thoughts and input. If you've done Inductive studies in the past invite someone just starting to join you in the experience.

#### The 3 Steps of Inductive Bible Study

##### **[Step One: Observation] — What does it say?**

- Who, What, Where, When, How
- Repeated words, lists and themes
- Causal connections – but, therefore, as, because...
- Contrasts and Comparisons

##### **[Step Two: Interpretation] — What does it mean?**

- What is the author's intent?
- How would the original audience understand it?
- What was the historical context?
- What are the connections with passages before/after?

##### **[Step Three: Application] — How does it apply to my life?**

- Is there a promise to encourage/strengthen me?
- Did I see something about God's character?

- Is there a command to obey?
- How can I pray these truths into my life?

For this session we will do the Inductive study as a group. Begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide your time through the Word.

Read Genesis 1:1-8 out loud for the group.

Step One: Observations– “What does it say?” Record observations.

Step Two: Interpretation – “What does it mean?” Record your interpretations. Using the notes in a Study Bible is helpful.

Step Three: Application – “How does this apply to my life?”

## **Prayer**

Read the following prayer from Scripture over the group.

*Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Psalm 119:89-90*

God’s Word is eternal, he is faithful, and he is the creator of all things. As we began this Genesis experience together, let’s take some time to come to him in prayer.

Break off into groups of 3-4 and answer these questions:

1. What in your life may keep you from staying on track with the study?
2. What do you hope God does in your life as a result of being in this Journey Group?

After you have shared, take time to pray for *each other*. If you feel uncomfortable praying out loud, you can pass or try reading this simple prayer below. Fill in the blanks appropriately.

*Father,*

*I pray for \_\_\_Name\_\_\_\_\_, please help him or her overcome the challenge of \_\_\_\_\_ as he or she does the Genesis Study. Give him/her a deep desire to read your Word and learn from you. I ask that you do a great work in his or her life as a result of being in this group. In your name, Amen.*