

Memory Verse:

Psalm 19:1-2

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. (2)
Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

Homework

I. God's Purpose in Creation (Genesis 1-2)



Write down everything you learn about God from Genesis 1-2.



Write down what is created on each day. Notice when a day begins and ends.



There are a number of key repeated phrases in Genesis 1. Circle these and write down what you learn about each of these.



Chapter 2 gives a detailed explanation of the creation of mankind. Note the order of the events and the man's relationship and responsibilities to God and to the woman.



If you had to give a chapter theme for each of these chapters, what would it be?

Chapter 1 _____

Chapter 2 _____



Write a paragraph about what it means to be "created in the image of God?"



What is different about 1:27 from the other repeated phrases? Why is it different?



What does Genesis 2:7 reveal to us about mankind? What does it reveal to us about God?



As you read through Genesis 1-2 ask yourself the question, "Why does God create?"



From Genesis 1-2, describe what the purpose of mankind is?

Genesis 1:1-31

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (2) The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (3) And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (4) And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. (5) God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. (6) And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." (7) And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. (8) And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. (9) And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. (10) God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. (11) And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. (12) The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (13) And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. (14) And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, (15) and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. (16) And God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. (17) And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, (18) to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. (19) And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. (20) And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." (21) So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (22) And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." (23) And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. (24) And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds--livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. (25) And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (26) Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (28) And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (29) And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. (30) And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. (31) And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-2:25

(2:1) Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. (2) And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. (3) So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. (4) These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens. (5) When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up-- for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, (6) and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground-- (7) then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. (8) And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. (9) And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (10) A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. (11) The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. (12) And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. (13) The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. (14) And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. (15) The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. (16) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, (17) but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (18) Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." (19) So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. (20) The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. (21) So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. (22) And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. (23) Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." (24) Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (25) And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.



Read Psalm 148. After reading Psalm 148 listen to John Piper’s sermon, “The Pleasures of God in Creation.” Follow the manuscript that is included. In your own words, summarize why God delights in his creation.

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

II. *Creation Appeals to the Conscience*

Romans 1:18-23

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. (19) For what can be known about God is plain to them, 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. 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. (22) Claiming to be wise, they became fools, (23) and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Is God’s eternal power and divine nature hidden and hard to discover?

How has God revealed himself to every person?

Why do people reject him?



Write a paragraph explaining why we should, or shouldn't, use creation in our gospel presentation?

III. Creation Invokes the Fear of the Lord

Psalms 8:1-9

A Psalm of David. O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. (2) Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. (3) When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, (4) what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? (5) Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. (6) You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, (7) all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, (8) the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. (9) O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Divide Psalm 8 into three segments. What should be our response to God's creation?

Psalms 33:6-9

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. (7) He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. (8) Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! (9) For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Why should all the earth fear the Lord?

IV. Christ Our Glorious Creator


Colossians 1:16-17

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him. (17) And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

What does it mean that "all things were created through him and for him?"

Hebrews 1:3a


He (Jesus) is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.


 Colossians and Hebrews both say that Jesus “upholds” creation. What does this mean?


V. The Blessing in Creation

Proverbs 3:13, 19-20

(13) Blessed is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding, (14) for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold...(19)The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; (20) by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew.

 How can we find wisdom?

 Will you pray that God will open your eyes to his beauty, power, majesty and wisdom in creation? Take sometime today to stand in awe of God's creation. As you do, thank Jesus for his grace to show you his beauty. Preach the gospel to yourself by enjoying God's creation.

 When you talk to unbelievers what will you tell them about creation?

- Read the handout: “*What is the Christian Worldview? Creation: The Way We Were*” by Philip Graham Ryken
- Preach the gospel to yourself using the glory of creation
- Pray for unbelievers in your life that you would like to share the gospel with

Closing Song

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
 Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!
 All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
 Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
 Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
 Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.
 Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
 Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
 Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
 Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.
 Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;
 Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
 Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
 Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.*