

A Word from Kathy

We are beginning a wonderful journey through the book of Genesis. This foundational book unfolds the origins of the world, the human race, sin and salvation, the nation of Israel, and much more. As we study these origins, we will discover how they affect our lives today.

We will be looking for clues and facts, as any good investigator would, as He searches for truth. We will be looking for the who, what, where, when, why and how in each chapter we study. Read this chapter, at least twice, before beginning to answer the questions. This is often such familiar text, that we are tempted to read it quickly, with the idea that we already know all of this. Ask God for a fresh new look at His wonderful creation account. Take a moment now to pray.

The author of the Book of Genesis is not identified. Traditionally, most biblical scholars, consider Moses to have written this book. There is no conclusive reason to deny the Mosaic authorship of Genesis. Many reasons point to Moses.

You will need a set of colored pencils or several highlighters this week. This type of marking is not busy work. It is so we can look at the text and easily see the details.

Observation

It will be helpful, to have a printed copy, of the scriptures. We have posted it on the website, along with the study guide, for your convenience.

1. Read the chapter again, from the printed text. This time, as you read, use a highlighter to mark every time it states a completed day. (The first day, the second day, etc.)
2. Draw a bracket in the left margin. Group together the verses that pertain to each day. (Look carefully.) Then, list in the left margin briefly, what happened on each day.
3. What is the time setting, according to verse 1?
4. Go through the chapter highlighting God's name and every pronoun that refers to him. I always highlight God in yellow, so I will recognize it easily every time.

5. Who is the principle character of this chapter?
Now that you have highlighted it you should be able to see it by simply glancing.
6. Go back through the text and double underline, every verb (action word) you see, relating to God. Make a list of all you see God doing, in this chapter. *Example- God created, His Spirit hovered, He said, etc.*
7. What does God say about each day's work when He is finished? Highlight the repeated phrase you see. (In a different color than previously used.)
8. In the right margin, of your printed scripture, you will see a box. In the box, draw what happened each day, to the best of your ability. (I use stick figures.) Label the pictures as to what is happening. This is not an art assignment, to see your artistic ability; it is so you will focus on exactly what the text is saying. Pay close attention to verses 3 and 14.
9. Read John. 1:1-4, 14. Who was present in the beginning?
10. In Gen 1:1, the word "created", comes from the Hebrew word "bara." It is always used, when referring to God's work. Only God creates something out of nothing. If only God creates, then what does that make Him? What does that make everything else that exists?
11. When God desired light, the expanse of the sky, all plants, the sun, the moon and the stars, birds, fish animals and man, how did He get them?
12. Look carefully at verse 11. How was the land filled with vegetation?
13. Read verses 14-19 again. Name the lights He placed in the sky and their purpose.
14. Look carefully at verse 20-22. How were the waters filled with fish and the sky filled with birds? Did they have to go through the maturing process, egg to adult? On what, from the text, do you base your answer?
15. What blessing/command was given, in vss. 22 and 28? To whom was each given?

16. Was there any need that God had not met? Had He left anything out, that man would later need?

17. What kind of Creator is this?

Interpretation

18. If God can put all this into order, with no need to go back later, to change or adjust for the needs of His creation, what does that tell you about our God; our Creator?

19. What did you learn about God this week? What truth about Him was strengthened, by your study of His word?

20. Try to write, from memory, the events of this first week and what God said.

Day 1

Day 3

Day5

Day 2

Day4

Day 6

21. In what ways, are we made in God's image?

22. In what ways, should we be reflecting God's likeness, to the world around us?

Digging Deeper

If you would like to dig deeper into this section of scripture here are some suggestions. Use a different color highlighter for each repeated word or phrase. Doing this will allow you to easily glean the truth.

- 1. Mark the words "separated", "expanse", "gathered"*
- 2. Mark the repeated phrases "Let there be", "saw that it was good"(or similar phrase) "And there was evening , and there was morning", "according to their kinds", "and it was so", "be fruitful and increase in number and fill"*
- 3. Look up these words in Strong's concordance or a good Bible dictionary. Beginning, God, created, hovering (KJV moved), light vs. 3-5, light vs. 14-16 and light vs. 17-18 separated, expanse, gathered, kind, image, rule (KJV dominion)*
- 4. Read Ps. 90:1-2; Ps. 95:1-7; Ps. 102:25-27; Ps. 104; Ps 139:1-18; Is. 40:28-31; Jn. 5:26; Rev. 4:10 What do you learn about the Creator and His creation from these verses?*

Application

- 23. How could knowing, that God created us in His likeness, affect our self-worth? What about the worth of others?*
- 24. We hear much today, about saving the environment. To what lengths should we go, to care for all God has blessed us with?*
- 25. In what way, do you believe, God intended man to "rule over" the things of the earth?*
- 26. Do you believe God is caught off guard or surprised, by the number of people on the earth today?*

27. If the problem isn't really overpopulation, then why do so many have such great needs, while others lavish more and more on themselves?
28. What is God's view, of all living things?
29. Think back over the things you have been praying about lately. Has spending this time in Gen. 1, strengthened your faith? In what way?
30. Do you ever view your trials and problems, as impossible?
31. If God created everything, by His spoken word, why do we hesitate to come to Him, for help, with anything we need? Is anything too hard for God?
32. Verses 22 and 28 both say that God "blessed." What does that mean to you?
33. What attributes, of God's character, have you seen in Genesis 1? How do these attributes apply, to all that is going on in your life today?