

GENESIS 1– PT. 1

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review 1 Peter 1:3 and 1 Cor. 6:11

1. Why is the book of Genesis important to understand and study?
2. What was going on before creation? What were things like? Why did God choose to create the earth?
3. What is significant about the opening verse of Genesis? Why do you think it begins the way it does?
4. What is your response to the view of God that flows from questions 2 and 3?
5. What was God's method in creation? In other words, how did He create? Why do you think God chose this method?
5. What is your impression of Lot from this section? What good and what bad do you see in his character? How does 2 Peter 2:6-8 add to this picture?
6. What lessons about man, sin, and God's judgment are revealed in this passage as we observe what this text tells us about Sodom and its downfall?
7. What can we learn from the example of Lot's wife? What sin did she commit and why was she punished like she was? See also Luke 17:28-33.
8. Why did Lot's daughters do what they did? What influenced them to even think of doing such a thing? Give evidence from the text for your answer.
9. Write out as many practical applications as you can from this section. Choose one and discuss how you would like, by God's grace, to change.

GENESIS 18-19

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Philippians 1:21, 23

1. Who are the three men introduced in verses 1-2? Note also 19:1. What do you think Abraham thought about their identity?

2. Why did Sarah laugh? What is God's response and how does it answer Sarah's thinking?

3. Think about Sarah's actions in chapter 16 and chapter 18. Then read Hebrews 11:11-12. What does this show us about God? How is this encouraging as you think about your own weaknesses and failures?

4. Why does Abraham go through this progression of questions in verses 22-33? What does this reveal about Abraham and about God?

6. What specific time indicators are given in the text of Genesis 1? What is the reason for these? What is the timeframe in which God created the universe?

7. How does this first chapter of Genesis relate to modern science and scientific theories? How should we answer objections to the creation account based on modern science?

8. How are we to think about and use creation based science and efforts to show how science affirms what Scripture says here? What should be our perspective on these things?

9. According to Genesis 1 everything that exists was spoken into existence by God. How does this impact the way you live from day to day?

GENESIS 1– PT. 2

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Philippians 3:8-9

1. Describe how God formed the formless earth (vs. 2) during the first three days of creation (vs. 3-13).
2. Describe how God filled the void (vs. 2) during days four through six of creation (vs. 14-26).
3. Why is there such an emphasis on the reproduction of animals “after their kinds” here in Genesis 1? Why is this important?
4. What does it mean that man is made in the image and likeness of God? What was God’s purpose in this?
5. Notice the way God preserves Hagar and Ishmael in chapter 16 and how he blesses Ishmael in chapter 17. Why does God show such compassion towards Hagar and Ishmael?
6. What is the significance of the name changes in this chapter (vs. 5 and 15)? How do you think this might have affected Abraham and Sarah?
7. Does God keep the promises that he makes to Abraham in 17:5-8 and 17:16-21? How does this impact the way you view and react to circumstances in your life?
8. What was the meaning behind circumcision? Why do you think God picked this sign? Is there any part of it that still holds significance for us today?
9. Why does God continually refuse Abraham’s alternative suggestions (15:2-3 and 17:18)? What is God seeking to display about Himself?

GENESIS 16-17

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Colossians 3:12-13

1. Recall the events of chapter 15 and the things that stood out about Abram in that chapter. What is surprising about the events of chapter 16 in light of chapter 15?

2. Examine carefully the circumstances, the scheme, the words, and the actions of Abram and Sarai in chapter 16. Why did they do what they did? What went wrong?

3. How did women in Sarai's day think about the importance of child-bearing? Why was it especially important to Abram and Sarai?

4. How would you describe the interaction and relationship between Sarai and Hagar? What was at the core of their difficulties?

5. Summarize the blessings and instructions given to man in verses 26-30. How are these worked out in the world we live in? How do they apply to us?

6. What was God's view of the original creation? To what extent does this hold true today and how should this affect our view of creation?

7. As you interact with the created world and created creatures this week how will the foundation of Genesis 1 adjust your perspective and attitude?

8. Sit back and think for a moment about what Genesis 1 describes and the progression that occurs from verse 1 to verse 31. What seems most extraordinary to you? What is your response to this?

GENESIS 2

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review 1 Peter 2:2-3

1. What does it mean that God rested? Why did He rest? What significance does this rest have in the Old Testament (Exodus 20:8-11) and for us in the New Testament (Hebrews 4:1-11)?

2. Describe the origin and nature of man's original environment (vs. 8-14). What is striking about this?

3. What was God's original charge to man in verse 15? What significance does the pre-fall timing of this charge have for our view of and attitude towards work?

4. How should Genesis 1 and 2 affect the way we view and care for the created world? What is a biblical view of caring for the environment?

4. Why did this deep sleep fall upon Abram and why was he so fearful? Is this a common response to this type of experience? Explain.

5. What is surprising and enlightening about God's declaration in verse 13-16? How might this be helpful as you face suffering or trials?

6. Why do you think the different promises to Abram are repeated so frequently? Think about how this might have affected Abram?

7. How do the events of this chapter relate to and impact us thousands of years later? Be specific.

GENESIS 15

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review 1 Timothy 1:15-16

1. What reason did Abram have to be afraid (vs. 1)? Why might a reward have been on his mind (vs. 1)? Note: keep in mind the events of chapter 14.

2. What is the significance of the statement of verse 6? How do Romans 4:1-5, 20-25, and Galatians 3:5-11 assist in understanding this passage? What implications does this have for your day to day perspective?

3. What is the meaning of the ceremony that occurs in verses 10-12 and 17-21? What is the symbolism behind the different objects and actions involved?

5. Why did God give man the command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? What was God teaching Adam and Eve?

6. Why do you think God created Eve the way He did? What does this tell us about women?

7. What lessons do we learn about marriage in verses 18-25? In what ways are these lessons vital for our marriages today?

8. Think about what the world was like before sin entered it. How does this relate to the redemption accomplished by Christ? In what ways is this significant as we think about our future hope?

GENESIS 3

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Eph 5:1-2 and 1 Cor. 15:3-4

1. Who is this serpent? Where did he come from? How did he become the way he is?

2. How is the serpent's craftiness displayed in his words to Eve? What is the case he builds in his discussion with Eve?

3. What does it mean that their eyes would be opened? What does it mean that they would know good and evil? Was there truth in these claims?

4. What was the essence of the temptation that Eve faced? How is this similar to the temptations we face today?

5. Why did Abram give a tenth of everything to Melchizedek? What was the significance of this gift?

6. Who was Melchizedek (see also Hebrews 7:1-10)? In what ways does he prefigure Christ?

7. Why did Abram refuse the share of the plunder that was offered him? Why was this such a big deal to him?

8. Think back to God's promises to Abram? How do we see God's faithfulness in beginning to fulfill His great promises to Abram in these chapters?

9. What lessons can we learn from Abram's example in these chapters? Be specific in applying these to your life.

GENESIS 13-14

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Rom 8:29-30 and 1 Pet 3:15

1. Why did Abram and Lot separate? What stands out about the way that they handled this situation?
2. How did Lot make his decision for where to settle? Was it a poor decision? Why or why not? Explain your answer from the text.
3. What is significant about the content and timing of the blessings God promises to Abram in 13:14-17?
4. Summarize the battle of the kings and Abram's subsequent rescue operation.
5. Where was Adam during all of this? What is his role and responsibility in the fall?
6. What was significant about their eyes being opened and becoming ashamed at their nakedness?
7. Summarize the curses. Why did God give these curses? Give examples of the way you see your day to day world affected by these curses.
8. In what way does Christ fulfill verse 15? How is He the ultimate solution to all the wrong we see in this chapter?
9. What application do you see for your life in this chapter? How does it change the way you view yourself, sin and temptation, your world, etc.?

GENESIS 4-5

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Matthew 28:18-20

1. What was right about Abel's offering? What was wrong with Cain's offering?

2. Why did Cain become angry? What does it mean that his countenance fell?

3. What is significant about Cain's answer to God's question in verse 9? What does it reveal?

4. Summarize Cain's curse. Why did Cain feel this was too much to bear?

5. What is surprising about God's interaction with Abram? How does Abram respond? How is this instructive for your life?

6. What promises does God make to Abram in chapter 12? What do these promises mean?

7. How do we begin to see these promises fulfilled even in this chapter? In what ways are these promises ultimately fulfilled in Christ?

8. What is wrong with Abram's actions in Egypt? What drove him to do these things? What would a right course of action looked like?

9. What do we learn about God in this chapter? How does this apply to your life? Be specific.

GENESIS 11-12

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review Ephesians 5:25-27

1. Describe the attitude of the people in building this tower and city? How is this representative of mankind at all times in all places?

2. Was God truly threatened by this mass of people and their plan? How would you explain verses 6-7 to a questioning skeptic?

3. What did God do to thwart these people? Describe what you imagine this might have been like to experience.

4. Why did God call Abram and make these incredible promises to him?

5. What can be learned about man's heart, sin and temptation from this account? How does this apply to you?

6. What stands out about Cain's family line in 4:17-24? What stands out about the line of Seth in 5:5-32? In what sense do these two lines set the stage for the rest of history?

7. What is the purpose of the genealogy in chapter 5? Why do you think God choose to include it in Scripture?

8. How do these two chapters fit into God's plan of redemption and the work that Christ would come to do centuries later?

GENESIS 6-10

Scripture to Memorize This Week: Review James 1:27 and 2 Cor. 5:21

1. Who are the "sons of God"? Who are the "daughters of men"? Who are the "Nephilim"? What is the point of 6:1-4?

2. Summarize and reflect on the description of man's corruption and sinfulness found in chapter 6 verses 5-13. How does this relate to our view of men today?

3. How could a sovereign and all-knowing God regret having made man? How does this language of regret and sorrow fit with the biblical view of God?

4. Why do you think God gave Noah such specific instructions regarding the building of the ark, the gathering of the animals, and the storing of provisions?

5. What does the flood show us about God? About men? About the relation of God and men?

6. What seems to be emphasized in the description of the flood and its subsiding? Why is this significant?

7. What was Noah's first action after exiting the ark? Why?

8. What is the covenant that God makes with Noah (6:18, 8:20-9:17)? What was the significance of this covenant for Noah? For us?

9. How will you seek to adjust your understanding, beliefs, attitudes, words, and actions as a result of these chapters?