



Group Guide

The Beginning

January 7, 2023

Main Passage: Genesis 1:1-15

Theological Theme

Everything begins and ends with God. His Word gives purpose and meaning to our lives.

Introduction

- ❓ What is something you or someone you know has created recently?
- ❓ What differences can you identify between human creation and God's work of creation?

1. God Created (Genesis 1:1-2)

The first words of Scripture set the tone for the rest of the Bible and give us insight into God. The phrase "God created" sets the foundation for the origin of the world. God is the One who created what is about to be described with greater detail in following verses. The writer of Genesis leaves no confusion or question about how this planet came to be. The first verse of Genesis is direct and straightforward, declaring God as the creator.

- ❓ Why is it so important to recognize how the world was created and by whom? What changes if we don't start with this reality?
- ❓ How do you see the world being intelligently designed and why does it matter?
- ❓ Application: Why does it matter for daily life that God existed before creation and in the same way that He exists today? How does this encourage you about who He is?

2. Created with Purpose (Genesis 1:3-8)

To bring organization to the chaos of darkness, God created light. The order of creation often reflects the pattern of how God works in your own life. When you need answers or help, God gives light through His Word and the church. Light brings clarity. Light shows the way and God started with light. God alone has the power to speak, and things happen. There was no delay. When God called for light, it was there.

- ❓ How do you see the patterns of creation replicated in the way you see God working in your life?
- ❓ What does it say about God that He had a purpose for each aspect of creation?
- ❓ Application: How does seeing the purpose and intentionality that God used in Creation speak to you today? Where do you need God's purpose in your life now?

3. Created with Order (Genesis 1:9-15)

The gathering of the waters also brought forth the land. Plants began to grow and flourish on the land. God created mature plants and trees that had the ability to continue to produce new vegetation that would further sustain God's creation.

- ❓ What order do you see in God's creation of vegetation on the earth?
- ❓ How is it encouraging that God knows what you need for sustained life and is actively supplying that in each moment?
- ❓ Application: What stands out to you most about the character and nature of God from today's study?

Conclusion

The account of creation in Scripture gives clear insight into God and has implications for our lives today. From the first words of Genesis, we see that God is eternal—He existed before anything else—and He is a triune God.

- ❓ What did you learn about creation from today's study?
- ❓ Why does it matter if we believe God created everything or if we believe it came about some other way? How does this impact daily life?
- ❓ How might you seek out gospel conversations with others by sharing what the Bible teaches about creation?