

THE STORY



THE BEGINNING OF LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

Genesis 1-4; 6-9

CREATION

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth..."

Genesis 1:1

God (*Elohim*): 3 Days of _____ & 3 Days of _____

Forming	Filling
1. Light & Dark	4. Sun, Moon, Stars
2. Sea & Sky	5. Fish & Birds
3. Land & Plants	6. Animals & Humans

God created "according to their kinds..."

"So God created human beings in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Genesis 1:27

Humans – male and female – are created in the _____ of _____ (*imago Dei*).

God (*Yahweh*) forms humankind...

"Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

Genesis 2:7

FALL

"Now the serpent... [asked] 'Did God really say 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

Genesis 3:1

FLOOD

"The LORD saw... that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time."

Genesis 6:5

All of scripture whispers _____ name! Here we see that redemption will require _____.

Genesis 1:1
Genesis 3:15
Genesis 3:21
Genesis 7:7

God is relentlessly working to redeem his creation.

THE STORY

Chapter 1: *the Beginning of Life as we Know it* Sermon on January 30, 2022

Getting to Know Me

1. If your life is a kind of boat, what kind of boat would you be? (i.e. Cruise Ship—sailing easy; Titanic—sinking fast; Kayak—all alone; Canoe, Life Raft, Paddle Boat, etc.) Why?
2. If you were to write the story of your life, what 4 events would be your major plot points?

Digging Deeper

3. What insight or observation from Sunday's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, or challenging? Why?
4. What words would you use to describe the God revealed in the Creation narratives?
5. What do you think it means to be created in the image of God?
6. Read Psalm 139:1-18 and Zephaniah 3:15-17. What do these verses tell you about how the God of Creation views you? How can God feel this way when we rebel against Him?

7. Why do you think God exiled Adam and Eve from the Garden? What does that say about God's character?
8. Pastor Phil said that "all of scripture whispers Jesus's name." Where do you see whispers of Jesus in this opening chapter of *The Story*?

Where Do I Go from Here?

9. Is your view of yourself the same as God's view of you? How does it differ? What steps can you take to bring your view more in line with God's view?
10. Why did Adam and Eve hide? Have you ever hidden because you were ashamed? It's been said, "Joy and wholeness are born in vulnerability; shame keeps us from that." Do you agree or disagree? Where do you need to be vulnerable?
11. Pastor Phil spoke of God "relentlessly pursuing you." What practical steps can you take this week to respond to God's pursuit or join in his pursuit of others who need Jesus?

Prayer

12. Praise God for his sovereign power, matchless greatness, and measureless love. Wrap up your time openly sharing prayer requests as a group. This is a great opportunity to let others in so they can support and pray for you throughout the week.

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