

# SEASIDE CHURCH // SERMON NOTES

January 13 | Creation Part 1

## SUMMARY

Last week we began this series with a theological and literary introduction. The Bible is built on the theology of Genesis 1.1 that God is and God creates! We also noted that Genesis 1-3 can be challenging passages to read as we often come with our own modern preconceptions and ideas around creation. The challenge is to read these texts first from the intention of the original author/audience in mind. Therefore, one of our burdens with this series is to think about how we are reading these texts in addition to what they are saying. This message continues that work of understanding the literary lens in reading Genesis and also dives into the first 3 days of creation. This message is part 1 of 2 part message on the 6 days of creation.

## GROUP QUESTIONS *(For use with your family, roommates, Community or Bible Group, or individually)*

- After last week and this week, are there any specific thoughts or questions you have on what we've covered so far?
- Pastor Rob mentioned how for many years he read Genesis 1 like a journalistic report of creation or like drone footage. How have you read these verses? Are you thinking in new ways or do you have questions around How we read Genesis since we began our series?  
[Supplementary conversations could be had around the 3 statements made in the sermon about reading Genesis as a text ("this is not a pipe"), being aware of what Genesis 1-3 is trying to do verses our own modern views of origin (hubble vs starry night pic), and understanding that these passages are set within a specific cosmology (how we understand the universe) that is different then ours!]
- Read Genesis 1.1-2.
  - What does verse 2 tell us about the "land" created in verse 1?
  - What is significant theologically about the land being an uninhabitable desert? How does this connect with the end of Deuteronomy?
- Read Genesis 1.3-5
  - What do we learn about God in Genesis 1.3-5? (Hint: What's the first thing he does and what does he call his creation?)
  - What is the main action God is doing? What is he giving "form/shape" to?
  - What is the connection with God's action of "separating" within the Pentateuch? (See Exodus 26.33 and Leviticus 20.26)
- Read Genesis 1.6-8
  - What is the expanse or raqia referring to?
  - How is this different from our cosmology? Do you see how it makes sense to an ancient Israelite?
  - How do you deal with the fact that the cosmology of the Hebrew Bible is scientifically different then the cosmology of our day? What overlaps and what doesn't?
- Read Genesis 1.9-13
  - As you finish reading the third day... do you notice any repeating patterns between the days?
  - How is it evident so far that there is a literary design here?
- What place does our theology of creation play in our gospel message. Read Acts 17.16-34 and specifically note v24.
- Assignment - Read Genesis 1 five x this week in one sitting: Did you note any new observations, connections, repeating words, etc? Practice Psalm 1 with this passage this week.

## PRAYER POINT

What do we learn about God in these verses? Spend time praying over those truths and lift up needs you have as a group and as individuals.

## FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS

Read Genesis 1. After each day pause and ask the kids to use their imagination to describe what that day must've been like. Don't use a picture Bible for this.

## RESOURCES

- The Bible Project Video's: Genesis and How to read the Bible Series.
- Keep in mind these 5 "reading guides" or lenses for Genesis.
  1. Read Genesis Humbly
  2. Read Genesis Theologically (to know God)
  3. Read Genesis Literarily (Ancient Jewish Literature)

4. Read Genesis Eschatologically (It has the end in mind)
  5. Read Genesis Holistically (It is a part of the whole Pentateuch)
- Interpretive Statement: Genesis 1-3 is a highly stylized literary, theological, and cosmological representation of creation and human origins written for the nation of Israel post-exodus.

Email any questions to [rob@seasidechurch.com](mailto:rob@seasidechurch.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS // January 2019

### **NEW TO SEASIDE LUNCH**

Sunday, January 20, 12:45- 1:45pm

If you are new to Seaside, this is a great first step in finding out more about our church and getting connected. We'll talk through what we do as a church and how you can get connected. This is a casual event and families/kids are welcome. RSVP/ find more info @ [seasidechurch.com/events](http://seasidechurch.com/events)

### **SEASIDEKIDS VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

Sunday, January 27 6:30-8:30pm

Mandatory training for all SeasideKids volunteers.

### **FINANCIAL PEACE CLASS**

Mondays, 6:30-8:30 [starting January 21]

A 9-week class that will show you step-by-step how to create a budget, pay off your debt, make wise spending decisions, and save for the future. Nate and Alyssa Lawler are leading this class, utilizing material from Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University.

Cost is \$100/ individual/couple however, Seaside will cover/ refund 50% of the cost if you complete all 9 weeks of the class (full need-based scholarships are available upon request). No childcare.

Interested? Email Nate @ [n8lawler@gmail.com](mailto:n8lawler@gmail.com)

### **SEASIDEYOUTH GATHERINGS**

Wednesdays, 6-8pm

A community-centered group for youth [grades 6-12] to grow in character and develop healthy relationships with leaders and peers. We gather weekly at the Seaside garage, sharing dinner, playing games, having fun and learning from/ discussing the Bible.