

*In the
Beginning
God*

Rooted Women's Bible Study
A study in Genesis

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Foreword

Have you ever thought about how amazing it is that the God of the universe, the One who breathed entire galaxies into existence, the God who out of the dust of the ground formed and fashioned humans into His image and likeness has written a book and preserved it to this day so that you and I might open its pages and begin to discover Him as He has revealed Himself?

From “In the beginning God...” to “Amen, Come, Lord Jesus...” page after page reveals God and His unfolding plan of redemption for a world that has been plunged into darkness. And you and I are invited by its Divine Author to open its pages and begin a journey of discovery!

The Bible is unlike any other book written. “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man [and woman] of God may be complete, equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Because of its Divine Author we can have confidence that it is the unchanging truth of a God who loves us and calls us to Himself. We can trust the word that is spoken to be good and right and true and we can gladly place ourselves under its authority.

So let us embrace the journey of discovering the God of the Bible as He reveals Himself to us through His written Word!

ABOUT ROOTED WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Even though I was raised in the church and had a solid knowledge of the Bible, I was still living in spiritual darkness. In 2010 God miraculously and graciously awakened me out of this darkness and brought me into His marvelous light. He began to grow in my heart a hunger to know Him and I began to study the Bible with earnestness under the teaching of Jen Wilkin, a women's Bible study teacher from Texas.

For the first time the Bible became a living book and I began to understand the gospel. I began to grow to know God through consistent and faithful study of His Word. And knowing Him began to change me. A longing began to grow in my heart

2. **INTERPRETATION** – Once we know what the text says, we ask the question, *“What does the text mean?”* Now I want to point out that we are not asking the question, “What does it mean to me?” The meaning of the text is determined by the original author and discovered by the reader.
3. **APPLICATION** – Once we know what the text says and discover what it means, then we are ready to finally ask the question, *“How should this change me?”*

“The Bible does tell us who we are and what we should do, but it does so through the lens of who God is. The knowledge of God and the knowledge of self always go hand in hand” (Jen Wilkin, Women of the Word). We need to see ourselves in light of who God is. To do this we approach our study through a God-centered perspective by asking these questions:

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- How does this aspect of God’s character change my view of myself?
- What should I do in response?

These are extremely challenging questions to answer but they are important questions. In your workbooks I have these questions at the end of each lesson. You may struggle each week to answer those questions, but I do want you to try. I want you to wrestle with these questions in your thoughts and think them through and do your best to answer them.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

In conclusion I have some words of encouragement that I want to give you before we start this journey...

1. **HAVE FUN** – Enjoy yourself. Delight yourself in God’s Word. In Jeremiah 15:16 the prophet Jeremiah says, “When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Heaven’s Armies” (NLT). Isn’t that a great encouragement to us?? Bible study is serious work.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

I am so thankful for the people that God has surrounded me with who encourage me in my walk with Him and spur me on in faithfulness.

- Kristi Wile, my friend, my sister, my co-laborer in Christ. You daily spur me on in my faith and obedience by encouraging and challenging me. I'm so grateful to have a friend like you.
- Rooted Women's Bible Study...I love your passion and commitment to study God's Word. It encourages me and inspires me in my walk with Jesus!
- Austin & Sarah, Levi & Eleanor and Colton & Jasmine...I have no greater joy than to see my children and grandchildren walking in the truth. What a gift from our gracious God you are!
- Keith, my husband, friend, my confidant, my theological sounding board, my #1 supporter and encourager. Getting to live life with you has been one of God's greatest acts of kindness to me. I love you with all my heart.

Resources Used in Writing & Teaching this Study:

All Scripture references are in the ESV translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

ESV Study Bible

NIV Study Bible

NLT Study Bible

www.gotquestions.org

www.miriamwebster.org

Even Better than Eden: Nine Ways the Bible's Story Changes Everything About Your Story by Nancy Guthrie

Genesis: Beginning and Blessing by R. Kent Hughes

The New American Commentary: Genesis 1-11:26 Volume 1A by Kenneth A.

Mathews

The New American Commentary: Genesis 11:27-50:26, Volume 1B by Kenneth A.

Mathews

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Week 1 ~ Introduction

Worthy are you, Our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

-Revelation 4:11-

Week 2:

Genesis 1:1

"God in the Beginning"

Remember:

- Before you begin to study each day, spend time praying that the Holy Spirit will bring the Word of God to life as you study.
- An integral part of faithful Bible study is to let Scripture interpret Scripture. You will be putting this principle into practice throughout the study guide each time you look up passages of Scripture to help answer questions and understand the text.
- In the study of Genesis there are times that more questions will arise than are answered. While Scripture teaches us that God is the creator of heaven and earth, it does not fill in all the nitty gritty details of how and when He did this. As we discussed in the introduction, the Bible's purpose is not to answer all of our questions about the how and when of creation but rather it is meant to point us to the **WHO** of creation. Let us study with that goal in mind!

Read Genesis 1:1-11:26 so you can get an overall sense of our study this semester.

1. Read Genesis 1:1 out loud. Rewrite the verse in the space below in your own words.



6. Who is the subject of Genesis 1:1? _____
7. What does this tell you about what is the central point Moses wants his audience to understand about the historical narrative he is about to unfold for them?

 **Application: So often we approach Bible study with self as the subject. How will knowing that the Bible primarily is a book about God change the way you approach your study of the Bible?**

8. Look up the following verses and write what each one reveals to you about the God in the beginning.

*Psalm 90:2 -

*Isaiah 44:24 -

*Acts 17:24-25 -

9. We are introduced in Genesis 1:1 to the God of the Bible. We are meant to be brought to a place of worship as we begin to learn to know this God. The Hebrew name that is used in reference to God is *Elohim*. *Elohim* is a plural word but is always used with a singular verb. It is a word that reveals God's transcendence and power in creation but also implies a plurality within God. Let's look at some other passages of Scripture that teach who this God is. Note beside each reference what we learn about God in that particular passage.

*Deuteronomy 6:4 -

*Matthew 28:19 -

As you allow your thoughts about this God who was in the beginning to be shaped by Scripture, what is your response to Him?



11. What action does God take in Genesis 1:1?

12. Look up the word "create" in the dictionary (I use the Merriam-Webster online dictionary) and write the applicable definitions in the space below.

13. As you look at the definitions, which definition of "create" would apply to God alone?

Which definition of "create" would better apply to what we do as image bearers?

How are these types of creation different? How are they the same?

Wrap Up: (for help with this, please see the Attributes of God chart in the Appendix)

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

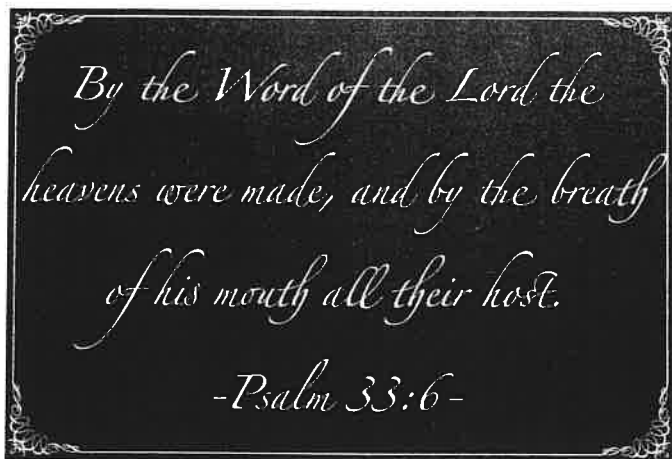
Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Example: Knowing that God is eternal shows me that I have a beg. & an end.

Practical steps to live in light of this truth:

- Repent of the ways in which I live as if I am eternal & have unlimited time on my hands.
- Be more intentional this week about the way in which I will use my time by evaluating my options through these lenses - 1) Would God please (does it go against Scripture?) 2) Will this "thing" stir my affections for Jesus or will it diminish them?



Week 3:

Genesis 1:2-2:3

"Formed @ Filled ~ Blessed @ Rest"

Remember each day you spend in study to spend time in prayer first, asking the Holy Spirit to illumine the Scriptures and give you understanding.

1. Read Genesis 1:1-2:3. As you read, notice each time the text reveals an action by God (He said, saw, made, etc.). Highlight with **yellow highlighter** each time the text tells of God's actions on the copy of Genesis provided in the appendix of your study guide.

How many times is God (*Elohim*) mentioned in 1:1-2:3? _____

2. What literary style would you say 1:1-2:3 is written in? Explain your choice.

Historic Narrative Wisdom Literature
 Parable Poetry

3. Focus your attention on Genesis 1:2. What three descriptions does Moses give for the state of the earth?

4. Look up these three words in the dictionary and write the definitions in the space below.

Day of Creation & Scripture Verses	God's Activity
<p style="text-align: center;">Day 3 Verses 9-13</p>	<p>God said _____</p> <p>God called _____</p> <p>God saw _____</p> <p>God said _____</p> <p>God saw _____</p>
<p>Summarize Day 3: What was the result of all that happened on Day 3 of creation?</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

9. Looking over the chart, what patterns do you notice in God's activity in creation?

10. Look back at Genesis 1:2. What were the characteristics of the earth at this time?

Which characteristics has God changed through His spoken word?

11. List some specific characteristics that you can learn about God through your observations of verses 3-13.

15. What can you learn about God through the way in which He filled creation?

16. Let's take some time to look at God's final creation in verses 26-31.

What day is it in Creation? _____

What does He make? _____

Into what did He make them? (v. 27c) _____ and _____

In whose image & likeness are they made? _____

17. Look up the words "image" and "likeness" in the dictionary and write the definitions in the space below.

18. What does it mean that mankind was made in the image of God and after His likeness?

What does it not mean?

22. Look up the word “bless” in the dictionary and write the most appropriate definition for the context in the space below.

In light of the definition, what can we learn about God’s blessing in this passage of Scripture?

 **Application: What do you view as blessing from God? How does your view of blessing match up with God’s blessing over mankind?**

23. Read verses 29-31. How has God provided for his creation?

Humankind -

Beasts of the earth -

Birds of the air -

Creeping things -

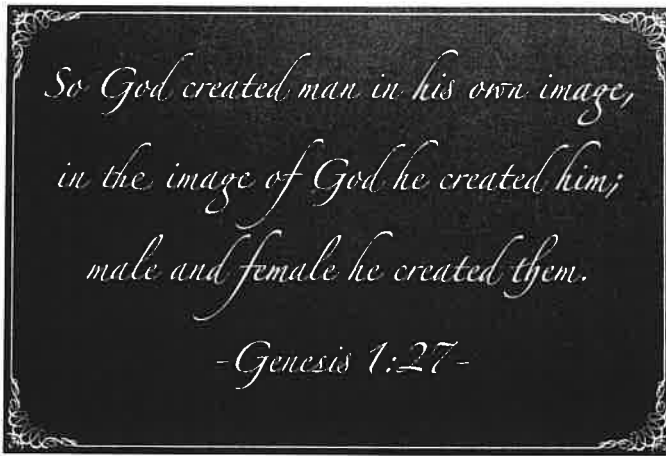
24. What is God’s declaration about all that He created?

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 4:

Genesis 2:4-25

"In the Image of God"

This week we are going to look closely at what it means that man was created in the image of God and after His likeness.

Each day before you begin to study, spend some time in prayer asking the Lord to help you have understanding and to see wondrous things in his Word!

-
1. Read Genesis 2:4-24. As you read, highlight with **yellow highlighter** each time God is mentioned.

How does Moses refer to God in Genesis 2? _____

How many times does he refer to God? _____

2. How is chapter 2 similar to chapter 1?

How is it different?

3. Do you think chapters 1 and chapter 2 are:

contradictory? complementary?

Explain your answer.

8. Focus on verse 7 and the creation of man and answer the following questions.

How does the text say God created man? _____

With what does God create man? _____

What made man a living creature? _____

9. How is this account different from how He created in Genesis 1? Why do you think this is so?

10. Compare Genesis 2:7 with Genesis 2:19. How is God's creation of man similar to his creation of the animals and birds?

How is it different?

What is significant about the "breath of God" breathed into the man?

11. God next prepares a home for the man He created. Read Genesis 2:8-14 and write out a description of this new home.

How do these tasks reflect the image of God?

17. God also gives the man a commandment.

What may the man eat of?

What shall the man not eat of?

18. Look up the following verses about God's commandments/word/testimonies/law and write what each passage says about His commandments.

*Psalm 16:6 -

*Psalm 19:7 -

*Psalm 119:96 -

*Psalm 119:98 -

*Psalm 119:129-130 -

*Romans 7:12 -

*1 John 5:3 -

Summarize what you notice about the commandments of God.

What does this teach you about the God who commands.

23. The man gives a name to every animal, every bird, every beast, all livestock that God brings before him. Fill in verse 19 below:

“And whatever the man _____ every living creature, _____
_____.”

24. Place a check mark next to the creation mandate found in Genesis 1:28 that the man is fulfilling by naming the animals.

- filling the earth subduing the earth
 having dominion over fish, birds, every living thing

25. How is the man imaging God in this process? What does he do that reminds you of the way God functioned in creation?

By whose authority does he act?


26. After this entire process of naming the animals, what was the problem that remained?

27. Read Genesis 2:20-24. How did God solve this problem?

What do you think it means that the helper made for the man would be “fit for him”?

31. In Genesis 2:23 how does the man respond to God's gift to him?

32. What do we learn about marriage from Genesis 2:24?

 **Application: In our culture today there is a push to eliminate the differences between male and female. How should we as Christians view these differences in light of what we've learned in Scripture? Do we cave to eliminate the differences? Or do we uphold and honor God's plan as He established it? Do you struggle with this?**

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 5: Genesis 3
"Hope When Paradise Is Lost"

Remember to spend time in prayer each time you study, asking the Lord to give you insight and understanding of His Word.

Read Genesis 3.

1. Focus your attention on Genesis 3:1-5. What is unique about this serpent that suddenly appears in the story?

Look up "crafty" in the dictionary and write an appropriate synonym in the space below.

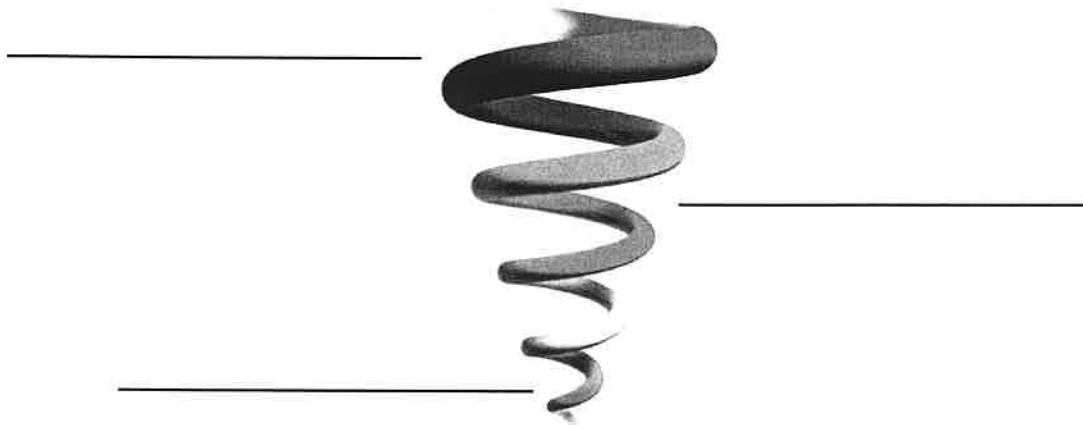
2. To whom does the serpent speak?
3. What question does the serpent ask?
4. Look back at Genesis 2:16. What did God actually say?
5. The question posed to the woman by the serpent called in to question what?

11. Reread Genesis 3:1-5 and summarize in the space below the serpent's tactics in the temptation that he put forward to the woman.

12. Read Genesis 3:6. Outline what happens next:
 1. The woman _____ that the tree was good for food.
 2. The woman _____ the tree to make her wise.
 3. The woman _____ of its fruit
 4. The woman _____ the fruit.
 5. The woman _____ the fruit to her husband and he _____.

13. Read 1 John 2:16. What does the apostle John tell us about where sin comes from?


14. Read James 1:14-15. What does James tell us about the spiral of sin?



15. In light of these passages, how did the fall happen?

	Genesis 3:1-5	Luke 4:1-13
How does the one being tempted respond?		
What is the outcome of the temptation?		
Summarize the differences between these two stories that led to the difference in outcome.		

 **Application:** Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that we are not to be outwitted by Satan “for we are not ignorant of his designs.” It is helpful to see his designs in Scripture. He is still alive and well today and his methods are still the same. How do you see these same tactics played out today in your life?

 **Application:** I Corinthians 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape that you may be able to endure it.” In light of the consistency of these tactics, what ways of escape has our faithful God provided for you in the midst of your temptations?

23. When God confronts the man about his sin, who does he blame?
24. When God questions the woman, who does she blame?
25. We already begin to see the fruit of sin leading to death. What deaths can you identify have already come from the sin of breaking God's commands?

26. Read Genesis 3:14-15. Who is God addressing? _____

What is He doing in this address (v. 14a)? _____

What is the consequence of the fall on the serpent?

In the midst of His words to the serpent, what promise brings judgment to the serpent but hope to the man and the woman?

27. Read Genesis 3:16. Who is God addressing? _____

Does God declare a curse in this address? _____

What is the two-fold consequence of the fall on the woman?

Why is this significant?

32. Post fall, what is now not accessible to Adam and Eve that had previously been accessible to them? Why?

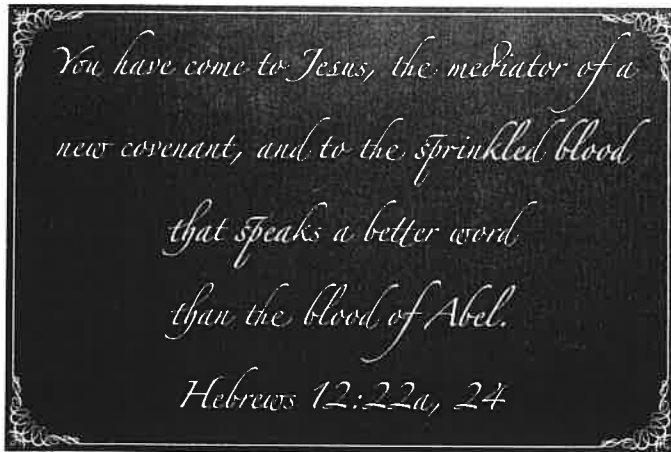
33. What does God set in place to guard Eden? Write a description of this scene.

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 6: Genesis 4

“The Fruit of Sin”

Remember to begin and end each time in God’s Word with prayer. Ask Him to speak to you through His Word and mold and shape your desires to His. Give thanks to Him for being faithful to do what He has promised to do!

1. Read through Genesis 4. Highlight with a **green highlighter** every time the name of God is mentioned. How many times does His name appear in this chapter? _____

How many times is His name mentioned in verses 1-16? _____

How many times is His name mentioned in verses 17-24? _____

How many times is His name mentioned in verses 25-26? _____

What do you think the author is seeking to communicate about God throughout this chapter?

2. Focus your attention on Genesis 4:1-7. Adam and Eve’s family begins to grow. What are the names of their two sons?

What were their occupations?

6. Look up the following verses and note what the passage says about offerings made to the Lord.
- *Leviticus 10:1 -
 - *Isaiah 29:13 (and Matthew 15:8-9) -
 - *Hebrews 11:4 -
 - *Hebrews 11:6 -
 - *1 Peter 2:5 -
7. In light of these passages of Scripture, reread Genesis 4:3-4. What is the difference between these two offerings made before the Lord?



Application: When you think about your personal life of worship of God, what would it look like to offer worship to God that is not acceptable to Him?

What would worship that is acceptable to Him look like in your life?

What is he looking for?

In 1 Peter 5:8 and the beginning of 5:9, what is God calling us to be and to do?

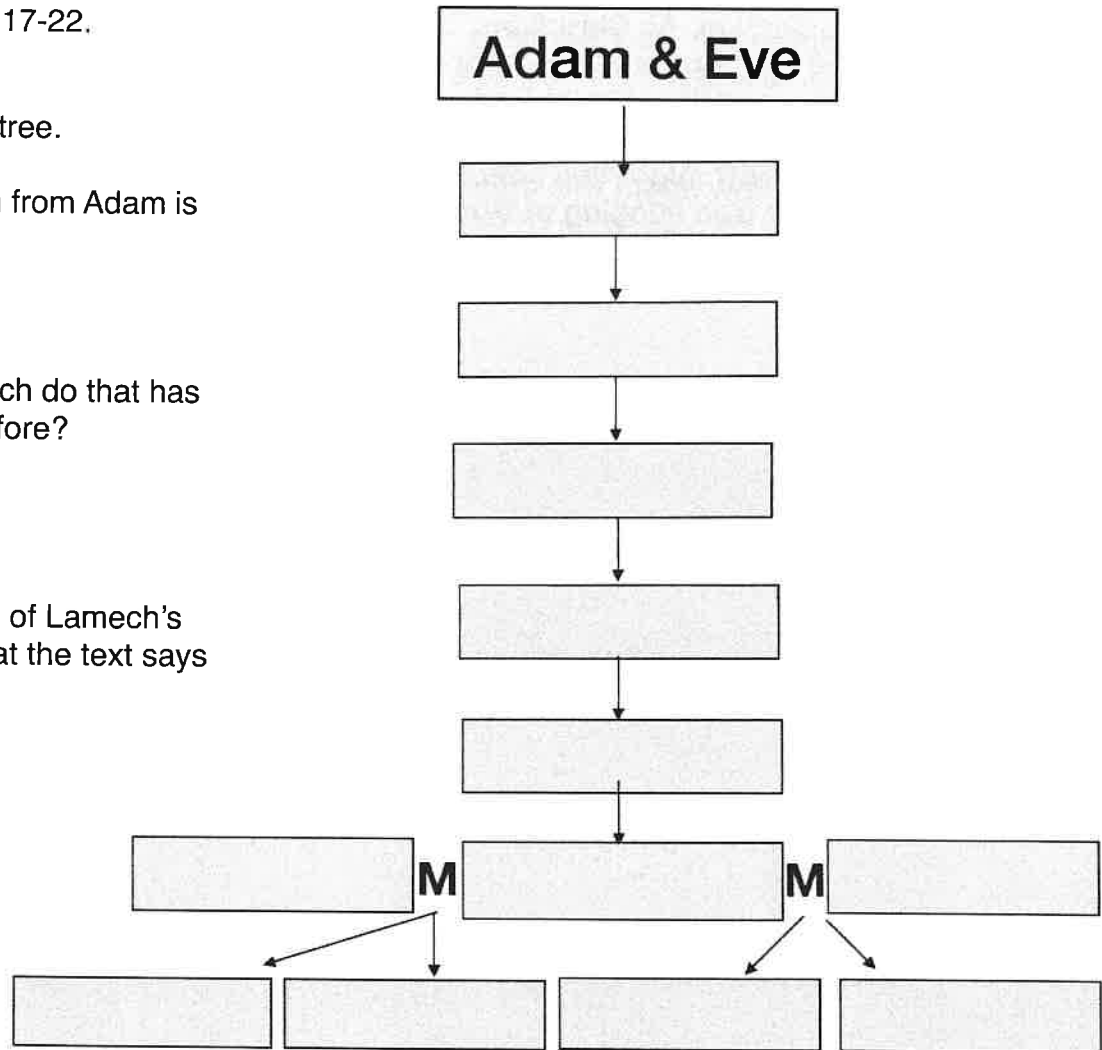
11. In light of 1 Peter 5:8 what is the Lord saying to Cain?
12. Sadly, Cain does not heed the voice of the Lord. Read Genesis 4:8-10. The Lord again seeks out Cain. What does this reveal to you about God?
13. What does Cain do in response to God's question about where Abel is?

Do you sense any remorse in Cain's response?

14. What is meant by the phrase "Your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground"?
15. Read Genesis 4:11-16. What is the two-fold judgment from God as a result of Cain's sin?
 - 1.
 - 2.
16. Look up the words "fugitive" and "wanderer" in the dictionary. Write the definitions in the space below.

23. Read Genesis 4:17-22.

- Fill in the family tree.
- What generation from Adam is Lamech?
- What does Lamech do that has not been done before?
- Below the names of Lamech's children, write what the text says about each one.



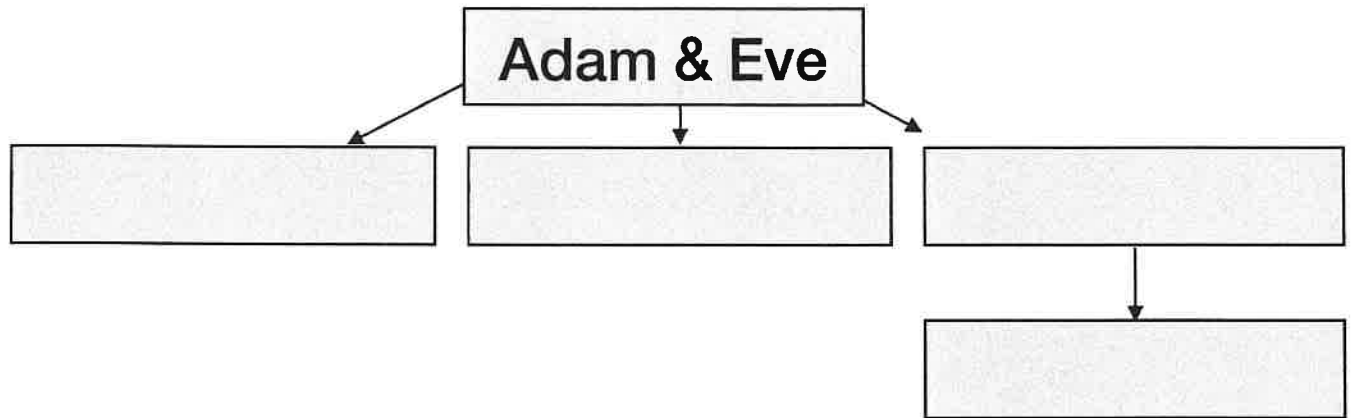
24. What is being developed in the line of Cain?

How is this part of God's biblical mandate from Genesis 1:26-27?

26. Read Genesis 4:25-26. What is Eve's response to the birth of another son?

What do you think is in her heart and in her hopes with her new son?

27. Fill in the family tree.



28. What observations from the text can you make about the line of Seth that are different from what we see happening in the line of Cain?

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 7:

Genesis 5:1-6:8

"In Adam's Likeness"

Each day as you come before the Word of God in study, spend some time in prayer asking God to open your eyes so that you have understanding, to deepen your faith in Him and His Word through your study, and to change your desires and attitudes as a result of your study.

1. Read Genesis 5:1-6:8. List below repeated phrases that you notice in this passage.

2. Whose line of descendants is being traced in this chapter?

3. Focus on Genesis 5:1-3. In whose likeness was Adam made?

In whose likeness and image was Adam's son?

What is significant about this statement? What does that mean for Adam's descendants?

4. Reflect back to Genesis 1:28 and God's mandate to mankind. How is mankind obeying this mandate from God?

7. What repeated summary statement is a dark cloud in this genealogy?

Look up Genesis 2:16-17. What did God say would happen if Adam ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

What did happen?

What does this teach us about God and His Word?

8. Who was the exception to this repeated phrase?

What reason is given for his being the exception?

9. Look up Hebrews 11:5-6. What does this passage tell us about Enoch?

What does this passage tell us about what is necessary about anyone who would draw near to God?

10. Read once again Genesis 5:21-24. When did Enoch begin to walk with God?

How old was he when this happened? _____

How many years did Enoch walk with God? _____

How do you think Lamech knew these things?



Application: What are ways we can pass down the promises of God to the generations that follow us?

15. Read Genesis 6:1-5 and answer the following questions.

What did the sons of God **see**?

What did the sons of God **take**?

Why did the sons of God see and take?

What was the result of the marriages between the sons of God and the daughters of man?

16. There's much discussion about who the "sons of God" are. Look up the following passages of Scripture and note what each has to say about the "sons of God."

* Job 1:6 -

* Job 2:1 -

* Job 38:4-7 -

* Daniel 3:25 -

From these verses who would you say the sons of God are?

20. Read Romans 1:28-32. How does this passage of Scripture shed light on Genesis 6:5-8?

Read Romans 2:12-16. How does this passage give us insight into Genesis 6:5-8?

Read Jude 14-16. How does this passage give insight into Genesis 6:5-8?

What does Enoch warn was coming?

21. According to Genesis 6:6, what is God's response to the state of humanity?

What does this reveal to you about God?

22. What does the Lord say He will do according to verse 7?

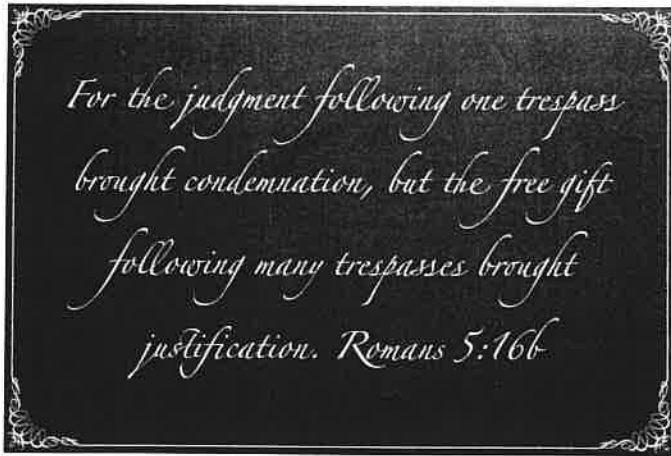
Is God's response and subsequent decision to bring judgment just or unjust?
Support your answer with Scripture.

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God?
Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 8:

Genesis 6:9-8:19

“Judgment & Mercy”

Reminder: Each day as you study, begin your study time with prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to the beauty of God’s character and to change you more and more into the image and likeness of His Son, Jesus.

Read Genesis 6:9-8:19. As you read, **highlight in yellow** every time you see the words “God said” or “the Lord said.” **Highlight in orange** every time you see the words or similar words to “Noah did all that the Lord commanded.”

1. Reread Genesis 6:9-13. What 3 descriptions are used to tell us about Noah?
*
*
*
2. Read Genesis 1:31 and write out how the earth is described in this passage.

Now read Genesis 6:11-12 and write out the condition of the earth now.

What does the text say was the cause for this change?

6. Look up the word “covenant” in the dictionary and write the definition in the space below.

7. This is the first time we see the word covenant in the Bible but it is an important word because the God of the Bible is a God of covenants. Examine verses 17-22 again and answer the following questions:

Who initiates the covenant in this passage?

Who are the parties involved in the covenant?

What are the terms of this covenant?

What does God promise to do?

What is Noah’s responsibility?

8. Look at verse 22. What is the author careful to note about Noah’s actions?

Highlight this phrase in your Bible.

Read Hebrews 11:7. What does the writer of Hebrews tell us about Noah’s obedience?

The concept of covenant is significant in the Scriptures. In fact, the word testament is really another word for covenant. The Bible is comprised of two parts, the Old Covenant and the New Covenant (Old Testament and New Testament). Covenant was a well-known concept in ancient times, and covenants could be made between two equal parties or between a king and a subject. The king would promise certain protections, and the subject would promise loyalty to the king. A covenant might be conditional or unconditional.

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11. What repeated phrase do you find at the end of verse 5?

What is significant about this phrase being repeated?

12. Read Genesis 7:6-16. In verses 1-5 we saw the Lord's command to Noah. And now we see Noah execute this plan. Fill in the chart below:

The Lord's Command (include Scripture verse)	Noah's Response to the Command (Include Scripture verse)
Go into the ark you and your household (v. 1)	Noah & his sons and his wife and sons' wives with him went into the ark (v. 7)

13. According to verse 11, when did the flood occur?

14. According to verses 13-16, when did Noah, his family and all the animals enter the ark?

15. Who shut the door to the ark?

Why is this significant?

16. Read Genesis 7:17-24. How long did the flood continue?

According to this passage, was the flood local or global? Why do you think this?

Why does God's Word talk about God's judgment in the future?

In light of this, why is it important to include judgment as part of our gospel presentation?

21. What condition is the earth in as we get to the end of Genesis 7?

What was the condition of the earth in Genesis 1:2? How are these two similar? How are they different?

22. Read Genesis 8:1-18. What does it mean when it says that God remembered those who were in the ark?

23. Again, look back to Genesis 1:2. What is hovering over the face of the waters?

Look at Genesis 8:1. What does the Lord send to dry the earth?

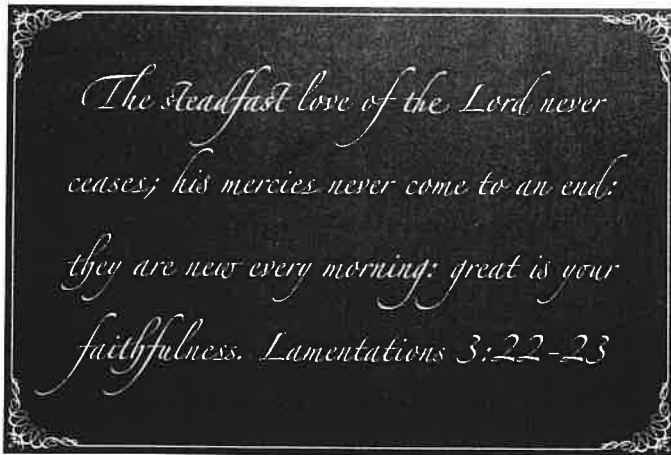
How are these two accounts similar?

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 9:

Genesis 8:20-9:17

“Covenantal God”

Remember: Each time we approach the Word of God we are completely dependent on the Spirit of God to help us understand what we are reading! Go to Him in prayer asking for the grace of God to illumine the Word of God to your heart. Ask that He would feed your soul with the delicious food of the Word and that you would be filled and satisfied!

Read through Genesis 8:20-9:17.

1. Where does the covenant with Noah and his sons begin?
2. What is God's role in the covenant?
3. What is Noah and his sons' role in the covenant?
4. Read Genesis 8:20-22. Noah and his family have come through the flood and all things are made new. What is the first thing that Noah does?

What does he offer?

Why does Noah do this?

8. In Genesis 9:1-7, God begins to communicate His covenant with Noah in ways that should sound familiar to you. While the word covenant is not used in Genesis 1:26-31, the language of covenant is there. Let's compare Genesis 1:26-31 with Genesis 9:1-7.

	Genesis 1:26-31	Genesis 9:1-7
Who is being blessed?		
What does God command them to do?		
How does God provide for their physical needs?		

What is the same between these two accounts?

What is different between these two accounts?

Why do you think this is so?

9. What do you observe in Genesis 9:1-4 about the relationship God has with creation?

10. Read Genesis 9:5-7. What does God re-establish about human life in this passage?

What is the penalty for taking the life of a human?

What is the reason given for the severity of this penalty?

13. Read Genesis 9:8-11. Who does God include in this covenant?

Why is this important?

14. What two specific things did God establish that He would not do?

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*

15. Read Genesis 9:12-17. What is the sign of the covenant that God is making?

Who sets the sign in the sky?

16. What is the purpose of the sign of the covenant?

Specifically who does the text say the sign of the covenant is intended to remind?

Does this surprise you? Why or why not?

17. Let us consider what is meant by remembering the covenant. Look up the following verses and note who is remembering and what happens as a result of remembering.

*Genesis 19:29 -

*Genesis 30:22 -

*Psalm 98:3 -

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...so that in Christ Jesus the blessing...might come to the Gentiles...Galatians 3:13ff

Week 10:

Genesis 9:18-10:32

"Blessed & Cursed"

Reminder: As you begin your study today, remember to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to you.

1. Read Genesis 9:18-10:32. What reaction does this extensive list of names bring up in you?

For what purpose would God include all of these names? (Remember back to the introduction where we discussed the original audience and what they were being prepared for.)

2. Focus your attention on Genesis 9:18-19. Who were the sons that came off the ark with Noah?


Why is Canaan mentioned at this point?

3. What is our connection to the three sons of Noah?

How do we reconcile what we have learned of Noah as “a righteous man, blameless in his generation” and one who “walked with God” with what Genesis 9:20-21 shows us about Noah?

7. Why do you think God includes the story of Noah, one of the great heroes of the faith, and his fall into sin in his Word?

 **Application:** Have you ever admired a Christian leader/teacher who has had a very public fall? How did their fall affect you?

 How can the story of Noah who was a man who had great faith; a man who was a biblical hero showing us what it looks like to be righteous and walk with God in his generation; a man who had known and experienced God’s great grace and mercy so dramatically in his life; yet a man who experienced a dramatic fall into sin, help temper our expectations of those who are contemporary heroes of the faith?

How ought we to think about and pray for those we hold in high esteem as examples of godliness?

What about your own life? How does Noah’s fall serve as a warning?



Application: What does this story teach us about what our attitude needs to be when we are dealing with those close to us who fall into sin? What do our actions need to be?

12. Read carefully Genesis 9:24-28. What happens when Noah awakens?

13. Who does Noah pronounce a curse upon?

Who is the one who sinned against Noah?

Why do you think Noah makes this switch in the recipient of the curse?

14. What was the curse Noah proclaims?

15. Who does Noah bless?

Why do you think Noah makes this switch in the recipient of the one blessed?

16. What do we learn about Shem from Noah's blessing?

What do we learn about Canaan from that same blessing?

What region of the map did the sons of Ham settle?

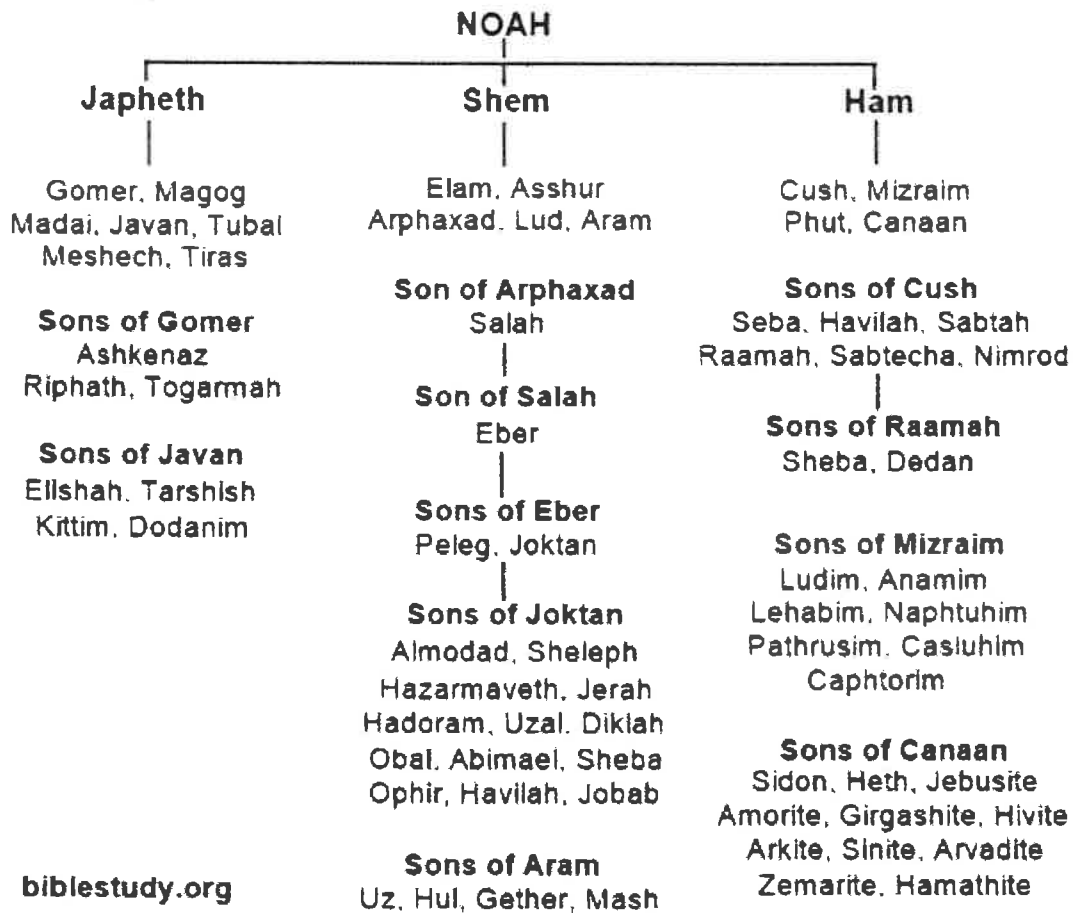
What region of the map did the sons of Seth settle?

21. Look at the list of Noah's descendants below. Which of the brothers has the most extensive list of descendants?

Which has the least?

22. Highlight Nimrod in yellow. From which son of Noah is he descended?

Noah's descendants (Table of Nations)





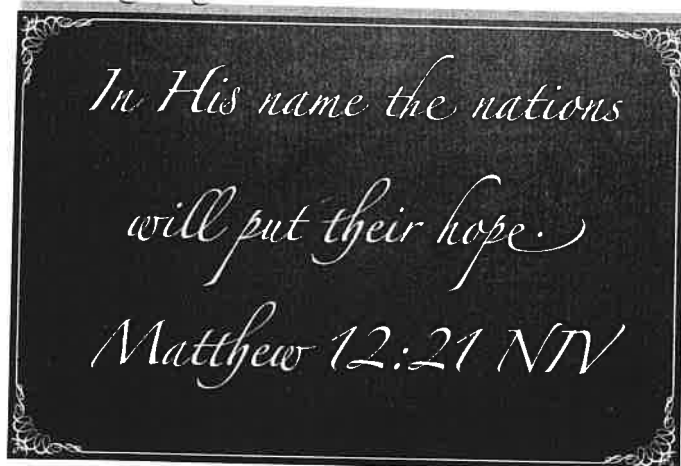
Application: When we opened this chapter, you were asked what you thought about the extensive list of names found in these 2 chapters. Has your understanding changed throughout this week? Why or why not?

Wrap Up

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



Week 11:

Genesis 11:1-26

"The Hope of the Nations"

Reminder: Before you begin your study, be sure to open your heart and ask God to shine the light of his truth so you will have understanding.

1. Read through Genesis 11:1-26.
2. We ended last week's lesson by looking back into Genesis 9:1 and saw that indeed the sons of Shem, Ham, and Japheth had been fruitful and multiplied. What did God command them to do according to Genesis 9:1?

According to Genesis 11:1-2 what did they actually do?


3. Note below what Genesis 11:1-2 tells us that the people had in common.

7. What do the people not want to do?

Why?

What is the problem with what the people were planning to do?

8. What do the actions of the people reveal about the condition of their hearts toward God?

 **Application: On the surface building a city and a tower is not a bad thing. It was what was going on in their hearts that was the problem. In what ways are we like the people today as a culture?**

Let's bring this home a bit closer. In what ways is this attitude a struggle in your own life? How have you tried to build a city and a tower to make your name great and/or against God's command?

What are specific ways that you can identify and guard against this very same heart and attitude in yourself?

14. In Genesis 1 we saw God as the Creator who brings order out of chaos. He forms creation and then He fills it in an orderly fashion. Here we see God bringing chaos out of order. What are His purposes in doing this?

Are His purposes good? Why or why not?

15. What happened when the Lord confused the languages of man?

What does this reveal to us about God's sovereignty over the affairs of mankind?



Application: What do you think it was like for the people living in this story to wake up suddenly with all the confusion of languages that was not there the day before? How would YOU respond in this kind of situation?

Have you ever had something happen in your life that could be compared to this? Where suddenly everything was turned upside down and inside out? Who did you attribute the blame to?

How can seeing God behind the scenes in this story in Genesis 11 help us today as we see chaos and confusion surrounding us? How ought we to respond to chaos and confusion?

17. What do you observe about the age span after the flood from the genealogy of Shem?
18. At what point in Shem's genealogy did the Lord disperse the peoples over the face of the earth (see Genesis 10:25)?
19. How many generations is it from Shem to Abram?
20. What is the author of Genesis setting the reader up for in his focus on the line of Shem rather than the other two sons of Noah?

Why is this important?

21. We will be studying Genesis 11:27-31 next semester. But for now, read over this passage. Where does Terah and his family live?

Find it on the map and highlight with yellow.

Has the family moved far from Babel?



Notes ~ Week 11: Genesis 11:1-26

"Hope of the Nations"

Appendix

Genesis 1-11

1 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.

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.

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 Now out of the ground the Lord God had 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.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." 11 He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman,

and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel."

16 To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;

22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" 23 therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

4 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord." 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. 6 The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."

8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. 9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" 10 And the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. 11 And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its

I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for striking me.

24 If Cain's revenge is sevenfold,
then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

25 And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth,
for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain
killed him." 26 To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that
time people began to call upon the name of the Lord.

5 This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made
him in the likeness of God. 2 Male and female he created them, and he blessed
them and named them Man when they were created. 3 When Adam had lived 130
years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.
4 The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons
and daughters. 5 Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.
6 When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. 7 Seth lived after he fathered
Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. 8 Thus all the days of Seth
were 912 years, and he died.
9 When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered Kenan. 10 Enosh lived after he
fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters. 11 Thus all the days
of Enosh were 905 years, and he died.

6 When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to

them, 2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. 3 Then the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." 4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. 7 So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence.

12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will

destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms

and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.”

5 And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth.

7 And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the

ark to escape the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean animals, and of animals that are

not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, 9 two and two,

male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah.

10 And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth

day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the

windows of the heavens were opened. 12 And rain fell upon the earth forty days and

forty nights. 13 On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and

Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark,

14 they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to

their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind,

and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. 15 They went into the

ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. 16 And

those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded

him. And the Lord shut him in.

17 The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up

the ark, and it rose high above the earth. 18 The waters prevailed and increased

greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. 19 And the

returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. 11 And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth.

12 Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.

13 In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 “Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” 18 So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.

20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 And when the Lord smelled the pleasing aroma, the Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth.

the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” 17 God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

18 The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) 19 These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed.

20 Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. 21 He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. 22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside.

23 Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

mighty hunter before the Lord. Therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord." 10 The beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11 From that land he went into Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and 12 Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city. 13 Egypt fathered Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, 14 Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom the Philistines came), and Caphtorim.

15 Canaan fathered Sidon his firstborn and Heth, 16 and the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, 17 the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, 18 the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Afterward the clans of the Canaanites dispersed. 19 And the territory of the Canaanites extended from Sidon in the direction of Gerar as far as Gaza, and in the direction of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha. 20 These are the sons of Ham, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

21 To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother of Japheth, children were born. 22 The sons of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram. 23 The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. 24 Arpachshad fathered Shelah; and Shelah fathered Eber. 25 To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name was Joktan. 26 Joktan fathered Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, 27 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, 28 Obal, Abimael, Sheba, 29 Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. 30 The territory in which they lived extended from Mesha in the

10 These are the generations of Shem. When Shem was 100 years old, he fathered Arpachshad two years after the flood. 11 And Shem lived after he fathered Arpachshad 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

12 When Arpachshad had lived 35 years, he fathered Shelah. 13 And Arpachshad lived after he fathered Shelah 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

14 When Shelah had lived 30 years, he fathered Eber. 15 And Shelah lived after he fathered Eber 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

16 When Eber had lived 34 years, he fathered Peleg. 17 And Eber lived after he fathered Peleg 430 years and had other sons and daughters.

18 When Peleg had lived 30 years, he fathered Reu. 19 And Peleg lived after he fathered Reu 209 years and had other sons and daughters.

20 When Reu had lived 32 years, he fathered Serug. 21 And Reu lived after he fathered Serug 207 years and had other sons and daughters.

22 When Serug had lived 30 years, he fathered Nahor. 23 And Serug lived after he fathered Nahor 200 years and had other sons and daughters.

24 When Nahor had lived 29 years, he fathered Terah. 25 And Nahor lived after he fathered Terah 119 years and had other sons and daughters.

26 When Terah had lived 70 years, he fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

27 Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. 28 Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29 And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah,

THE ATTRIBUTES Of GOD

To study God's attributes is to study his character, to answer questions like, *Who is God?* and *What is God like?* A typical classification of God's attributes divides them into those that are **incommunicable** (those that he does not share or "communicate" to anyone or anything else) and **communicable** (those that he shares with other beings). Like most theological classifications, this one is imperfect but still helpful as we seek to understand what is so far beyond ourselves.

God's communicable attributes can be further categorized into: attributes of God's being, mental attributes, moral attributes, attributes of purpose and "summary" attributes (attributes that, in a more particular way, modify each of the others).

It is important to consider that God is not simply the sum of his attributes. His attributes are not separate from one another, but each one modifies or qualifies each of the others.

Major Covenants in the Old Testament

Covenants	Reference	Type	Participant	Description
Noahic	Gen 9:8-17	Royal Grant	Made with righteous (6:9) Noah and his descendants and every living thing on earth—all life that is subject to human jurisdiction	An unconditional divine promise never to destroy all earthly life with some natural catastrophe, the covenant "sign" (9:13, 17) being the rainbow in the storm cloud.
Abrahamic A	Gen 15:6-21	Royal (land) Grant	Made with "righteous" Abram (his faith was "credited...to him as righteousness," v. 6) and his descendants, v. 16	An unconditional divine promise to fulfill the grant of the land; a self-maledictory oath symbolically enacted it (15:18)
Abrahamic B	Gen 17	Suzerain-vassal	Made with Abraham as patriarchal head of his household	A conditional divine pledge to be Abraham's God and the God of his descendants (cf. "as for me," v. 4; "as for you," v. 9); the condition: total consecration to the Lord as symbolized by circumcision
Sinaitic	Exod 19-24	Suzerain-vassal	Made with Israel as the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and as the people the Lord had redeemed from bondage to an earthly power	A conditional divine pledge to be Israel's God (as its protector and the guarantor of its blessed destiny); the condition: Israel's total consecration to the Lord as his people (his kingdom) who live by his rule and serve his purposes in history
Phinehas	Num 25:10-13	Royal Grant	Made with the zealous priest Phinehas	An unconditional divine promise to maintain the family of Phinehas in a "lasting priesthood" (v. 13; implicitly a pledge to Israel to provide it forever with a faithful priesthood)

