



Bible Study Series

Book 1 of 66

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

A 2-Week Study for Personal Reading or Small Groups



Introduction to Genesis

Genesis means "beginning." It is the first book of the Bible and the first of the five books of the Law, traditionally credited to Moses. It tells how the world, humanity, sin, and God's plan of redemption begin.

The book has two parts. Chapters 1-11 tell of creation, the fall, the flood, and the scattering at Babel. Chapters 12-50 follow one family: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, through whom God promises to bless all nations.

As you read, ask three questions each day: What does this show me about God? What does it show me about people? What does it invite me to do or trust?

How to use this study: read the chapters listed for each day, note one thing that stands out, and use the questions at the end of each week. You can use it alone or with a group.

Memory verse

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Genesis 1:1 (KJV)



Major Themes

God the Creator

God speaks and the world comes into being. Creation is good, ordered, and made with purpose.

People made in God's image

Men and women are made to reflect God and to live in relationship with Him and one another.

Sin and its consequences

Disobedience brings brokenness: in Eden, in Cain, and in the days of the flood. Yet God keeps seeking people.

Covenant and promise

God calls Abraham and promises land, descendants, and blessing for all families of the earth.

God's faithfulness through failure

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their families make mistakes, yet God keeps His word.

Providence

Joseph's story shows God working through hardship to bring good and to preserve life.

Pointing to Christ

Christians have long read Genesis as pointing ahead to Christ: the promised offspring of the woman (Genesis 3:15), the blessing for all nations through Abraham's family (Genesis 12:3), and faith counted as righteousness (Genesis 15:6), which the New Testament connects to Jesus (Romans 4; Galatians 3).



Key Verses

"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good."

Genesis 1:31 (KJV)

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Genesis 1:27 (KJV)

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Genesis 3:15 (KJV)

"And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

Genesis 12:2-3 (KJV)



Key Verses (continued)

"And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

Genesis 15:6 (KJV)

"And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of."

Genesis 28:15 (KJV)

"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."

Genesis 50:20 (KJV)



Reading Plan • Week 1

Day 1

Genesis 1-3

Creation, the first people, and the fall. Notice how God describes His work as good.

Done []

Day 2

Genesis 4-7

Cain and Abel, the line of Adam, and Noah. Notice the contrast between violence and Noah walking with God.

Done []

Day 3

Genesis 8-11

The flood ends, God's covenant with Noah, the nations, and Babel. Notice God's mercy after judgment.

Done []

Day 4

Genesis 12-15

Abraham is called and promised blessing. Notice his trust and his doubts.

Done []

Day 5

Genesis 16-19

Hagar and Ishmael, the covenant sign, Isaac promised, Sodom. Notice God's patience and justice.

Done []

Day 6

Genesis 20-23

Isaac is born, Abraham is tested, Sarah dies. Notice what Abraham is willing to trust God with.

Done []

Day 7

Genesis 24-26

A wife for Isaac, the birth of Jacob and Esau, God's promise repeated to Isaac.

Done []



Reading Plan • Week 2

Day 8

Genesis 27-29

Jacob receives his father's blessing, flees, and meets God at Bethel. Notice God's promise to a flawed man.

Done []

Day 9

Genesis 30-33

Jacob's family grows, he wrestles with God, and meets Esau. Notice change and reconciliation.

Done []

Day 10

Genesis 34-37

A painful family story, and Joseph is sold by his brothers. Notice how hard things unfold.

Done []

Day 11

Genesis 38-41

Judah and Tamar, Joseph in Egypt, prison, and rising to authority. Notice that God is with Joseph.

Done []

Day 12

Genesis 42-45

Joseph's brothers come to Egypt, and he reveals himself. Notice forgiveness.

Done []

Day 13

Genesis 46-48

Jacob's family goes to Egypt, and Jacob blesses Joseph's sons.

Done []

Day 14

Genesis 49-50

Jacob blesses his sons, and Joseph speaks of God's purpose. Notice how the book ends in hope.

Done []



Week 2 Reflection

Discussion questions (for groups)

- How do Jacob and his family show that God keeps His promises despite failures?
- Where do you see God at work behind the scenes in Joseph's story?
- What makes forgiveness so difficult, and what made it possible for Joseph?
- How does Genesis prepare us for the rest of the Bible?

Personal reflection

- Where might God be using a hard season in your life for good?
- Is there someone you need to forgive or ask forgiveness from?
- What will you remember about God from Genesis?



A Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for creating the world and for creating me. Thank You that You call what You have made good.

Forgive me for the times I have turned away from You. Thank You that You keep seeking us and keep Your promises.

Help me to trust You like Abraham, to forgive like Joseph, and to see Your hand in both good days and hard days.

Lead me through this study with an open heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

My own prayer
