

## God-Made – Genesis 1 – Week 5 – Genesis 1:20-25

**Genesis 1:20-25:** *And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.”*<sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

**INTRO to Series:** Genesis 1 describes God’s work of speaking and forming all of creation, including our own existence. As we revisit the story of creation in Genesis and beyond, we will discover countless ways the Bible points us to the wonder of God’s good creation, made by His powerful word. We’ll also discuss each week some helpful practices to help us pull away from the intense draw of our technology and media and find space again for the goodness of God.

**INTRO to Genesis 1:20-25:** This week we move into Day 5 and the first part of Day 6 of Creation, with God bringing forth animal life in the seas, in the air, and on the earth. The process of creation is now sufficiently advanced to sustain life of both plants and animals.

**\*\*\*Key Thought – Week 5:** God is the unrivaled Creator who has made all life to display **diversity**, **complexity**, and **fruitfulness**.

**Screens/Tech/Media Tip #5:** Replace screen time with more imaginative and/or creative time away from devices. Read a real book with real paper pages. Use a printed Bible instead of an app. Do a craft, write stories, cards, or letters with a pen or pencil, look through or organize some family memories, make something, repair something, restore something, refinish something, or maybe just get outside and engage with nature and leave your screens at a distance.

## **I. God is the unrivaled Creator who has made all life to display diversity.**

-God is the source, sustainer, and provider for all life in Creation (see **Matthew 6:25-34** below). Just as we saw with the cosmos and the earth in previous days, the water and the skies are only filled with life at God's command!

-The previously empty seas and skies are now incredibly alive with swimming and flying creatures according to their kinds.

## **II. God is the unrivaled Creator who has made all life to display complexity.**

-At the beginning of Day 6, God increased the animal kingdom on the earth by creating *the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds.* (**vs. 25**)

-At the end of the creation of the animals, God once again “*saw that it was good.*”

-From fish and all life in the seas, to all the birds of the air, and to all the animals that move along the ground, God created each one different and with all that is needed inside and out for each creature to live, survive, and fulfill the purposes for which God made them.

-No matter what human beings have been able to make, build, and produce with our technological advancement, we cannot “create” in ways that compare with all that is truly “God-made.”

## **III. God is the unrivaled Creator who has made all life to display fruitfulness.**

**Genesis 1:22** contains the first blessing in the Bible—using the Hebrew word *barak*. This blessing is the ability for animals, and later humans, to procreate: *God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number...*

-Only God can grant this kind of blessing, because only His Word gives life!

-God reveals Himself as the unrivaled Creator in all of Creation because His desire is to be known and worshiped by all He has made! (see **Romans 1:20-25** below).

### **Other Scriptures Referenced:**

**Matthew 6:25-34:** “*Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?* <sup>26</sup> *Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away*

*in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? <sup>27</sup> Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? <sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. <sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

**Romans 1:20-25:** *For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.*

*<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.*

*<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.*

#### **Other Quotes/Resources:**

—“Let us glorify the Master Craftsman for all that has been done wisely and skillfully, and from the beauty of the visible things let us form an idea of Him who is more than beautiful...let us conceive of Him who is infinite and immense and who surpasses all understanding in the plenitude of His power.” —Basil the Great