Living in God's Story: Tracing the Story and Major Themes of the Bible

Lesson 5
The Fall – Part 1

I. Recap

A. Purpose of the Class: We want you to be a better and more confident reader of your Bible. We want you to read God's word, know God's word, love God's word, and apply God's word.

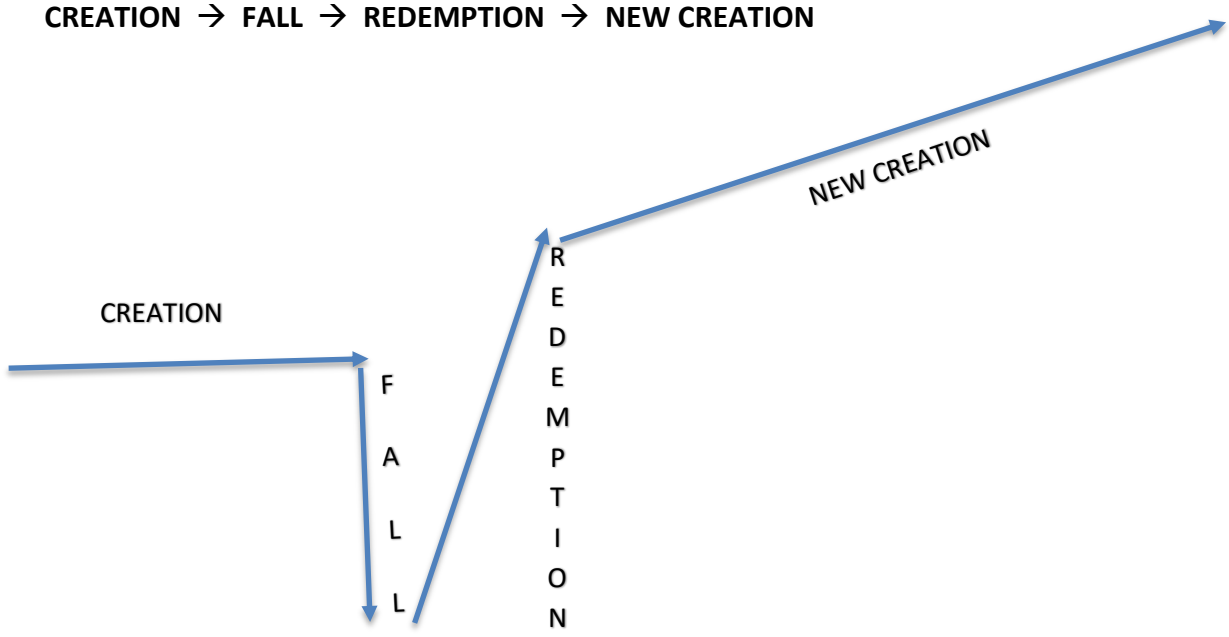
All of those things come from…

- A sense of **stability**, which comes from knowing the big picture of the story of Scripture.
- A sense of **excitement**, which comes from tracing the major themes of the story.
- A sense of **involvement**, which comes from seeing your place in the story.

B. The Major Themes of the Bible & The Big Picture Story of the Bible

IMAGE – SEED – KINGDOM – COVENANT – DWELLING – SACRIFICE

CREATION → FALL → REDEMPTION → NEW CREATION



II. Creation: Setting the Stage (Genesis 1:1-2:25)

A. The Characters

- **God –** Creator/King, in charge, eternal, Giver of life, the one who makes the rules and tells us right from wrong; judge (determiner of "good" and "very good"), ordered and creative
- **Humanity –** dependent on God/subject to him and his authority, made for relationship with God, made in God's image, blessed, made with the capacity to multiply, male/female, sub-rulers, dependent on other people, dependent on the rest of creation (food)
- **Animals –** creatures, given breath of life, made to multiply and fill the earth, subject to man, for God's glory

B. The Setting(s)

- **Garden of Eden –** an oasis where God dwells with his people
- **Earth –** the larger context surrounding the Garden of Eden, that mankind is commanded to fill and subdue
- **Heaven –** the dwelling of God

C. Purpose

What is the purpose of creation? How does God order things to live?

- Increase and multiply (v. 28) -> this requires teamwork, companionship (2:18-25)
- Dominion of mankind – to bring order and flourishing, like God brought, to the rest of the world
- Enjoyment (1:29; 2:9) & Rest (2:2-3)
- Obedience to God (2:15-17; cf. 1:28)

What role do humans play in relation to the rest of creation? What about in relation to God?

- Representatives of God on earth (v. 26-27)
- Rulers over the creatures

III. The Fall

A. Read Genesis 3:1-24

- **Having just read Genesis 1-2, what surprised you in the story Genesis 3?**

- **How does God respond to the disobedience of Adam and Eve?**

- **What does God's redemption look like in these beginning stages?**

- **What continues from Genesis 1-2? What changes?**

B. Read Genesis 4:1-26

- **What does this passage show us about the effects of the fall?**

- **What does this passage show us about the mercy and redemption of God even after the fall?**

- **What good things exist even for a fallen, sinful people?**

- **What questions are you still left with?**

C. **Bigger Picture** (if time allows)

- **When did the fall happen?**

- **When does the fall end and redemption begin?**

IV. Next Class

- For October 28, read Genesis 4-11