

## GENESIS: The Book of Beginnings - Week 2

### 1) The Big Idea

Genesis isn't just the beginning of the Bible—it's the beginning of *everything*. Genesis 1 establishes a foundation that shapes how we understand God, ourselves, and the world: **God created with purpose, order, and authority**. Even when we don't understand every detail, God has revealed enough for us to live with stability and faith.

### 2) Key Scripture

- **Genesis 1:1** — “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”
- **Genesis 1:31–2:1** — God calls creation “very good” and completes His work.
- **Colossians 1:16** — All things were created through Him and for Him.
- **Matthew 10:29–30** — God notices sparrows and numbers hairs—He is attentive.
- **Deuteronomy 29:29** — Some things are hidden; what God revealed is for us.
- **2 Corinthians 3:18** — God is restoring and transforming His people.

### 3) Read the Passage

Read **Genesis 1:1**, then **Genesis 1:31–2:1** slowly.

As you read, notice:

- What God does
- What God says
- What God evaluates (“very good”)
- The repeated pattern: evening / morning / day

### 4) What Genesis Is Doing Here

The sermon emphasized that Genesis is **historical and theological**—not written as a modern science textbook. Its first goal is to answer the biggest questions:

- **Who is God?**
- **Who are we?**
- **Why is the world the way it is?**
- **What is our purpose?**

### **Personal reflection:**

**What do you tend to look to first for answers—God’s Word, culture, or personal experience? Why?**

## **5) Three Core Truths from Genesis 1 (and What They Mean for You)**

### **Truth #1 — God is attentive to His creation**

God doesn’t create and then disappear. He observes, evaluates, and cares—down to the sparrow and the hairs on your head.

#### **Reflection prompts:**

- Where in your life do you feel “unseen” right now?
- If God truly knows the details, what would change about how you carry that burden this week?

**Practice (today):** Name one situation you’ve been trying to manage alone. Tell God, specifically, what it is.

### **Truth #2 — God has a design for His creation**

Creation is described as a “vast array”—many parts working together with order and purpose. You are not accidental, random, or meaningless.

In the sermon, your life purpose was summarized in two words:

#### **Relationship + Glory**

- **Relationship:** You were made to know God personally.

- **Glory:** You were made to reflect Him in how you live.

**Reflection prompts:**

- Do you relate to God mostly at a distance (“I know about Him”) or personally (“I know Him”)?
- Where are you most tempted to define your purpose by achievement, comfort, or approval?

**Application (this week):**Choose **one**:

- Set aside a daily 5–10 minute “relationship” time with God (Word + prayer).
- Choose one “glory” action: a specific, intentional act that reflects Christ (forgiveness, honesty, generosity, service, encouragement).

**Truth #3 — God delights in His creation**

God called it “very good.” He is not burdened by His creation. He delights in it. At the same time, God does not delight in what sin has done to it—so He started a plan of restoration.

**Reflection prompts:**

- Do you believe God delights in you... or just tolerates you?
- What’s one lie you tend to believe about how God sees you?

**Gospel reminder:**

God found a way to condemn sin **without condemning you**—through Jesus. God restores what sin breaks.

**6) A Helpful Faith Posture for Hard Questions**

The sermon referenced **Deuteronomy 29:29**: some things are “secret” to God, and some things are revealed for us.

This isn’t a call to avoid thinking. It’s a call to:

- **Stay humble** where Scripture is silent
- **Stand firm** where Scripture is clear

- **Live obediently** with what God has revealed

**Reflection prompt:**

What's one question you're carrying about creation, science, or faith that you need to hold with humility—but without letting it shake your confidence in God?

## 7) Identity Check

Answer honestly:

**1. Do I have a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus?**

- Yes
- Not sure
- No

**2. Am I living toward “relationship + glory” this season—or drifting?**

**If you checked “not sure” or “no”:**

A simple prayer could be:

“Jesus, I turn from my sin and trust You. Forgive me, restore me, and lead me. I want to know You.”

Talk to your leader or a church staff member and let them know if you

## 8) This Week's Practice Plan

Pick **one** simple plan (keep it realistic):

**Option A — 7-day Genesis reset (10 minutes/day)**

- Read **Genesis 1** over the week (a few sections a day)
- Each day write:
  1. What does this reveal about God?
  2. What does this reveal about me?
  3. What is one response God is asking for?

**Option B — Two anchor verses**

Memorize one:

- Genesis 1:1
- Deuteronomy 29:29
- Colossians 1:16

## 9) Closing Prayer

God, thank You that You are sovereign, attentive, and intentional. Thank You that You created with purpose and that You delight in Your creation. Help me live according to Your design: **relationship with You and glory to You**. Where I have questions, give me humility and steady faith. Where I have drifted, restore me. Keep transforming me from one degree of glory to another through Jesus. Amen.

### Quick Summary to Remember

- **God is attentive** — you are known and seen.
- **God has a design** — your purpose is relationship + glory.
- **God delights** — and God restores what sin broke through Jesus.