

Getting the Story Straight (Genesis 1:1-2:3)

Beginnings: A Study of Genesis 1-12 Series

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. What are some origin stories (personal, cultural, or national) that shape how people see themselves?
2. How do false origin stories affect how people view meaning, identity, and purpose today?
3. **Read Genesis 1:1-2.**
 - What stands out to you about the opening of Genesis?
 - What does the phrase 'without form and void' communicate about creation before God orders it?
 - How does Genesis differ from other ancient creation stories mentioned in the sermon?
4. **Read Genesis 1:3-25.**
 - What repeated patterns do you notice throughout the days of creation?
 - What is the significance of God creating simply by speaking?
 - How do the first three days of forming creation connect to the next three days of filling creation?
5. **Read Genesis 1:26-31.**
 - What does it mean that humanity is made in the image of God?
 - What responsibilities are given to humanity in these verses?
 - How does Genesis present humanity differently from both ancient pagan views and modern naturalistic views?
6. **Read Genesis 2:1-3.** Why does God rest on the seventh day?
7. What false stories about humanity or purpose does our culture commonly believe today?
8. How can believing you are made in the image of God change the way you view yourself?
9. How should the doctrine of the *Imago Dei* shape the way Christians treat other people?

10. In what ways do people today worship created things rather than the Creator?
11. How does understanding God as Creator bring meaning and direction to ordinary life?
12. What areas of your life need to be brought back under God's rule and design?
13. How does understanding your true origin story affect the way you live as God's representative in the world?
14. How can your group encourage one another to live with greater purpose, meaning, and worship this week?