

# START HERE

God Speaks | Genesis 1:3-25

# ATTENTION IS THE BEGINNING OF DEVOTION

'm sure you've heard me say more than once how much I appreciate and love ocean sunsets in Southern California. The sun, in all its blazing might, dipping beneath the seemingly limitless edge of the horizon, while the sky's color palette births a deep, intense blue that fades into the lens through which we view the celestial sphere. It's naturally "soul moving." And yet, once I understood that there was a Creator behind this unparalleled living work of art, creation's beauty became an extraordinary signpost to the true beauty, God. Every aspect of creation declares something about Elohim. His power, wisdom, intelligence, mercy, relentlessness, and love are on display for us to see every day. This week, take the time to take in the beauty of God displayed in His creative works. And as you do, with creation, give Him the praise that is due to His name.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



## PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment to share how God has been working faithfully in your life. Spend time giving thanks to God.



### REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. What did Paul mean when he said in Romans 1:20, "His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

Who is without excuse? What attributes of God are revealed in creation? What is our right response to the revelation of God through creation?

#### The most beautiful thing about creation is the Creator.

2. God spoke and the world was created.

What does that tell us about the power of God's words and His ability to bring His plans to pass? God said that what He made was good. What does that mean?

I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You

Isaiah 45:12

3. God still speaks through the world He made.

Have you been taking time to see God's beauty through creation? Evaluate the pace of your life and whether you've been making space and creating time for God to speak to you.

Be honest about your answer.

How can you arrange your life so that you have more time to enjoy God's presence through His revelation in Scripture and creation? How can you incorporate daily and weekly times to give God more of your attention?

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?

Psalm 8:3-4

4. The ultimate purpose of creation was the incarnation of Jesus Christ. That through His body the whole of creation could be redeemed. Perhaps in some way this was why Jesus said that even if the multitudes singing Hosanna were silenced, the rocks themselves would cry out.

If creation's purpose is Jesus, is yours?



#### **WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE**

#### 2 Corinthians 4:6

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



#### REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, take steps to slow the pace of your life and make space to experience God through creation. You may need to cancel an appointment or postpone a hobby. This may mean that you establish a new habit or pattern in your life and for your family. Take the step to begin this week.

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear what changes you made and how God is speaking to you.