

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR US

GENESIS 1

MAIN TAKEAWAY

We were created on purpose and for a purpose. The meaning of life is to know and bring glory to God!

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

What happens when something is used in a way that it wasn't designed for? Share an example. How does this help illustrate how we should live according to God's design and purpose?

We are starting a new year with a new Bible study in the book of Genesis, which means "beginning." And it's in this first book of the Bible that we find God's purpose for our lives. Genesis is the ground floor and foundation of the entire Bible—without it, the rest of the Bible would be incomprehensible. ***It all starts here!***

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ GENESIS 1:1-10

Pastor Greg said, "If you believe Genesis 1:1, the rest of the Bible will be no problem." What is this reason for this, and how have you experienced it to be true?

What does Genesis 1 teach about God's nature and character? Why are the doctrines of the Trinity, creation, and God's self-existence foundational to Christianity?

Only God can create, and He created something out of nothing. Like bringing order from chaos and light into darkness, how is God's creative power seen in your own life as a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4-6; 5:17)?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ GENESIS 1:26–2:3

What does it mean to be made in the image of God? Why is humanity set apart from the rest of God’s creation as “very good,” and how does this reveal God’s unique relationship with people?

How does being created in the image of God impact the way you view God, yourself, and others? How are your relationships better because of this? How does this differ from other worldviews?

Why did God “rest” after His work of creation? How does this assure you that God will complete the work that He started in the world and in you (Philippians 1:6)?

How does the completion of creation point forward to the finished work of Jesus in redemption (Matthew 27:50; John 19:30)? How does this provide ultimate rest for our souls (1 Peter 5:7)?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ PSALM 8

Like David, how should we respond to God’s good work of creation?

What is your favorite scenery in God’s creation? What causes emotions of awe and wonder, and how do you respond in praise to God?

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

Pastor Greg said, “Since God created the heavens and the Earth, He is more than adequate to meet your needs.” How does looking to God as your creator help you to trust Him as your sustainer and provider?

After *knowing* God’s purpose for your life, how can you *fulfill* God’s purpose for your life (Acts 13:36; Philippians 3:9–16)? How can your church and small group help you know and bring glory to God?

PRAYER

Give praise to God for His work of creation, provision, and redemption. Thank God that you were created on purpose and for a purpose. Ask for strength, wisdom, and passion to know God and to bring Him glory.