Personal weekly Bible readings to go deeper into Scripture.

Memory Verse: Genesis 22:14

Day 1—Chapter 2 of "The Story"

Day 2—Genesis 12-14

Day 3—Genesis 15:1-18:15

Day 4—Genesis 18:16—Genesis 20

Day 5—Genesis 21:1-22:19

Questions to consider while reading the Bible:

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a sin to avoid?

Is there a promise to rely on?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there a challenge in which to respond?

What happened in between? (additional readings from Genesis)

Genesis—25:19-34; 27:1-40

Genesis—27:41-29:30

Genesis—29:31-31:55

Genesis—32 & 33

Genesis—35:1-36:8



Creation: The Beginning of Life as We Know It

September 15-16, 2012

Genesis 1:27-2:2, 3:8-13, 21-24; 6:5-8

Please use this space to take notes during the message today.





So God created human beings in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Genesis 1:27, 31a

Scan to go to the message blog or go to www.gloriadeionline.wordpress.com.

Adult and teen small group discussion points

Please use these discussion questions in your small group or with your teens.

- 1. We've all had prized possessions: gifts given to us as children, family heir-looms, and expensive purchases. And most likely, at one time or another, it was ruined or broken. Share such a time in your life, what was destroyed?
- 2. Chapter 1 shows that everything began with God creating and ordering. How is this different than other explanations you have heard of how the world began? How might knowing that life has purpose and direction affect your daily decisions?
- 3. Part of the meaning of being made in the image of God is that we were made for relationships and community. When sin entered the world relationships were destroyed. Describe the change in relationships that occurred between the following:
 - a. God and mankind
 - b. Adam and Eve
 - c. Mankind and the rest of creation
 - d. Mankind and everlasting life
- 4. After each event in the creation story, God said "It is good." Where does God say it is not good? (page 3) What does this say about God's plan for the human family?
- 5. Explain how Adam and Eve played the "blame game." (page 5) Why is it so hard for us to accept the responsibility for our bad choices?
- 6. Discuss the parallels between Noah's culture and our own. What attributes and actions of Noah can help us face the challenges of godly living in the world today?
- 7. Many people perceive God as vengeful and distant. While God clearly establishes himself as judge of his creation; chapter one is overflowing with examples of his love and grace. How many can you identify?
- 8. God made a promise to Noah never again to destroy mankind by a flood and he confirmed it with a rainbow. What promises has he made to you?

Close in prayer.



Please use these discussion questions with your children.

Memory Verse: When God created man, he made him in his own likeness. Genesis 5:1

- 1. Do you like to create things? Describe something you have made or drawn. What do you like about making or creating something?
- 2. God created you in his image. What are some things you really like about yourself?
- 3. Much of our culture values how we look, the clothes we wear, and fame. Why do you think culture is so consumed with looks and fame?
- 4. What about you does God value? What does he think about how you look or dress? Is what God thinks about you important? Why?
- 5. God put a rainbow in the sky as a sign of his promise to never flood the world again. Have you ever made a promise to someone? How do we keep our promises? How does God keep his promises?

For added emphasis on this week's theme, try one of these activities. Grab a family photo album that has some shots of you enjoying the outdoors. Ask:

What do you remember most about this experience?

What are some of your favorite things about God's creation?

How can you see God's handiwork in the outdoors?

Where are some places you'd like to visit?

If the conversation leads, plan a fun family outing or your next family vacation enjoying God's creation.

Pray Together: Dear God, thank you for making me and all of creation. Thank you for taking care of all of our needs and defending us from all danger. Help us to always put you first in all we do and remind us always that we have been created in your image and that you love us so much. Amen.



