

NOTES:

SERIES: The Story Begins (Gospel Project)

SERMON 1: "In the Beginning, God..."

TEXT: Genesis 1:1-25

DATE: September 10/11, 2016

The Story of God

The Bible is not about _____.

God is the main character of the story of Creation. He is the main character in the Bible. It's his _____.

The Story of Creation Within the Story of God

Just like any other story within a larger story, the meaning of this story unfolds as you read _____ of the story.

- The _____
- The audience and their _____

We have to read Genesis as a book written for God's people in the _____ before we read it as God's word to us.

- God's _____ story

What Does God Want Us to Know about Creation?

1. God created everything.
Genesis 1:1-2

God tells them this story through Moses to help His people understand that the God of their _____ was the very same God who created the world.

- There is only _____ God.
- God is _____ with his creation.

DISCUSSION GUIDES

Small Group Discussion Questions:

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Genesis 1:1-2. Why do we need to know that God created everything?
3. Read Genesis 1:3-25. In what ways have you experienced the creation as good?
4. Read Romans 1:18-21. In our mission to share Christ with others, how does the fact that everyone knows God exists encourage you (even if they are currently suppressing that truth)?
6. Read 1 Peter 3:15. What does this verse say should be our approach in sharing Christ with others?
7. Read John 1:1-5, Genesis 1:3-5, and Matthew 5:14-16 noting the common light theme. Reflect on how this theme weaves through these passages and should be weaved into our lives.
8. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply.

Family Discussion Questions:

1. What do you imagine it would be like for there to only be God before creation?
2. What does it mean to bring God glory?
3. How can we bring glory to God as a family?

- God is _____.
- It's in God's story that we discover our _____.

2. God created everything _____.
Genesis 1:3-25

- Creation is _____.
- Creation is _____.
- Creation is _____.

Part of the purpose of creation is to reveal God so we can _____ him.

Romans 1: ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to [all humanity], because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

Romans 1: ¹⁸ ...[Humans] suppress the truth. ... ²⁰ So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Creation also reveals God so we can _____ him.

Worship is how we respond to the goodness, beauty, and reality the heavens and the earth _____.

3. God created everything through _____.
John 1:1-5, 9-12; 1 Corinthians 8:5-6; Colossians 1:16

The creation reveals God and his glory, but in Jesus we have the ultimate revelation of God's love for us.

CHRIST CONNECTION

By the Son and for the Son and through the Son, all things exist and hold together.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why did God create the World?