

## The Year in Review – Questions to Consider

Week 1: Genesis 1-15

### Small Group Warm Up Question:

*Looking back at the past year, what was a family goal you feel you accomplished or made progress on? What is a goal you have for your family in the upcoming year?*

1. Why do you think Genesis is such a foundational book to many of the theological and moral issues today? What are some ways you have seen the book of Genesis come under attack? What are some major theological issues rooted in Genesis? What are some modern day moral issues rooted in Genesis?

2. Why do you think God begins the Bible with the story of Creation? Why is our belief in God as Creator an essential component of saving faith? (Genesis 1:1) How would you define faith? How does that compare with Hebrews 1:1 definition of faith? Hebrews 11:3 says “By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.” Does it take more faith to be a Christian or an atheist? Agnostic? Buddhist? Muslim? Hindu? Jew? Why? What evidences does God give us to increase our trust and faith in Him?

3. Why does God give so many details about His Creation in Genesis 1 & 2? Why do you think atheists and agnostics refuse to acknowledge God’s existence? Does God believe in atheists? (Romans 1:18-23) Why do other world religions exist? Why is dishonoring our Creator so serious? Why is ingratitude towards Jesus evidence of lostness? What are the consequences of disbelief?

4. Read Exodus 20:11. Why did think God took 6 ordinary 24-hour days (instead of 6 seconds or 6 billion years) to create the universe? What is the purpose of the 7th day?

5. Look at Satan’s temptation of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3. Read 1 John 2:16-17. How do you see Satan tempting Adam and Even with the “desires of the flesh”, “desires of the eyes”, and the “pride of life”? How does Satan use the same tactics today? How can understanding Satan’s tactics help us resist the devil’s temptations? Why is Satan’s inciting us to distrust God and His Word the foundation of sinful temptations?

6. What is some of the brokenness you see in the world today? How does that show up spiritually? How do you see people “hide” from the sound and presence of God? (Genesis 3:8)

More questions @ [www.southfork.church/discussion-guide](http://www.southfork.church/discussion-guide)

[www.TrustworthyWord.com](http://www.TrustworthyWord.com)

[www.Bible.video](http://www.Bible.video)

## The Story of Beauty & Brokenness

Genesis 1-15 (ESV)

### The Beauty of C\_\_\_\_\_

- Genesis 1:1,31 “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ... [31] And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

### The Beauty of Humanity

- Genesis 1:26–28 “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish...the birds...the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ [27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. [28] And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

### The Beauty of G\_\_\_\_\_ [www.trustworthyword.com/gender](http://www.trustworthyword.com/gender)

- Genesis 1:27 “male and female he created them”
- Genesis 2:21–23 “So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. [22] And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

### The Beauty of Marriage [www.trustworthyword.com](http://www.trustworthyword.com)

- Genesis 2:24 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

January 14, 2024

## ***The Enemy's Evil Plot: Breaking Beauty***

**Satan's T\_\_\_\_\_** - Questioning God & His Word through the Temptations to Sin:

- *Desires of the Flesh* - worldly passions
- *Desires of the Eyes* - covetousness & idolatry
- *Pride of Life* - self-worship
- Genesis 3:1 "Now the serpent was more crafty...He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say'"
- 1 John 2:16-17 "For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."
- 2 Cor 4:4 "the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel"

### ***The Tragic Consequences of Sin***

**Brokenness with Our Creator: Self-W\_\_\_\_\_**

- Genesis 3:8 "they heard the sound of the LORD God ...hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God"
- Isaiah 5:20-21 "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil"

**Brokenness in Marriage: Pain, D\_\_\_\_\_,  
Hate, Division**

- Genesis 3:16 "in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband"
- Matt 19:4-6 "So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."
- Ephesians 5:33 "However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

**Brokenness in Work & Life: D\_\_\_\_\_ & Death**

- Genesis 3:17-19 "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

**Brokenness in Relationships: Self-L\_\_\_\_\_**

- Genesis 4:7 "...sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."
- 1 John 3:12 "And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous."

**Brokenness in the World: E\_\_\_\_\_ Thoughts & Actions**

- Genesis 6:5-6 "the wickedness of man was great in the earth"
- Judges 17:6 "Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

### ***The Beautiful or the Broken One?***

- Genesis 6:8 "But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD."
- Genesis 6:18 "But I will establish my covenant with you"
- Genesis 11:4 "let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."
- Genesis 11:9 "from there the LORD dispersed them"

*Who Have You Chosen?* Salvation vs. Lostness

- Who is the hero of your story? The focus of your life?

*Who Are You Choosing?* Wisdom vs. Foolishness

- What guides your choices? Pleasure? Possessions? Pride?

*Who Will You Choose?* Good vs. Evil

- How are you moving forward? What is your mind set on?
- Proverbs 21:2 "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart."

### **This Next Week's Old Testament Reading Plan:**

Week 2: Genesis 16-30

- **Read the Old Testament w/Us:** [www.southfork.church/2024](http://www.southfork.church/2024)
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** [www.southfork.church/jesus](http://www.southfork.church/jesus)
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** [remind.com/join/sfbcd devo](http://remind.com/join/sfbcd devo)

# The Story of Beauty & Brokenness

Genesis 1-15 (ESV)

## The Beauty of Creation

- Genesis 1:1,31 “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ... [31] And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

## The Beauty of Humanity

- Genesis 1:26–28 “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish...the birds...the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ [27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. [28] And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

## The Beauty of Gender [www.trustworthyword.com/gender](http://www.trustworthyword.com/gender)

- Genesis 1:27 “male and female he created them”
- Genesis 2:21–23 “So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. [22] And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.’”

## The Beauty of Marriage [www.trustworthyword.com](http://www.trustworthyword.com)

- Genesis 2:24 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

# The Enemy’s Evil Plot: Breaking Beauty

**Satan’s Tactics** - Questioning God & His Word through the Temptations to Sin:

- *Desires of the Flesh* - worldly passions
- *Desires of the Eyes* - covetousness & idolatry
- *Pride of Life* - self-worship
- Genesis 3:1 “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”
- 1 John 2:16–17 “For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”
- 2 Corinthians 4:4 “In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

## The Tragic Consequences of Sin

### Brokenness with Our Creator: Self-Worship

- Genesis 3:8 “And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.”
- Isaiah 5:20–21 “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! [21] Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!”

## **Brokenness in Marriage: Pain, Disrespect, Hate, Division**

- Genesis 3:16 “To the woman he said, ‘I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.’”
- Matthew 19:4–6 “He answered, ‘Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, [5] and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’ [6] So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.’”
- Ephesians 5:33 “However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

## **Brokenness in Work & Life: Difficulty & Death**

- Genesis 3:17–19 “And to Adam he said, ‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; [18] thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. [19] By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.’”

## **Brokenness in Relationships: Self-Love**

- Genesis 4:7 “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”
- 1 John 3:12 “We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother’s righteous.”

## **Brokenness in the World: Evil Thoughts & Actions**

- Genesis 6:5–6 “The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. [6] And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.”
- Judges 17:6 “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

### ***The Beautiful or the Broken One?***

*Who Have You Chosen?* Salvation vs. Lostness

- Who is the hero of your story? The focus of your life?

*Who Are You Choosing?* Wisdom vs. Foolishness

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- Proverbs 21:2 “Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart.”
- Genesis 6:5–6 “The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”
- Genesis 6:8 “But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.”
- Genesis 6:18 “But I will establish my covenant with you”
- Genesis 11:4 “Then they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.’”
- Genesis 11:9 “Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.”