

Genesis

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GCT
Fall 2026–Spring 2027

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PART 1: In the Beginning: Creation, Fall, and Promise (Genesis 1-11)

Theme: God creates, man rebels, judgment comes, grace remains.

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Theme: God calls one man through whom blessing will come to the nations.

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Part 3: Isaac and Jacob: Election, Struggle, Transformation

Theme: God's grace works through a messy, chosen family.

16	Genesis 25-26 - Isaac: With Abraham, Twins and Trials
17	Genesis 27 - Isaac: Family Deception, Blessing and Consequences
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Theme: What man means for evil, God means for good.

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24	Genesis 39-40 - Joseph: Suffering in Slavery and Prison
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Calendar

Part 1 - Genesis 1-11

September 8/9- October 27/28, 2026 (Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings)

Sept 8 / 9	Lesson 1 - God Creates All Things for His Glory
Sept 15 / 16	Lesson 2 - God Creates Humanity in His Image
Sept 22 / 23	Lesson 3 - The Fall of Mankind and the Promise of God
Sept 29 / 30	Lesson 4 - Cain Spreads Sin into the World
Oct 6 / 7	Lesson 5 - God Judges with the Flood but Favors Noah
Oct 13 / 14	Fall Break
Oct 20 / 21	Lesson 6 - God's Care for and Covenant with Noah
Oct 27 / 28	Lesson 7 - Sin from Noah to Nations at Tower of Babel

Introduction: Our Approach

Our Purpose

Our times together should be informed by study of God's Word. Whether you like to study a passage by reading it multiple times and looking up all the cross-references, by following a study guide of questions such as this one, or by marking it with your colored pencils and inductive study tools, our purpose is to know Him through His Word, to be transformed, and to encourage and strengthen one another to hold fast to our hope in His promises (Hebrews 10:23–25; Eph. 4:11–16; Rom. 12:2; 1:16).

As believers called to become ever more conformed to the image of Christ, we want the time we invest here to change us. We have in this resource a structured study tool to get us in the Word together, treasuring the beauties of Christ in unison. This tool is to equip our personal study, so that when we come together there can be rich sharing and discussion. When each of us spends time in the scriptures we bring a depth of conversation we can't get from the facilitator alone. Let's commit to this time together and our personal time in the Word each week in order to work together toward the goal of growing in Christlikeness, understanding God's Word, and unity and fellowship in Christ.

Weekly Study Guide and Discussion Group

Your weekly homework will focus on a particular segment of Scripture to see what it has to say and how it fits into the greater context. The homework is designed to help you take a closer look at what you are reading. Not all the homework questions will have answers that are immediately clear to you. If you are unsure of an answer, give it your best shot. We'll expand our understanding in the small group discussion. In our weekly meetings we want to focus our time on discussing the passage together in the more broad strokes of the application questions specific to each week's passage, as well as the following questions: What does this passage teach me about God? How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self? What should I do in response?

In your personal study time you may find it helpful to mark recurring words in the text as you study. Marking recurring words throughout a book is useful to discover themes and remember the big picture after you've studied. Some may benefit from using colored pencils and symbols in their markings. If you're interested in learning more about this approach, go to precept.org/our-approach.

Storing Up Treasure

Some days your study may not move you emotionally or speak to an immediate need. You may not be able to apply a passage at all. But what if ten years from now, in a dark night of the soul, that passage suddenly opens up to you because of the work you have done today? Wouldn't your long-term investment be worth it? Approaching God's Word with a God-centered perspective, with context, and with care takes effort and commitment. It is study for the long-term.

In Matthew 13, we see Jesus begin to teach in parables. He tells seven deceptively simple stories that leave his disciples struggling for understanding. After the last parable he turns to them and asks "Have you understood all these things?" Despite their apparent confusion, they answer out of their earnest desire to understand with "Yes". Jesus tells them that their newfound understanding makes them "like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old." ^[L]_{SEP}

A storeroom, as Jesus indicates, is a place for keeping valuables over a long period of time for use when needed. Faithful study of God's Word is a means for filling our spiritual storerooms with truth, so that in our hour of need we can bring forth both the old and the new as a source of rich provision. We pray that this study would be for you a source of much treasure, and that you would labor well to obtain it.

Guidelines for Participants in Group Discussions:

In order to work together toward our common goal and purpose (see above), we are encouraged to each come prepared to share from our personal time in the study each week, as that brings a depth of conversation we can't get from the facilitator alone.

Our purpose is to know God through His Word, to be transformed, and to encourage and strengthen one another to hold fast to our hope in His promises.

1. **Listen with respect.** Give others the gift of your full attention by not interrupting. When someone else is speaking, resist the urge to plan your response—focus instead on hearing them clearly.
2. **Seek understanding.** Listen actively, with the aim of understanding someone else's perspective. You don't have to agree, but you should seek to appreciate where they're coming from.
3. **Commit to learning, not debating.** Our goal is to grow in wisdom and in love for God and one another—not to win arguments. Speak to share insight or experience, not to persuade or prove a point.
4. **Choose gracious words.** Avoid blame, speculation, or language that could inflame. Let your words build up rather than tear down.
5. **Make room for every voice.** Ensure everyone has the chance to speak. If you notice you've spoken more than others, pause and let someone else contribute. Encouraging quieter members helps us all learn from one another.
6. **Lead with compassion and charitable judgment.** Charitable judgment and compassion should govern our discussions. Do not make assumptions about a person's background, and avoid generalizations about groups of people (for example, "young people," "older people," "men," "women," or particular ethnicities or denominations). Likewise, don't put anyone on the spot by asking them to represent an entire group.
7. **Challenge ideas, not individuals.** It is good to ask hard questions or push back thoughtfully, but do so in a way that critiques ideas—not individuals.
8. **Honor what God honors.** Use edifying words about Christ's bride, the Church, and about marriage. Be careful to not tear down that which God exalts.
9. **Come ready to learn from one another.** If you were unable to read the scriptures and spend time alone with God and the lesson this week, listen to what the Lord taught others who were able to invest that time this week. Our discussion will be enriched by more of us speaking from the time we've spent in the Word. That's not to say those who didn't study aren't permitted to speak, only that the group will all benefit most from the unprepared taking on a learner role and listening more.

Credits and Acknowledgements

This study guide is a compilation of editorial additions by Grace Community Church of Topsail members, works by the following “fellow workers for the truth” (3 John 1:8), various resources we’ve studied over the year, which all converge on these pages including the following:

Bible Translation

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV).

Bible Study Fellowship

Wetherell Johnson, Audrey. Genesis. 1973. Used with permission.

Commentaries

Richard Belcher - *Genesis: The Beginning of God's Plan of Salvation* (Focus on the Bible).

Allen Ross - Creation & Blessing.

Bible Studies

Jen Wilkin studies

Doctrinal and Confessional Connections

These are referenced at the end of many of the lessons to provide theological foundation.

WCF - [Westminster Confession of Faith](https://epc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/WCF-Online-Version.pdf) - (https://epc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/WCF-Online-Version.pdf)

WSC - [Westminster Shorter Catechism](https://catechisma.com/westminster-shorter-catechism-modern) - (https://catechisma.com/westminster-shorter-catechism-modern)

HC - [Heidelberg Catechism](https://rcus.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Heidelberg-Catechism-450Annv.pdf) - (https://rcus.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Heidelberg-Catechism-450Annv.pdf)

AN OVERVIEW OF GENESIS

What Genesis Is About

Genesis means "beginnings." It is the first book of the Bible and the opening book of the Pentateuch, or Torah. Traditionally, Genesis has been understood as written and/or compiled by Moses under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It was given to God's people to teach them who God is, where the world came from, what went wrong through sin, and how God began His covenant plan to bring blessing to the nations through the promised offspring.

Overall Theme

Genesis reveals the God who creates, rules, judges sin, keeps covenant, and graciously preserves His promises. Though humanity repeatedly turns from God, the Lord faithfully works through His chosen line to fulfill His promise of blessing, land, offspring, and ultimately redemption.

A Four-Part Structure

- 1. Creation, Fall, and the Nations (Genesis 1-11):** God creates all things good; humanity falls into sin; sin spreads through the world; God judges and shows mercy through the flood; and the nations are scattered at Babel. These chapters explain the world's beginning, humanity's rebellion, and our need for God's promised rescue.
- 2. Abraham: The Promise Given (Genesis 12-25):** God calls Abram, makes covenant promises to him, and promises land, offspring, and blessing to all the families of the earth through him. Abraham's life teaches us to watch for faith, waiting, worship, weakness, and God's covenant faithfulness.
- 3. Isaac and Jacob: The Promise Preserved (Genesis 25-36):** God continues His covenant promise through Isaac and then Jacob, often in surprising ways. The promised line is preserved not because of human strength or worthiness, but because God is faithful to His word.
- 4. Joseph: The Promise Protected and Positioned (Genesis 37-50):** Through Joseph's suffering and rise in Egypt, God preserves Jacob's family during famine and positions Israel in Egypt for the next stage of redemptive history. What people intend for evil, God uses for good.

Key Repeated Phrases and Patterns to Watch For

- **"These are the generations of..."** This repeated phrase structures Genesis and moves the story forward from one generation to the next.
- **God speaks.** Pay attention to what God says, commands, promises, names, blesses, and judges.
- **Blessing and curse.** Notice where God gives blessing, where sin brings curse, and where mercy interrupts judgment.
- **Offspring or seed.** Watch the promised line and the repeated concern for children, barrenness, birth, inheritance, and descendants.
- **Land.** Notice Eden, exile, Canaan, sojourning, famine, and the promise of a place for God's people.
- **Covenant and promise.** God binds Himself by His word and keeps His promises even when His people are weak, fearful, sinful, or waiting.
- **Altars, worship, and calling on the name of the LORD.** Notice how God's people respond to Him.
- **Sin, judgment, and grace.** Genesis repeatedly shows human rebellion, God's righteous judgment, and God's surprising mercy.

- **Sibling conflict and family brokenness.** Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, and Joseph and his brothers all show the spread of sin within families and God's ability to work through painful stories.
- **Providence.** Watch for God's hidden hand. He is not only working through miracles and direct speech, but also through waiting, weakness, famine, dreams, journeys, and ordinary decisions.

Questions to Keep Asking

- What does this passage reveal about God?
- How does this passage fit within God's covenant promises?
- How does this passage show the seriousness of sin and the mercy of God?
- How does this passage point forward to the need for Christ, the promised offspring who brings blessing to the nations?

As We Study

Genesis is not only the beginning of the Bible's story; it is the beginning of the story of God's promise and redemption. As we study it, we want to see the Lord as Creator, Judge, Covenant-Keeper, Provider, Preserver, and Redeemer, and to learn to trust His word, His timing, and His ways.

PART 1: In the Beginning: Creation, Fall, and Promise (Genesis 1-11)

Theme: God creates, man rebels, judgment comes, grace remains.

This section helps us to understand who God is, who we are, what has gone wrong with the world, and why we need a Savior.

Genesis begins with the God who creates all things good, makes mankind in His image, and rules over all He has made. Yet very quickly, sin enters the world, bringing brokenness, judgement, and death. Even so, God's grace is present from the beginning. In these chapters, we see the foundation for the whole Bible: creation, the fall, the first promise of redemption, the spread of sin, the flood, covenant mercy, and the scattering of the nations. This section helps us to understand who God is, who we are, what has gone wrong with the world, and why we need a Savior.

Part 2: Abraham: Promise, Covenant, and Faith (Genesis 12-25)

Theme: God calls one man through whom blessing will come to the nations.

These chapters teach us what it means to trust the promises of God, even when fulfillment seems impossible. We see that salvation rests not on human strength, but on the gracious initiative and covenant faithfulness of the Lord.

God calls Abraham, narrowing the story from the nations to one man and one family. God makes covenant promises to Abraham and declares that through his offspring all the nations of the earth will be blessed. Abraham's life is marked by faith, waiting, weakness, obedience, and God's unwavering faithfulness. These chapters teach us what it means to trust the promises of God, even when fulfillment seems impossible. We see that salvation rests not on human strength, but on the gracious initiative and covenant faithfulness of the Lord.

Part 3: Isaac and Jacob: Election, Struggle, Transformation (Genesis 26-36)

Theme: God's grace works through a messy, chosen family.

The story of Isaac, Jacob, Esau, Leah, Rachel, and Laban shows us the grace of God at work in a deeply imperfect family. These chapters are filled with rivalry, favoritism, deception, disappointment, fear, and striving. Yet through it all, God continues His covenant purposes. Jacob's life especially shows us that the Lord is patient, faithful, and powerful to transform those he has chosen. This section reminds us that God's promises do not depend on perfect people, and that His grace meets us in our weakness, wrestles with us, and changes us.

Part 4: Joseph: Providence, Suffering, and Preservation (Genesis 37-50)

Theme: What man means for evil, God means for good.

The final section of Genesis follows the story of Joseph and his brothers, showing the hidden hand of God at work through suffering, injustice, waiting, repentance, forgiveness, and restoration. What others meant for evil, God meant for good. Through Joseph's story, we see that God is sovereign over both the painful and the ordinary details of life, preserving His people and keeping His promises. Genesis ends with God's covenant family in Egypt, waiting for future redemption and pointing us forward to the greater Deliver to come.

PART 1: In the Beginning: Creation, Fall, and Promise (Genesis 1-11)

Theme: God creates, man rebels, judgment comes, grace remains.

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- 1 - God Creates All Things for His Glory
- 2 - God Creates Humanity in His Image
- 3 - The Fall of Mankind and the Promise of God
- 4 - Cain Spreads Sin into the World
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- 6 - God's Care for and Covenant with Noah
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Lesson 1 Questions — Genesis 1

GOD CREATES ALL THINGS FOR HIS GLORY

Focus verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." – Genesis 1:1

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

If you started reading through Genesis, what impacted you most in the past week? Or, what excites you about studying this book of the Bible?

FIRST DAY: Genesis 1:1-2; Hebrews 1:2; John 1:1-3; 1:14.

God created the heavens and the earth.

1. What do these verses reveal about God and creation?
2. What most intrigues you in these verses?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 1:3-13.

God began creating earth's attributes.

3. What did God create and name on the first through third days?
4. What are the possible ways to define "day"? Which one seems most plausible to you? (See Exodus 20:11; 2 Peter 3:8 and other Scriptures you may know for help.)
5. What phrases are repeated?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
6. What do you learn about God and creation from these verses?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 1:14-25.

God called the lights and animals into existence.

7. How did God fill the earth on the fourth through sixth days?
8. How does the light in verse 3 compare with the lights on the fourth day?

9. What conclusions do you make from the repeated phrase "and God saw that it was good"?

10. What makes it hard to believe there is a Creator God?

FOURTH DAY: Read Romans 1:18-25; Psalm 8:3-4, 9; Psalm 148 and Job 38-40 with Genesis 1:1-25 in mind.
All creation is called to praise God.

11. What is your takeaway about God and creation?

12. What are the implications for your daily life based on these truths?

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 1:1-25 considering Christ's role in creation- Colossians 1:15-19; Colossians 2:3, 9-10.

13. What is the most surprising or challenging thing you discovered this week?

14. Why do you think God created the earth?

15. Where does God's authority need to take its rightful place in my life?

16. What is the biblical concept of rest? How is it ignored in modern society? In my own life?

17. How does the fact that God spoke and the world came into existence affect our understanding of His providential care of and power over creation?

18. How does the fact that human beings are created in the image of God affect your view of the relationship between humans and animals, your view of other human beings, and your view of your role in God's creation?

Principles:

- Creation puts God's glory, authority, and power on full display.
- Creation humbles man and renders him without excuse.

Lessons:

- God created the world out of nothing.
- The Holy Spirit gives life.
- Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the Light of the World.
- The three persons of the Godhead, known as the Trinity, were at work together in creation.

*Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: WCF 4.1; WSC 4-6: Who is God; WSC 9: Creation and Providence.**

Lesson 2 Questions — Genesis 1:26-2:25

GOD CREATES HUMANITY IN HIS IMAGE

Focus verse: "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'" – Genesis 1:26

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group sharing or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 1:26-31.

God created mankind in His image on the sixth day.

1. What distinguishes humanity from the rest of creation?
2. What does it mean to be created in God's image?
3. What do you learn about the identity and purpose of humanity? How does that help, encourage or challenge you?
4. What commands did God give humanity? What is our responsibility today in view of these commands?
5. The Bible describes God as a Trinity - one God in three persons. Where/how do you see this reflected in:
 - a. Genesis 1
 - b. John 14 and 16
 - c. John 1:1; 14:7; and 14:16-17

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 2:1-3.

God rested from His "very good" work of creation on the seventh day.

6. What do you notice about the seventh day?
7. What does "God rested" mean?
8. What do you learn about work and rest? How could you apply this to your life?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 2:4-25.

God personally made Adam and Eve for life in Eden.

9. Which details about Adam and Eve and life in the garden stand out to you and why?
10. What commands did God give to Adam and Eve? Why were they given?

11. What can you know about God from creation?

12. Does the Bible suggest that it rained in Eden? If not, how was the earth watered, as found in this passage?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 2:4-25.

Humans are created to glorify God and to work together for good.

13. What conclusions do you draw about God's purpose for marriage?

14. What do you learn about God? About humanity and our purpose?

15. How does what you learned impact the way you view your current circumstances?

16. List the pleasant conditions under which Adam and Eve lived in Eden. Then, list some pleasant conditions which you most enjoy in your present circumstances.

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 1:26-2:25.

17. Consider your view of work in light of Genesis 2. Do you see it as an act of service to God? Do you see it as a blessing given to you by God? How can you fulfill God's calling of service to others and to God in your home, church, community, world?

18. In light of human dominion over creation and the responsibility to care for creation, is it appropriate to cut down trees for the wood to make baseball bats and to build houses? How can we use creation for our benefit but also be good stewards?

19. How do you view the roles of husband and wife in marriage? How are those roles practically lived out in your marriage? How can you encourage your spouse in their role? How can you encourage others in their role as a spouse?

20. How are discussions of singleness different from discussions of homosexuality? How should the church view singleness in light of Genesis 2 and New Testament teaching?

21. How did Genesis 2 impact your thinking about how God's view of every human life offers hope and establishes priorities?

Principle: Of all creation, only humanity can uniquely and fully glorify God's image.

Lessons:

- God prepared earth for man.
- Believers have a relationship with the Trinity that is set apart and blessed by God.
- God created man different from animals.

*Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: WCF 4.2, 24.1-2; WSC 1, 10: Created in God's image; purpose to glorify God; marriage**

Lesson 3 Questions — Genesis 3

THE FALL OF MANKIND AND THE PROMISE OF GOD

Focus verse: "So the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this ... I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.' " – Genesis 3:14-15

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group discussion or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

Reviewing Genesis 1-2, do you see different main emphases about the character of God in relationship to His creation in each chapter?

- a. Chapter 1 attributes of God:
- b. Chapter 2 attributes of God:

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 3:1-5.

The serpent tempted Eve to sin.

1. What do you notice about the conversation between the serpent and Eve? (See Genesis 2:15-17.) What does it mean to be created in God's image?
2. The serpent is identified with Satan. (See Revelation 12:9 and 20:2.) What characteristics does he display in these verses? What commands did God give humanity? What is our responsibility today in view of these commands?
3. How do temptations cause people to question God's character? What role do our desires play in temptation?
4. a) What have you learned about temptation?

b) What temptations do you currently face?

Other scriptures for reference: Matthew 4:1-10; 13:19; Luke 10:18; John 8:44; 12:31; Ephesians 2:2; 6:11.

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 3:6-13 with 1 John 2:15-17 and James 1:13-16.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

5. How did Adam and Eve rationalize or justify their sin?
6. What immediate effects occurred for Adam and Eve personally and in their relationship with God? What died?
7. What stands out to you about God's response?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 3:14-19.

God explained the consequences for sin.

8. How did life change for Adam and Eve because of their disobedience?

9. What promise did God make? What is the significance of this promise? (See Isaiah 25:6-12; 53:4-5; Romans 16:19-20; and 2 Peter 3:9 for interpretation of the promise.)

10. How do people currently experience the realities of the judgment and promise given to Adam and Eve? (See 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 for help or any other verses.)

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 3:20-24.

Consolation of the Promise

11. What actions did God take and why?

12. How is Christ as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" indirectly symbolized here? (See John 1:29; Matt 26:28; and 1 Peter 1:18-20.)

13. What do you learn about God?

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 3.

14. What attribute of God stands out most to you in Genesis 3? How do you see that attribute displayed in the world today?

15. a) How can you tell God cared about Adam?

b) How can you know God cares about you?

16. How did God's Word help me to resist temptation this past week?

17. Do I rely on God to help me ward off doubt and deception?

18. Have I realized the peace which comes with God's promise fulfilled?

Note: Three lines of promise run through the Old Testament which have their source in this chapter.

1. Promise of the Seed ("Silver Thread") - Genesis 3:15
2. Promise of the Sacrifice ("Scarlet Thread") - Genesis 3:21; John 1:29
3. Promise of Eternal Life ("Golden Thread") - Genesis 3:22, 24; Revelation 22:14; John 6:53-58

Principles:

- In Adam's sin, all men fell.
- God is absolute in His judgement AND in His promise.

Lessons:

- Doubting God's Word opens the door to temptation.
- We can choose to resist temptation.
- The Fall costs us paradise. Jesus' blood purchases paradise for those who believe.

*Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: WCF 6.1-3, 8.6; HC 19; I Cor 15:21-22**

Lesson 4 Questions — Genesis 4

CAIN AND ABEL

"If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." – Genesis 4:7

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group discussion or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 4:1-7 with Hebrews 11:1-7.

The Lord responded to Cain and Abel and their offerings.

1. Compare and contrast Cain and Abel and their offerings. What stands out to you?
2. Why did the Lord accept Abel and his offering but not Cain and his offering? (See Hebrews 11:4; 12:15; Romans 1:21.)
- 3a) Name some factors that contributed to Cain's anger.
- 3b) How do you react when someone suggests you are wrong? Why?
4. What do you learn about God from His interaction with Cain?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 4:8-12.

Cain killed Abel and was cursed by the Lord.

5. Describe Cain's actions that culminated in killing his brother Abel.
6. What do you notice about the Lord's conversation with Cain?
- 7.a) Why is it difficult to confess and accept responsibility for sinful actions and reactions?

b) What impact could victory in this area have on your relationships?
8. From Genesis 4:1-12, what truths do we need to know about temptation and sin?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 4:13-16.

Cain went out from the Lord's presence.

9. What do you learn about Cain from his responses to the Lord?
10. How do you respond when confronted about your sin? What does this reveal about your heart?
11. How does God's response to Cain comfort or challenge you?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 4:17-26.

Cain's descendants increased, and Seth was born.

12. What progress did Cain's descendants make?
13. What do you observe about the character of Cain's descendants and their relationships with God and one another?
14. What hope was there in Seth's birth and for all who "called on the name of the Lord"?
15. What warning or comfort do you want to remember from this chapter?

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 4.

16. How did this week's study impact your thinking about temptations surrounding you and the unexpected consequences of sin?
17. If given the opportunity, how could I explain the consequences of sin to someone who needs to know?
18. How is the godly line described at the end of chapter 4? How should those things manifest themselves in the life of God's people today?

Principles:

- God gives life, sin destroys it, and Jesus Christ redeems it.
- God accepts obedience and rejects rebellion.

Lessons:

- Sin has devastating consequences which spread far beyond our own lives.
- Repentance brings forgiveness.
- Accomplishments without faith have no eternal value.

*Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: HC 105-016**

Lesson 5 Questions — Genesis 5-7

GOD JUDGES WITH THE FLOOD BUT FAVORS NOAH

"God said to Noah, 'I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.' " – Genesis 6:13

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group discussion or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 5.

Adam's descendants from Seth through Noah are summarized.

1. What do you learn from the repeated phrases about God and mankind?
2. What stands out to you about Enoch? (See Hebrews 11:5-6; Jude 1:14-15.)
- 3a. What does it mean to walk faithfully with God?
- 3b. How would you describe your walk with God?
4. How does this chapter inform your thinking about life, death and the afterlife?
5. What evidence is there in the genealogy that death will not have the final word? What hope does that give us today?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 6-7.

The Lord decreed judgment for evil but favored Noah.

6. Describe the world at that time and the Lord's response.
7. How did Noah find favor in the eyes of the Lord?
- 8a. What do you learn about Noah and his character?
- 8b. What would need to change in your life for you to have a reputation like Noah's?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 6-7 with 2 Peter 2:4-9; 3:1-10; Jude 1:5-7; Hebrews 11:7.

The Lord commanded Noah to build and fill the ark.

9. What stands out in God's instructions, warning and promises to Noah?

10a. What do these verses say about Noah's response to God?

10b. What is your response to God's instructions, warnings and promises concerning judgment and salvation?

11. What is God asking you to do at this time in your life? How are you responding?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 7. (Also see Genesis 15:16; Revelation 14:15-18; Romans 2:1-15; 2 Peter 3.)

Every living thing died except those in the ark.

12a. Which verses indicate that the flood covered *all* the earth? (Give words or phrases.)

12b. What evidence from geology, archaeology, ancient traditions, etc., might support this viewpoint?

13. What stands out to you about God's judgment? What was the moral cause for the judgment of the flood? What questions does God's judgment raise for you?

14. What does the flood teach you about faith in God's Word and God's faithfulness to His Word?

15. How is the flood an encouragement to some and a warning to others? Which is it to you?

16. How does this passage impact the way you interact with others?

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 5-7.

17. What does it mean in Genesis 6 when it says God "was sorry" (nāham) that He had made man? How does the use of this same Hebrew word in 1 Samuel 15:11 & 29 help clarify the meaning in Genesis 6?

18. What do you learn from these chapters about God's patience and mercy before judgment?

Principle: God's judgment is swift and final, but his grace is patient and endless.

Lessons:

- God protects the righteous.
- Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation.
- Ignoring God will result in judgment.

Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: WSC 19; HC 8; WCF 6.4, 6.6; Roman 3:10-18; 5:14; Heb 11:7, 2 Peter 2:5; 1 Peter 3:18-20; Matt 24:27-39.

Lesson 6 Questions — Genesis 8:1-9:17

GOD'S CARE FOR AND COVENANT WITH NOAH

"I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." – Genesis 9:11

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group discussion or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 8:1-14.

God remembered Noah and ended the Flood.

1. What do you notice about Noah's actions while he waited for the earth to dry up?
- 2a. Where is the meaning of "God remembered" demonstrated by God's actions in these verses?
- 2b. What truths about God and Noah do you want to remember?
3. What are you currently waiting on God to do? How does this passage encourage or challenge you while waiting?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 8:15-22.

Noah exited the ark and built an altar to offer sacrifices to God.

- 4a. What instructions and promises did God give Noah?
- 4b. How did Noah respond? Why?
5. What is the first thing Noah did upon exiting the ark? What do you notice about the importance of the altar and sacrifice in the following scriptures: Genesis 12:6-8; Genesis 35:1-4; Genesis 4:3-4; Hebrews 9:22-26; Matthew 26:28?
- 6a. What sacrifice ultimately pleased God? (See John 12:27-33; Romans 3:25-26; 1 Peter 2:21-24.)
- 6b. What sacrifices can you offer in response to God today? (See Psalm 27:6; 51:17; Proverbs 21:3; Hosea 6:6; Micah 6:8; John 15:13; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 2:5; and Hebrews 13:15-16 to expand your thinking beyond this passage.)
7. List the attributes or characteristics of God in this passage. Which one is most meaningful to you recently?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 9:1-7.

God gave blessings and instructions for filling the earth.

8. List the commands God gave Noah. How do these compare with the commands He gave in Eden (Genesis 1:28-30)?
9. How are God's commands concerning people and animals reflected in your attitudes, actions or culture?
10. What do you learn about God's desires for humanity and the value of human life that challenges your interactions with others? How might this change your prayers for our world today?

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 9:8-17.

God gave an unconditional covenant to humanity and all creation.

11. What are the details of God's covenant with Noah and his descendants, including us? (See also Genesis 8:21-22.)
12. How does the covenant shape your thinking about God and His creation?
- 13a. What is the sign of God's covenant? What does the sign signify?
- 13b. What reasons do we have to believe that God is able to keep His covenant?
14. (Challenge) List covenants God made with man throughout Scripture.

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 8:1-9:17.

15. How are the common grace elements and the redemptive elements of this covenant still relevant to people today?
16. If God makes a promise, he is faithful to keep it. How have I witnessed God's faithfulness in my life and in the lives of those around me?
17. If we focused our attention on God's image in other Christians, how would this affect our relationships with them?
18. Who changes a person to be like Christ? How does this change take place, according to 2 Corinthians 3:15-18?
19. What do you do when "rain" in the form of trouble comes to you? Do you worry and ignore God's promises to you, or do you *choose* to take His promises, "to look at the rainbow," and live, trusting in His faithfulness to His promises in His covenant with you?

Principle: God's covenant provides a new beginning. God made a lasting covenant with all creation.

Lessons:

- Jesus Christ is God's sacrifice for sin.
- God keeps His promises.
- Man is made in God's image.

Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: HC 27-28; HC 105; WSC 68-69; 1 Peter 3:20-21; 2 Pet 3: 5-7; 2 Peter 2:9; Luke 22:20 (covenant)

Lesson 7 Questions — Genesis 9:18-11:9

SIN FROM NOAH TO NATIONS AT TOWER OF BABEL

"But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building." – Genesis 11:5

OPENING REVIEW:

Use this space to record how you have seen God's activity during the week. (How has He provided, answered, comforted, reconciled, guided, etc.?)

What from the group discussion or personal study of last week's lesson impacted you most in the past week?

FIRST DAY: Read Genesis 9:18-23 with Proverbs 10:12; 6:16-19; and 17:9.

Noah's nakedness was revealed by Ham and covered by Shem and Japheth.

1. Describe the actions of Noah and his sons.
2. What do you learn about sin and its influence from Noah and his sons?
3. What are you challenged to imitate or avoid? Do you, like Ham, take pleasure in other's sins and talk about them to others?
- 4a. How has your life been affected by the faults and successes of others?
- 4b. How are others being affected by your faults and successes?

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 9:24-29.

(Note: God's "curse" means He foretells of justly deserved destruction for rejecting Him and His ways. The godless Canaanite nations ended in judgment when Israel and others conquered them.)

Noah prophesied about his sons' future nations.

5. What was Noah's prophecy regarding the nations to come from the lines of his three sons?
6. What relevance does the curse upon Ham have for today? What hope does the blessing of Shem give to people today?
7. What is a truth Noah's sons learned about God in this moment? At what point in your life did you learn this truth?
8. Genesis 9:29 records Noah's death. How does God's involvement in his life and Noah's legacy impact you?
9. How does the 'seed' theme continue in the account of the flood and its aftermath? What can the flood teach the church about judgment and blessing?

THIRD DAY: Read Genesis 10.

(Note: Genesis 9 and 10 show the origin of the world's nations. Genesis 11 shows why and how they were scattered.)
Nations descended from Noah's sons spread out over the earth.

10a. Which names or places listed interest you or remind you of their mention in other Bible stories?

10b. What does this list tell about the nations' relationship with and connection to the God of the Bible?

11a. What is the purpose of the genealogy in chapter 10? How does it relate to the history of Israel? How does it differ from the genealogy of chapter 5? What might it mean that seventy nations are listed in this genealogy?

11b. In verse 25 Eber has two sons, Joktan and Peleg. Joktan's descendants are named, but the genealogy is interrupted by the tower of Babel story. Why do you think the genealogy is split here and picked up again in chapter 11 to include Peleg's descendants?

12. What are you growing to appreciate in both the commonalities and differences among the nations represented by your family, those around you and in the world? (See Acts 17:26-27 and Revelation 7:9.)

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 11:1-9.

The Lord confused the language of tower builders to scatter them.

13. How was the tower of Babel contrary to God's plan for people?

14a. What was at the root of their desires?

14b. How or where do these roots show up in your life?

15. What do you learn about God from how He responds to the people and their plans? (See Psalm 2:1-5.)

16. How does the gospel reverse the scattering at the tower of Babel (Acts 2; Revelation 4:9-11)?

FIFTH DAY: Review Genesis 9:18-11:9.

17. What have you learned about God's sovereignty and humanity's free will in this week's study?

18. No one escapes sin, and no sin is too great to be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ. How can God change my view of others from grudge to grace?

19. Will your current project exalt God and His Word or will it be an edifice with which God is not pleased and collapse in ruins at the day of His coming?

20. What has helped you the most out of the first eleven chapters of Genesis?

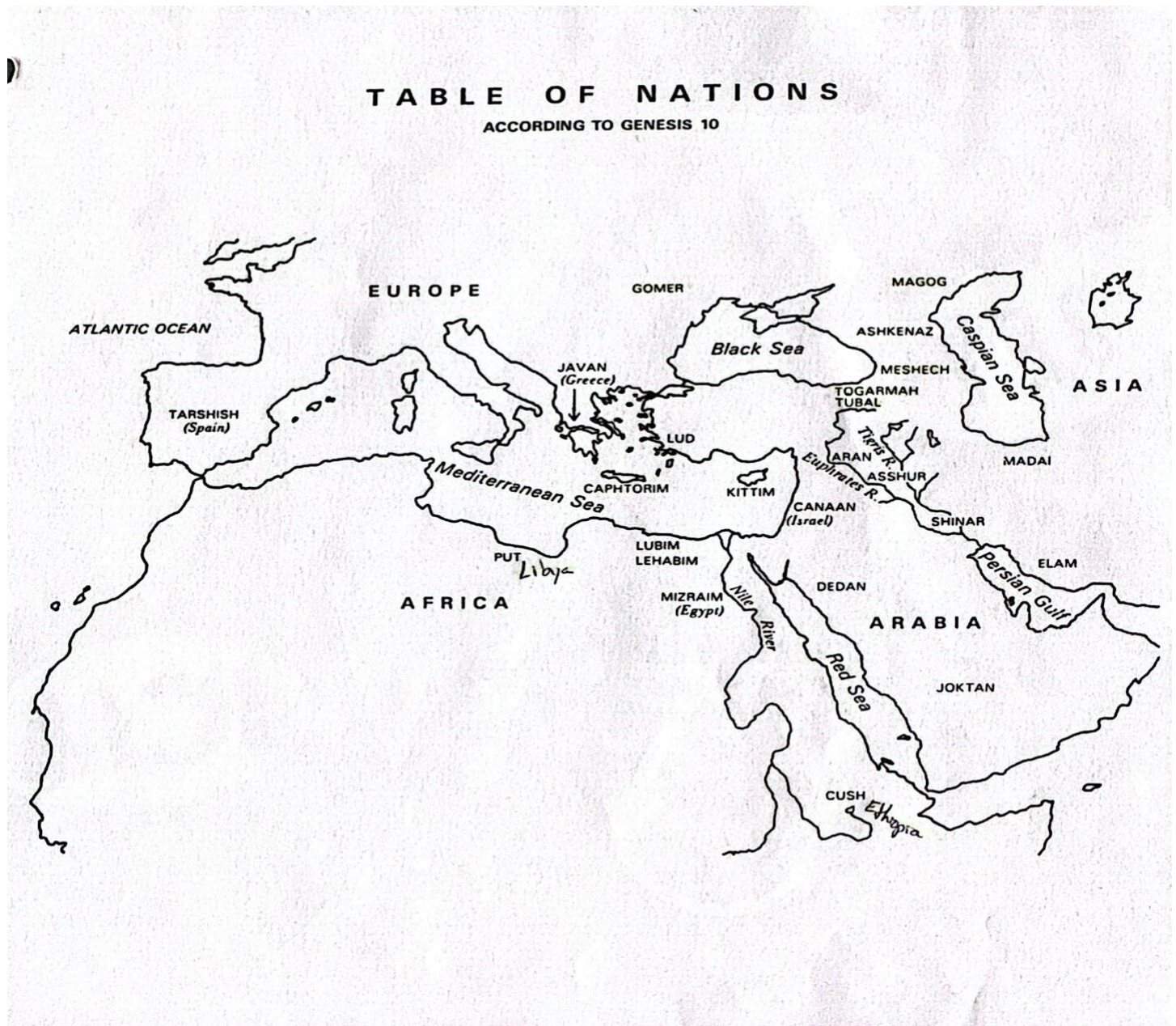
Principle: God allows people to choose sin, judges them for their sin, and gives grace to save them from their sin.

Lessons:

- A true test of Christian character is seen in my attitude toward another's sin.
- Though evil men seem to prosper, God will Judge them.
- Though good men suffer, God will preserve them. God is sovereign.

Doctrinal and Confessional Connections: Acts 2:1-11; James 4:6; Rev 7: 9-10; Job 1-2, 42 (with Gen. 10:23, 25, 29 ~ Job may have been between the time of Noah and Abraham)

Note regarding future lessons: This lesson is the last of the more difficult lessons pertaining to prehistoric ages. The next section begins the life of Abraham - the man of faith- when the study will become increasingly interesting and applicable.



Part 2: Abraham: Promise, Covenant, and Faith (Genesis 12-25)

Theme: God calls one man through whom blessing will come to the nations.

God calls Abraham, narrowing the story from the nations to one man and one family. God makes covenant promises to Abraham and declares that through his offspring all the nations of the earth will be blessed. Abraham's life is marked by faith, waiting, weakness, obedience, and God's unwavering faithfulness. These chapters teach us what it means to trust the promises of God, even when fulfillment seems impossible. We see that salvation rests not on human strength, but on the gracious initiative and covenant faithfulness of the Lord.

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Attentive: God hears and responds to the needs of His children.

Compassionate: God cares for His children and acts on their behalf.

Creator: God made everything. He is uncreated.

Deliverer: God rescues and saves His children.

Eternal: God is not limited by and exists outside of time.

Faithful: God always keeps His promises.

Generous: God gives what is best and beyond what is deserved.

Glorious: God displays His greatness and worth.

Good: God is what is best and gives what is best. He is incapable of doing harm.

Holy: God is perfect, pure, and without sin.

Incomprehensible: God is beyond our understanding. We can comprehend Him in part but not in whole.

Infinite: God has no limits in His person or on His power.

Immutable/Unchanging: God never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Jealous: God will not share His glory with another. All glory rightfully belongs to Him.

Just: God is fair in all His actions and judgments. He cannot over-punish or under-punish.

Loving: God feels and displays infinite, unconditional affection toward His children. His love for them does not depend on their worth, response, or merit.

Merciful: God does not give His children the punishment they deserve.

Omnipotent/Almighty: God holds all power. Nothing is too hard for God. What He wills He can accomplish.

Omnipresent: God is fully present everywhere.

Omniscient: God knows everything, past, present, and future, all potential and real outcomes, all things micro and macro.

Patient/Long-suffering: God is untiring and bears with His children.

Provider: God meets the needs of His children.

Refuge: God is a place of safety and protection for His children.

Righteous: God is always good and right.

Self-existent: God depends on nothing and no one to give Him life or existence.

Self-sufficient: God is not vulnerable. He has no needs.

Sovereign: God does everything according to His plan and pleasure. He controls all things.

Transcendent: God is not like humans. He is infinitely higher in being and action.

Truthful: Whatever God speaks or does is truth and reality.

Wrathful: God hates all unrighteousness.

Wise: God knows what is best and acts accordingly. He cannot choose wrongly.

Worthy: God deserves all glory and honor and praise.

The Covenant Thread in Genesis

From Adam to Noah, Abraham, and Christ

Covenant is one of the central Genesis-to-Revelation threads. It first appears structurally in Genesis 2:16–17, although the word covenant is not used there. In classic Reformed theology, God’s arrangement with Adam is understood as the covenant of works. The first time Genesis explicitly uses the word covenant is Genesis 6:18, when God tells Noah, “I will establish my covenant with you.” The Westminster Confession identifies God’s first covenant with humanity as the covenant of works and the post-fall saving covenant as the covenant of grace.

First structural appearance	Genesis 2:16–17
First grace-promise announcement	Genesis 3:15
First explicitly named covenant	Genesis 6:18
Central fulfillment	Jesus Christ and the new covenant

Covenant and Promise

First appearance: Genesis 2:16–17

First explicitly named covenant: Genesis 6:18

Classification: A foundational biblical structure containing both commands and promises. It includes an original covenant arrangement with Adam and the unfolding covenant of grace after the fall.

1. The Covenant with Adam — the Covenant of Works

God places Adam in the garden, gives him abundant provision, commands his obedience, and warns that disobedience will bring death.

“You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat.”

The Westminster Confession teaches that life was promised to Adam and his descendants on the condition of perfect and personal obedience. Adam broke this covenant, bringing sin and death upon those he represented.

Key passages: Genesis 2:16–17; 3:1–19; Hosea 6:7; Romans 5:12–21; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22, 45–49.

2. The Covenant of Grace Announced

Beginning: Genesis 3:15

After Adam breaks the covenant, God does not leave humanity without hope. He promises the offspring of the woman who will defeat the serpent. Reformed theology understands this as the first announcement of the covenant of grace—God’s promise to save sinners through a Redeemer.

Promise: God will provide the Redeemer who will rescue his people from sin, Satan, death, and the curse.

Key passages: Genesis 3:15, 21; Romans 5:15–21; Galatians 3:16; Hebrews 2:14–17.

3. The Covenant with Noah

First explicitly called a covenant: Genesis 6:18

Confirmed and expanded: Genesis 8:20–9:17

God promises to preserve Noah through the flood and afterward covenants with Noah, his descendants, and every living creature. He promises never again to destroy all earthly life by a flood and gives the rainbow as the covenant sign.

Promise: God will preserve the created order—seedtime and harvest, seasons, day and night—while his redemptive purposes unfold.

Key passages: Genesis 6:18; 8:20–22; 9:1–17; Isaiah 54:9–10; 2 Peter 3:5–13.

The Noahic covenant preserves the world in which the promised Seed will come. It does not itself remove sin, but it provides historical stability for God's saving plan.

4. The Covenant with Abraham

Promise introduced: Genesis 12:1–3

Covenant formally ratified: Genesis 15

Covenant sign given: Genesis 17

God promises Abraham:

- a land
- a great nation
- an offspring
- a great name
- God's own presence and relationship
- blessing extending to all nations

At the heart of this covenant is God's promise:

"I will be God to you and to your offspring after you."

The Abrahamic covenant develops the Genesis 3:15 promise by identifying the family through whom the victorious Seed and worldwide blessing will come.

Key passages: Genesis 12:1–3; 15:1–21; 17:1–14; 22:15–18; Romans 4; Galatians 3:6–29; Hebrews 6:13–20.

5. The Covenant Promises Continued Through Isaac and Jacob

God confirms the promises made to Abraham with Isaac and Jacob.

Key passages: Genesis 17:19–21; 26:2–5, 23–24; 28:10–17; 35:9–12; 46:1–4.

The covenant line is therefore: Adam → promise after the fall → Noah → Abraham → Isaac → Jacob → Israel → David → Christ and the new covenant

6. Fulfillment in Christ and the New Covenant

Jesus is the obedient last Adam, the promised Seed, the true Israel, the son of Abraham and David, and the Mediator of the new covenant. He fulfills the obedience Adam failed to render and bears the covenant curse for his people.

Key passages: Matthew 1:1; Luke 22:20; Romans 5:12–21; Galatians 3:13–16; Hebrews 8–10; Revelation 21:3, 7.

Covenant-thread summary:

God binds himself to his people by promise, preserves the world for redemption, identifies the promised family and Seed, and finally brings his people into everlasting covenant communion with himself through Christ.

Genesis Supplemental Reading List

Optional books to enjoy and learn from throughout our year in Genesis

How to use this list

These books are optional—not required reading. The list includes accessible whole-book guides, selected commentaries, and focused theological or character studies. Books are arranged roughly in the order of Genesis so readers can choose something that fits the portion of Scripture currently being studied. Click any linked title to open the publisher or resource page.

Whole Genesis and Major Biblical Themes

[Genesis: The Beginning of God's Plan of Salvation](#) — Richard P. Belcher Jr.

Accessible whole-book commentary | Christian Focus

A manageable single-volume commentary that keeps the whole book connected to God's gracious plan of salvation. It is clear, Reformed, redemptive-historical, and accessible without being superficial.

[Genesis, Volumes 1–2 — Reformed Expository Commentary](#) — Richard D. Phillips

More advanced whole-book commentary | P&R Publishing

Phillips is especially helpful for doctrine, covenant promises, redemptive history, pastoral application, and showing how the book moves toward Christ.

[From Eden to Egypt: A Guided Tour of Genesis](#) — Alex Duke

Accessible whole-book overview | Zondervan / 9Marks

A readable guided tour through Genesis that helps ordinary readers see how its stories, people, and details belong to one unfolding story.

[Even Better Than Eden: Nine Ways the Bible's Story Changes Everything About Your Story](#) — Nancy Guthrie

Warm, thematic, and highly readable | Crossway

Traces nine themes that begin in Genesis—including Eden, the tree of life, wilderness, clothing, marriage, and the city—through Christ and the new creation.

Genesis 1–11: Creation, Fall, Noah, and Babel

[Creation and Change: Genesis 1:1–2:4 in the Light of Changing Scientific Paradigms](#) — Douglas F. Kelly

Detailed defense of six ordinary creation days | Christian Focus / Mentor

A substantial Reformed treatment of Genesis 1:1–2:4 that argues for six ordinary, consecutive days and engages biblical, scientific, and philosophical questions. Best for readers who want a deeper defense of the traditional interpretation.

[The Genesis Debate: Three Views on the Days of Creation](#) — edited by David G. Hagopian

Comparative theological reading | Includes J. Ligon Duncan III and David W. Hall

Presents and compares the 24-hour, day-age, and framework interpretations. Duncan and Hall defend six sequential 24-hour days, and each team responds to the other positions, making this useful for understanding the debate as well as the traditional view.

[The Gospel in Genesis: From Fig Leaves to Faith](#) — Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Enjoyable sermon-based reading | Crossway

Pastoral sermons on Genesis 3–12 that move from the fall, Cain and Abel, Noah, and Babel toward the call of Abram and the hope of the gospel.

[Short of Glory: A Biblical and Theological Exploration of the Fall](#) — Mitchell L. Chase

Focused theological reading | Crossway

A clear treatment of Genesis 3 and its themes of temptation, sin, shame, exile, judgment, grace, and messianic hope across Scripture.

[Covenant Foundations: Understanding the Promise-Keeping God of the Bible](#) — Alec Motyer

Concise covenant theology beginning with Noah and Abraham | Christian Focus

Based on five lectures, this short book traces God's covenant promises from Noah and Abraham through the law, sacrifices, kings, priests, and prophets to their fulfillment in Christ.

Genesis 12–25: Abraham and Sarah

[Living in the Gap Between Promise and Reality: The Gospel According to Abraham](#) — Iain M. Duguid

Especially recommended | P&R Publishing / Westminster Seminary author

Walks through Abraham's faith and failures, the long wait for God's promises, and the way Abraham's story points beyond him to Christ and the gospel.

Genesis 25–36: Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel, and Leah

[Living in the Grip of Relentless Grace: The Gospel in the Lives of Isaac and Jacob](#) — **Iain M. Duguid**

Especially recommended | P&R Publishing / Westminster Seminary author

Shows God's grace at work through election, family conflict, deception, exile, discipline, weakness, and transformation in the lives of Isaac and Jacob.

Genesis 37–50: Joseph, Judah, Providence, and Reconciliation

[Joseph: From Dreamer to Deliverer](#) — **R.C. Sproul**

Most accessible Joseph selection | Ligonier Ministries

A dramatic and pastoral retelling emphasizing suffering, temptation, forgiveness, God's sovereignty, and Joseph's foreshadowing of the greater Deliverer.

[Living in the Light of Inextinguishable Hope: The Gospel According to Joseph](#) — **Iain M. Duguid and Matthew P. Harmon**

Christ-centered and redemptive-historical | P&R Publishing

Explores God's preserving grace in Joseph's broken family and shows how the narrative anticipates the gospel, restoration, and enduring hope.

[Joseph and the Gospel of Many Colors: Reading an Old Story in a New Way](#) — **Voddie Baucham Jr.**

Helpful against moralistic readings | Crossway

Places Joseph within redemptive history and helps readers see God—not Joseph—as the true hero of the story.

[Joseph: A Story of Love, Hate, Slavery, Power, and Forgiveness](#) — **John C. Lennox**

Detailed narrative and character study | Crossway

A thoughtful treatment of Joseph's family, suffering, integrity, power, repentance, reconciliation, and forgiveness.

Genesis Themes and Promises

Simplified tracing guide - ordered by where each theme or promise first appears in Genesis

*** Central Gospel Thread**

#	Theme / Promise	Begins in Genesis	One-line Summary	Scripture Trace
1	Creation & New Creation	Gen. 1:1-2:3	God creates a good world; sin damages it, but God will renew creation in Christ.	Gen. 1-2 -> Isa. 65:17-25 -> Rom. 8:18-25 -> 2 Cor. 5:17 -> Rev. 21:1-5; 22:1-5
2	Image of God & New Humanity	Gen. 1:26-28	Humanity is created in God's image; Christ is the perfect image, and His people are renewed into His likeness.	Gen. 1:26-28; 5:1-3 -> Ps. 8 -> Rom. 8:29 -> Col. 1:15; 3:10 -> Rev. 22:3-5
3	Kingdom, Dominion & the True King	Gen. 1:26-28	Humanity is commissioned to rule under God; that royal calling is ultimately fulfilled in Christ the King.	Gen. 1:26-28 -> Gen. 49:10 -> 2 Sam. 7:12-16 -> Dan. 7:13-14 -> Matt. 28:18-20 -> Rev. 11:15
4	Sabbath, Rest & Inheritance	Gen. 2:2-3	God's creation rest begins a pattern that leads to rest in Christ and final rest in the new creation.	Gen. 2:2-3 -> Ex. 20:8-11 -> Ps. 95:7-11 -> Matt. 11:28-30 -> Heb. 3-4 -> Rev. 21-22
5	Garden, Land, Wilderness, Exile & Homecoming	Gen. 2:8-15; 3:23-24	Eden is humanity's first home; sin brings exile, and God works throughout Scripture to bring His people home to Himself.	Gen. 2-3 -> Gen. 12:1-7 -> Deut. 30:1-10 -> Isa. 35 -> Heb. 11:13-16 -> Rev. 21-22
6	God's Presence & Dwelling Place	Gen. 2:8-15; 3:8	Humanity loses life in God's presence through sin, but God progressively restores His dwelling with His people.	Gen. 2-3 -> Ex. 25:8 -> 1 Kings 8 -> John 1:14; 2:19-21 -> Eph. 2:19-22 -> Rev. 21:3; 22:3-4
7	* The Savior and Life: Tree of Life & Restored Eternal Life	Gen. 2:9; 3:22-24	Sin bars humanity from the tree of life; Christ conquers death and restores eternal life with God.	Gen. 2:9; 3:22-24 -> Ezek. 47:12 -> John 11:25-26 -> 1 Cor. 15:20-23 -> Rev. 2:7; 22:1-5
8	Covenant & Promise	Gen. 2:16-17; explicit "covenant" in 6:18	God binds Himself to His people by covenant, culminating in the new covenant established through Christ.	Gen. 2:16-17; 6:18; 9:8-17 -> Gen. 12; 15; 17 -> 2 Sam. 7 -> Jer. 31:31-34 -> Luke 22:20 -> Heb. 8-10
9	Marriage, Bride & Bridegroom	Gen. 2:18-25	God institutes marriage, which becomes a biblical picture of His covenant love and ultimately Christ and His bride.	Gen. 2:18-25 -> Isa. 54:5-8 -> Hos. 2:19-20 -> Eph. 5:25-32 -> Rev. 19:6-9; 21:2
10	Judgment & Salvation Through Judgment	Gen. 3:14-24	God judges evil while graciously preserving and saving His people-a pattern fulfilled supremely at the cross.	Gen. 3:14-24 -> Gen. 6-9 -> Ex. 12-14 -> Isa. 53 -> Rom. 3:25-26 -> Col. 2:13-15 -> Rev. 20-21
11	* The Promised Seed	Gen. 3:15	God promises the offspring who will defeat the serpent; the promised line ultimately leads to Jesus Christ.	Gen. 3:15 -> Gen. 12:1-3; 22:18 -> Gen. 49:10 -> 2 Sam. 7:12-16 -> Gal. 3:16 -> Heb. 2:14 -> Rev. 20:10
12	* God-Provided Sacrifice, Covering & Righteousness	Gen. 3:21	God provides the covering sinners cannot provide for themselves, anticipating substitution and righteousness fulfilled in Christ.	Gen. 3:21 -> Gen. 4:4; 22:8-14 -> Ex. 12 -> Lev. 16 -> Isa. 53 -> John 1:29 -> Heb. 9-10 -> Rev. 7:9-14
13	The Two Cities	Gen. 4:17; developed in 11:1-9	Scripture contrasts humanity's rebellious city of self-glory with God's everlasting city and the New Jerusalem.	Gen. 4:17; 11:1-9 -> Ps. 46; 48 -> Heb. 11:10,16; 12:22-24 -> Rev. 17-18 -> Rev. 21-22
14	Blessing to All Nations	Gen. 1:28; explicit promise Gen. 12:1-3	God promises that through Abraham's offspring His blessing will reach all nations, fulfilled through Christ and His worldwide people.	Gen. 1:28; 12:1-3 -> Gen. 22:18 -> Ps. 67 -> Isa. 49:6 -> Gal. 3:8,16 -> Matt. 28:18-20 -> Rev. 7:9-10

How to use this list: You do not need to find every theme in every passage. Ask whether one of these threads is beginning, narrowing, repeating, or developing in the text you are studying.

