

9.29.19 - Big Story of the Bible: Creation - Fall - Re-creation - Tim

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a **few** questions that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal: Talking about God's original intent

The week's summary statement:

- In the beginning God created the cosmos and called it good. God placed humans in his good creation as his Image Bearers, to reflect his character to all the cosmos. Humans were in right relationship with God as their king, with their own hearts, with one another, and with all creation. God called all of this very good.
- Man and woman however, chose to rebel against God and make themselves the center of their lives. This caused a spiritual fracture between them and God, shame invading their hearts, blame between one another, and creation groaning. The Scriptures call this rebellion against God 'sin'. It is in every one of us and distorts our relationships with our own hearts, with one another, and with all creation.
- God, out of his love for his Image Bearers and his creation, did not leave them in this state but commenced his rescue mission and began revealing his Rescue Hero.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- Just for fun: What's your favorite thing to do when it's raining?

Background / Reading

This is a long passage, so take turns reading it.

Help people know what to look for while reading:

As you read Genesis 2, look for God's original intentions for life and humanity.

In Genesis 3, contrast the created state with the reality of life after the fall.

Genesis 2-3

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- Discuss your observations about God's original intent vs. how life looked after sin entered the picture.
 - Based on this text, what was Earth / the garden like before people sinned?
 - How did things change?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- What problems (featured in this passage) does Jesus come to fix? (Be specific and move beyond "sin" as an answer - Ex: How sin messed up our relationships with God, each other, the world, ourselves, creation, etc.)

- How does Jesus restore us to God's created intent?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- How does understanding God's original intent for the world change how we live our lives?
- Are there any specific burdens on your heart where you feel the consequences of the fall in your own life, in the lives of others, or the world? Share with the group and pray for each person right after they share.