

Pln01 - Creation - Gen 1-2

I'm very excited to be starting a new series today

I'm always excited to start a new series - but I'm especially excited to begin this one - Because this one INVOLVES YOU

Everything I teach is FOR You - Even if I'm teaching something I'm personally learning - I believe God wants to use it FOR you

But this series is REALLY For you - it's for you to USE

If you are a Follower of Jesus Christ today - this series is for you - To Help You Do Your Part - in the Great Commission

In Matthew 28:19 - Jesus says to every one of His followers - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . .

& WE want to be Doing THAT - Actually be doing that

& we want to give YOU the Resources - for YOU to Actually be going therefore - and making disciples

So - This series is designed to;

#1) Help You BECOME a Disciple

#2) Help You GO AND MAKE Other Disciples

We're calling this series - God's Plan - Genesis to Revelation

& We're going to start the series with 15 Msgs that show God's SINGLE Plan for Mankind - from Genesis To Revelation

In just 15 Msg's - we're going to TIE the Entire Bible together - showing One Single Plan from God

Then - after we get a **Good Handle** on God's **Single Plan** in the Bible

Then We're **going** to **spend some time** talking about how **WE**
are **called** to **JOIN GOD** - **In His Plan**

Ultimately - we're **doing** this series **because**
We want to **HELP YOU Make Disciples** in **YOUR OWN** Life

A DISCIPLE is - ***A Full-Time Follower of Jesus Christ***

& If you **DO NOT** yet **consider yourself** a **DISCIPLE**
this series is **STILL** for you - so **don't tune out**

Our prayer is - those who **ARE** Disciples - will **go thru** this teaching -
with those who **DO NOT** - **YET** Consider themselves **Disciples**

& **our prayer** is that **YOU** would **choose**
to be a **Full-Time Follower** of Jesus Christ

Pls - **BE ASKING GOD** - to **Reveal** to you - His **Single Plan**
From **Gen to Rev** - & that **your life** would be **Transformed** by it

As we survey **God's Plan** - **end-to-end** in the **Bible**

I Promise Moments when you are just IN AWE of God;

IN AWE of His **OMNISCIENCE** (All-Knowingness)

IN AWE of His **OMNIPOTENCE** (All-Powerfulness) - & *most importantly*

IN AWE of His **Unconditional** & **Unfailing LOVE** - For **YOU**

THEN - if you will **decide** to **BECOME** a Disciple (*Full-Time Follower*)

Then - **we'll talk** about what to do **NEXT**

Now - As we go thru this Series - we're going to use
THIS BOOK - Called MULTIPLY *Francis Chan, Mark Beuving*

The Full Title - “Multiply - Disciples Making Disciples”

& THAT Phrase - “Disciples Making Disciples”
is a very important phrase to this church

4 yrs ago - In Jan 2009 - we shook things to the core around here

& we Refocused the Sole Purpose (Mission) of this Church
On THAT Exact statement - “Disciples Making Disciples”

It was the SUMMARY of our RENEWED Mission Statement
Long before *this book was written*

THAT is WHAT we want to be about Here
& that's what the Authors of This Book are about

So I'm going to actually USE the CHAPTER TITLES in this Book
as the Titles for this series

In HOPES you will get a copy of this Book,
& READ IT - Along with these messages

You DON'T Have To Have the Book - *you don't* HAVE to read it
You'll still be blessed by the series without it

But if you WILL Read the book - along with the series
You'll be better able to Grasp GOD'S PLAN

& you'll be better prepared to Help Others GRASP God's Plan

We **DO** have **some** of these **books** for you today - **\$12.00**
you can **get them** at the **Disc Resource Table**

If we run out, you can give us your **\$12**
& we'll **have** the book to **you by WED** - **shipped direct**

You can also **DOWNLOAD** - **READ** - **LISTEN** - For **FREE**
at **multiplymovement.com** - & *watch videos there*

If you **can go thru** this **book** w/ us - You will **Really BENEFIT** from it

& **Preferably** - **DON'T Go thru it ALONE** -

Go thru it **WITH** Someone **Else** - *Order them a book today too*

DISCIPLESHIP TABLE ??

Now - If you **DO** go thru **the Multiply Book** as I'm teaching this series
You'll **notice** I'm **NOT STARTING** at **the beginning** of the **Book**

I'm **actually starting** this Series in **PART IV** - *"Understanding the O.T."*

& **When** we **Finish** Studying **God's Plan - From Gen to Rev**
THEN we'll go back to **1st Three Parts** - on **Being a Disciple**

That's **The Game Plan** - So **Strap In** - & Let's **Get Started**

Let's Pray

The way we teach the Bible today - sometimes it's Hard to see
There's actually ONE, CONSISTENT Story - Beginning to End

Sometimes it's hard to see - God has ONE PLAN - Gen To Rev

But One of the Most Miraculous things about the Bible - is the
One Plan THREAD that Runs from Beginning to End

The Bible is hands down - stand alone

The Most Miraculous Book in the History of the World

& one of the Huge Miracles of the Bible

is this Single, Consistent, Never-Changing Plan of God

Has been written by 40 Authors - over 1500 yrs - on 3 Continents

ALL BEFORE there was a World-Wide-Web

Or international cell phone plans

How can 40 Authors - over 1500 Yrs - on 3 Continents

Write ONE Single Story - ONE Single Plan of God

2 Timothy 3:16 says - *All Scripture is breathed out by God . . .*

& THAT is the Only Way - 40 Authors, 1500 yrs, 3 Continents

could write ONE Single Story - ONE Single PLAN OF GOD

The Single Plan of God Has often been called

The Scarlet Thread of Redemption - from Gen 1 - to Rev 22

& this plan is So BIG, So ETERNAL - It MUST Start

with its PRIMARY SUBJECT . . . GOD !! - & God Alone !!

This Plan is GOD'S - This Story is ABOUT GOD

Even YOUR ROLE in this Plan - is Actually About GOD

Because this is God's Plan - to Create & Redeem a People
FOR HIS OWN GLORY!!

& so the Bible Begins - w/ the Eternal FOCUS of this Great Plan

Genesis 1:1 (esv)

1 In the beginning, God . . .

In the Beginning - GOD was Already THERE
HE Started it - HE Created it - HE Holds it all together

That makes this ALL God's Story, & ALL God's Plan

GOD is the Only Character in Gen Ch 1

& He Begins His PLAN - By CREATING all that's been created

& Genesis 1:1 tells us

1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

God has a PLAN - & This is the Initial Unfolding of that Plan

The Hebrew word for "Created" is BARA

Used only w/ God as its subject - means "Create Out of Nothing"

It's counterpart in Latin (Early Church) = EX NIHILO (*out of nothing*)

God created the Heavens & the Earth - Out of NOTHING

To Set The Stage for His plan

In fact Gen 1-3 - Sets The Stage for the Entire Rest of the Bible

In Gen 1 & 2 - we see the world as God Created it to be

In Gen 3 we see The Fall - & Beginning of God's Plan of Redemption

This is GOD'S WORLD

The Story starts with God SPEAKING Creation into Existence

Genesis 1:2 (ESV)

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.

Then - in the following Vs's - God SPOKE this world into Existence

God Said - "Let there be LIGHT,"

"Let there be SKY,"

"Let there be LAND - & SEA,"

"Let there be GREEN VEGETATION"

"Let there be SUN & MOON"

"Let there be FISH & BIRDS & ANIMALS on the Earth"

The Creation Account SEPARATES God From EVERYTHING Else

HE is the Creator - EVERYTHING ELSE is His Creation

Which maybe - for some of us - should lead

to more HUMILITY in HOW we deal with God . . .

So God created the Heavens & the Earth

& then in Gen 1:26 - God kinda "Tops Off" His creation

Genesis 1:26 (ESV)

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . .

WHO is it that God is conferring with here ?

Let's address THE TRINITY real quick . . .

The **Bible teaches** that **God Exists** as One True God
In **THREE** Persons - **Father, Son, & Holy Spirit**

The **Creator God** of the Bible is **One God - Existing** in **3 persons**,
who are **Fully Equal** & yet **Individually Distinct**

Thru out **Gen 1** - the **Name used** for God is **ELOHIM**
which is the **PLURAL form** of the Hebrew word for **GOD** . . .

Some point out - This may **ref** to God's **Plural Majesties/Attributes**
& **maybe so** - because **That's TRUE** as well

But **the Trinity** is **Clearly Here** in Gen 1 **regardless**
In **Gen 1:2** the Holy Spirit is **NAMED** as **having part** in Creation

& both **John Ch 1** & **Col Ch 1** - make it clear
Jesus Christ was **THE AGENT** of Creation

John 1:3 - *All things were made through him, and without him
was not any thing made that was made.*

Col 1:16 - *By Him all things were created . . . all things were
created through him and for him.*

AND - This is **not the only place** the Godhead **CONFERS** with itself

Gen 3:22 - *Behold, the man has become like one of us in
knowing good and evil.*

Gen 11:7 - *Come, let us go down and confuse their language,*

Isa 6:8 - *Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?*

So again - in **Gen 1:26** - the **Godhead** (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) says
“*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . .*”

This is what makes Mankind **UNIQUE** - Over ALL of Creation
We are made in the **IMAGE & LIKENESS** of God

God made us (in some respect) in His IMAGE . . .

NO Other part of God's creation has this **TRAIT**
Mankind alone - was Created by God - in His Image

There's a LOT - that could be said to be made "in His Image"

Our Personality (or Soul)
Our Decision Making Will
Our Relational Based Lives

& espec our **SPIRIT** - which enables us to Know & Worship God

But I believe being Created in the Image of God - is about
REFLECTING God in some way - to the Rest of his Creation

Because we are made in God's IMAGE (Spiritually)
& Because the Spirit of God CAN Live IN US . . .

We are ABLE to display God's Nature, & God's Attributes
In a way the rest of Creation CAN NOT

Guys - We were created - Not only to COMMUNE with God
But to also REFLECT His Image to this World

PLUS - God Made us - to SHARE Dominion with Him
Which is another way we're MADE in HIS IMAGE

→ →

1 more time - Genesis 1:26 (ESV)

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.”

It's CLEAR - God Uniquely Created us - In His Image;

To **REFLECT** His **Glory** to Creation

To **CO-GOVERN** (under his guidance) the **Earth** He created

That's a Pretty **Big START for **GOD'S PLAN****

& **THEN** - in **Gen Ch 2** - God gets **MORE PERSONAL**

We **see it even** in the **NAME used** for God - From **Ch 1** to **Ch 2**

We **already** mentioned - **Hebrew Name** for God in **Ch 1** - **Elohim**

Which is **actually** a **TITLE of Recognition, Authority**

But in **Gen Ch 2** - We **see** (for the 1st time)

the **Personal, Covenant-Making Name** of God - **YAHWEH**

written **LORD** (all caps) in most of your Bibles

& **thru the O.T.** we see - **When God** is **Relating Personally** -

Especially in **Making a Covenant** - He uses the name **YAHWEH**

Along that line - We can **see GEN 1** as **God's AUTHORITY**

& **GEN 2** as **God's INTIMACY** in Creation

Look at **HOW PERSONAL** the creation of Man was

In Genesis 2:7 (ESV) → →

Genesis 2:7 (ESV)

7 then the Lord God (Yahweh Elohim) formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Like a **Master Sculptor** - Making a **Masterpiece**

When YAHWEH (personal name) formed Man

He **stooped** down & "**formed**" man (*used of a Potter's work*)
& then God **BLEW** the **Breath of Life** into man

& **THAT** is what **made man** a **living being**

Like **nothing Else** in creation - **God breathed** His **own life** into Man

& **just as Intimate** - was **God's COMPLETING** of **Mankind**
When He created WOMAN

Adam had **already** been **put to work** (which we'll come back to)

& **he got to name ALL** the **Animals** - Which **shows**
God working **WITH** Man in **Dominion** of the **Earth**

But **it seems** like it was all a **LESSON for ADAM**

God was **showing Adam** his **NEED** for **Close Relationship**

Because God **MADE US** - For **Relationship** !!

& so we read in Genesis 2:21–22 (ESV)

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.

Notice how Personal - How Intimate - is God's work with mankind

The **Master Potter** Creating his **Masterpiece**
& then **breathing his life - into it**

& **THEN** - God **showing Man - HOW MUCH Woman** is a **Part** of Him
& **Proving** we were **created** to be **ONE FLESH**

& **even tho** these are the **Foundation Vs'** for **MARRIAGE**
For today I want you to **see** just **TWO THINGS** here;

- 1) The **Personal**, Life-Giving **Intimacy** of God's **creation** of **Mankind**
- 2) Our **Created Requirement** for **Relationship** - with **God** & **Ea Other**

These are the things that make us - **IN the IMAGE of GOD . . .**

ALONG with us **REFLECTING God** - **in** the **DOMINION** He's **given** us
on His behalf (Which we see in **Gen 1:26, 1:28**)

& **Finally** - it's **critically important** we see **WHAT** God **Intended**
our **Life to Look Like** - & our **Relationship** with Him **to Look like**

& we **see a Picture** of **BOTH** those things - **in the Garden**

back up in Genesis 2:8 (ESV)

8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

The **Garden of Eden** was a **Paradise** for **mankind** to **live**
in relationship with **one another** & with **God**

Genesis 2:9 (ESV) → →

Genesis 2:9 (ESV)

9 And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

& then Genesis 2:15 says (ESV)

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

**Sometimes we think WORK is part of the CURSE - But it's NOT
We were MADE to be Productive, & Enjoy our work**

So - God creates a Paradise for Mankind

To LIVE, & WORK, & Have RELATIONSHIP w/ Ea Other & God

& Then - in Gen 2:16-17 - God makes His First Covenant with Adam
The 1st time we see the Word - COMMAND

Remember - God is the CREATOR - Man is the CREATED

God had given Man Great Honor & Privilege

& NOW - Man is Given RESPONSIBILITY to go with it

If Man CHOOSES GOD'S Way - He LIVES

If he CHOOSES His OWN Way - He DIES

THIS is man's First opportunity to CHOOSE to OBEY God

Genesis 2:16–17 (ESV)

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.”

Seems pretty clear . . .

Enjoy the Paradise I've made for you - OBEY My Command - & LIVE
OR - REJECT My Command - & DIE

& as you may know - in the Next Ch -
All of this - that God created for Mankind - is "Put On Hold"

Adam, who we call "The Federal Head" of all Mankind
SINS - By REJECTING God's Command

& a 6,000 plus Year PAUSE - is put into Effect
While God - fully, completely, & eternally - deals with SIN

BUT - Before we get to the BAD NEWS . . .

Can you SEE - the PINNACLE of ALL of God's creation
was His Personal, Intimate - Creation of Mankind ?

& can you SEE the PLACE He created
for Mankind to Live in real Communion with God ?

This Incredible Picture - that Gen 1 & 2 describes
is the Picture of God's Plan for Mankind

To Live in HARMONY - with God - & with Ea Other
In the World God created for us

But DON'T WORRY - this Paradise - where Man lives in Harmony
w/ God & w/ Ea Other - IS NOT LOST !!

This Paradise WILL RETURN - TO this earth
WHEN Jesus Returns to set all things back to this state

We just saw that, as we finished Revelation

But Today - What I Pray you begin to see is . . .

God has only ONE PLAN - From Gen to Rev

& IN His OMNISCIENCE - He Knew

& IN His OMNIPOTENCE - He will Prevail

& in HIS LOVE - He has Already MADE A WAY

That way - is in Jesus Christ . . .

Jesus Himself said in John 14:6 (ESV)

6 . . . "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

A Disciple is - *A Full-Time Follower of Jesus Christ*

& YOU can become a Disciple - TODAY

Let's Pray