

Read Through The Bible

Week 1 – Feb. 4-10, 2024

Gen. 1-16, Matt. 1-6, Psalms 1-6, Proverbs 1:1-7

Icebreaker

What is the first thing you remember?

Who is your oldest living relative?

What have you ever made or done that you thought was really good?

Step 1 - GET REAL

What are you thankful for from the past week?

What struggles did you face?

What can you share from your personal Bible reading this week?

Where did you see God in your daily life?

Step 2: GET FED

Scripture

Genesis

Genesis 1:1 (ESV) ¹ *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Genesis 1:10, 12, 16-18, 21, 25, 31 (ESV) ¹⁰ *God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. **And God saw that it was good...*** ¹² *The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. **And God saw that it was good...*** ¹⁶ *And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars...**And God saw that it was good...*** ²¹ *So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. **And God saw that it was good...*** 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...*** ³¹ ***And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.***

Genesis 1:22, 38-39 (ESV) ² *And God blessed them [all living creatures], saying, “**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.**” ...* ²⁸ *And God blessed them [Man]. 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.***

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) ²⁷ *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

Genesis 2:20-25 (ESV) ²⁰ *...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. ²³ Then the man said, “**This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.**” ²⁴ **Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.** ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

Genesis 9:1-6 (ESV) ¹ *And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.**” ² The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. **Into your hand they are delivered.** ³ **Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.** ⁴ But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵ And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. ⁶ “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.*

Genesis 9:8-13 (ESV) ⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹ **I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.**” ¹² And God said, “This is 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.**

Genesis 11:5-6 (ESV) ⁵ And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶ And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And **nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.**

Genesis 12:1-3 (ESV) ¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 15:1 (ESV) ¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”

Genesis 15:5-6 (ESV) ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Matthew

Matthew 1:20-21 (ESV) ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for **he will save his people from their sins.**”

Matthew 3:13-15 (ESV) ¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “**I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?**” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.

Matthew 4:17 (ESV) ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**”

Matthew 4:18-22 (ESV) ¹⁸ While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ **Immediately they left their nets and followed him.** ²¹ And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² **Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.**

Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV) ⁹ Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, ¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Psalms

Psalms 1:1-2 (ESV) ¹ Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ² but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 2:10-11 (ESV) ¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹ **Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.**

Psalms 3:3 (ESV) ³ But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

Psalms 4:1 (ESV) ¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

Psalms 5:4-6 (ESV) ⁴ For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. ⁵ The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. ⁶ You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Psalms 6:2 (ESV) ² Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.

Proverbs

Proverbs 1:1-6 (ESV) ¹ *The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:* ² *To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight,* ³ *to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity;* ⁴ *to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—* ⁵ *Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance,* ⁶ *to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles.*

Proverbs 1:7 (ESV) ⁷ *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Questions

Genesis

(Gen. 1:1) Why would God begin His Word in this way? How important is this concept to our worldview? How does this differ from many ideas in the world today? How should this concept affect our ideas and actions today?

(Gen 1:10,12,16-18,21,25,31) *“And God saw that it was good.”* What does this indicate about God? How should this influence our thinking about the world and God’s actions in the world? How does this thought differ from many in the world today?

(Gen 1:21-22, 28-29) *“Be fruitful and multiply...”* What significance does this concept hold for us today? How does this sit with many people’s concepts today?

(Gen 1:28-29, 9:1-6) *“Have dominion over...”* *“I have given you”* What do these concepts mean for man today? How should this affect our policies today?

(Gen 1:27) *“God created man in His Own image.”* How does this make us different from animals? What about man displays the image of God? What does this mean for our lives?

(Gen 2:20-25) What profound concepts should we gather from the creation of man and woman? What impact should verse 25 have for life today?

(Gen 3) Genesis 3 tells the story of the fall of man? What parts of this passage continues today? What impact does this have on our lives today? How should we consider the work of the serpent today?

(Gen 9:8-13) What does a rainbow tell us about God’s covenants/promises?

(Gen. 11:5-6) What does this verse tell us about the capabilities of man? What does this section tell us about man’s ambition/pride?

(Gen. 12:1-3) What promise was made to Abram? What significance does this have for us today? Would you leave your family and go to a land you did not know? What evidence if there in our lives that we would obey God as Abram did?

(Gen. 15:1) God told Abram He would be his shield. Is God our shield today? How has God been your shield?

(Gen. 15:5-6) *“he believed the LORD and it was counted to him as righteousness”* Do we have the faith of Abram?

Matthew

(Matt 1:1-17) How does the genealogy of Christ relate to the promise to Abraham? What does this reveal about the promises of God? What significance should this have for our lives?

(Matt. 1:20-12) What was Joseph to name the baby? Why? How does this reason relate to the whole story of the Bible?

(Matt 1 and 2) Joseph was warned several times in dreams. What was the purpose of these dreams? How are they important to us?

(Matt 1-6) There are numerous instances of prophecy being fulfilled. What does this indicate about God’s plan?

(Matt 3:13-15) Jesus came to be baptized by John. John was confused saying he need to be baptized by Jesus. What was Jesus answer to John’s question? Again, what does this tell us about God’s plan? What does it tell us about Jesus? What should it mean for our actions?

(Matt 4:1-11 – Jesus’ temptation) What do Jesus’ answers to the devil teach us? Am I living by these principles?

(Matt 4:17) What was the essence of Jesus’ message? Is this still relevant? Have I done that?

(Matt 4:18-22) *“Immediately...they followed him.”* Have we/Are we followed/ing Him?

(Matt 5:1-11) Which of the attitudes listed are present in your life? Does anyone have all these? Should anyone possess all these?

(Matt 5:13-16) Are we the salt of the earth? Are we a light to the world?

(Matt 5:14-48) “*You have heard it said...*” “*But I say unto you*” What is the point of each of these contrasts? Which of these sections are most difficult for you?

(Matt. 6:5-15 - The Lord’s Prayer or The Model Prayer) What is the basic message of this prayer for us? How are we doing at forgiving? What import does this have for our lives?

(Matt 6:19-24 – Lay up treasures in heaven) Where is our heart, heaven or earth? Which master are we serving, God or money?

(Matt 6:25-34) Anxiety is rampant in the world and the church today? What is the message of this passage for us? What is the solution for anxiety? How easy is it to attain this solution?

Psalms

(Psalm 1:1-2) Who is blessed? What is that person’s reward?

(Psalm 2:11) What is the message for rulers?

(Psalm 3:3) What three roles does God fill for us? Which of these are you benefitting from?

(Psalm 4:1) Do we expect God to answer our prayer? How do we know when he answers? What do we do when His answer is different from what we want?

(Psalm 5:4-6) How does God feel about wickedness and evil? What does this mean for us?

(Psalm 6:2) have you ever felt like God is not listening? Have you ever felt anguish and weeping? What was David’s answer?

Proverbs

(Proverbs 1) What is the purpose of the proverbs? (vs 1-6) What is the beginning of knowledge? (vs 7) Why will God not answer the simple, those who won’t listen? (vs 28-31)

Step 3: GET ACTIVE

Genesis means “origin, creation, beginning or generation.” List all the things that began in Genesis. Meditate on the meaning of each for our lives today.

Genesis 3 tells the story of the fall of man? List some of the impacts the fall of man had on the world. List some specific impacts on our life today.

Review Jesus’ answers to the Devil in Matt. 4:1-11. Evaluate how well you are living by these principles.

Review the message of Jesus in Matt. 4:17. Do I need to do this?

Jesus said: “*Follow me.*” And immediately they did. How well are we following Christ today?

Evaluate your life. How salty am I? How much light do I shine? Whose light do I shine?

Answer the question? Which God am I serving, God or money? What is my anxiety level? Why?

Select one of the psalms this week and meditate on its meaning for our lives.