



In the beginning God.... Study Lesson Week 6

Week's Aim: The breath of life – Genesis 2:4-25

Day 1: Overview – Read Genesis 2:4-25

1. Identify what you consider the primary divisions of this narrative. What seems to be the shift in focus compared to Genesis 1? Explain.
2. How would you compare this narrative to that of Genesis 1? What days do verses 2:5-7 match in Genesis 1?
3. What is added to the name for God in this narrative?
4. What is different about the creation of man compared to the beasts, creatures, and birds?
5. Why do you think the man and woman felt no shame being naked?

Application 1: What will you do today, as a result of this study, to glorify God?

Day 2: The missing man. – Read Genesis 2:4-6

1. What was the order of earth and heaven found in Genesis 2:4 as compared to the order in Genesis 1:1? What do you think is the significance of this change in the narrative?
2. What were two hindrances that prevented plants and shrubs from growing on the earth (see Genesis 2:5, 3:23, 4:12)?
3. Instead of rain, how did God make provisions for the plants to grow? What does this tell you about how the plants originated? Using Genesis 1 – what day in the creation cycle do you think this happened?
4. What do you learn about God from these verses?

Application 2: How will you demonstrate your appreciation to the Lord for the provisions He gives you this day? Name a few:

Day 3: God breathed the “*breath of life*” into the man. – Read Genesis 2:7

1. Compare the two accounts of man's creation. Genesis 1:26-30 to this verse 2:7. What is the focus of each account?
2. What does “*the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground*” tell you about God's plan for man (see Genesis 2:5)? Is man at this point any different than the animals (see 2:19)?
3. To appreciate 2:7 fully we must recognize the connection between God's Spirit and the word for “*breath.*” In Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, the words for spirit and breath are identical. Latin the word is *spiritus*, Greek it is *pneuma*, and Hebrew it is *Ruach*. To even say *Ruach* requires exhaling. Paul uses the word: *theopneustos* (God breathed) in **2 Timothy 3:16**, “*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness...*”. This demonstrates God's consistency—He breathed His own living and eternal Spirit into man in Genesis. And, through Paul, assures man that the scriptures are derived from the same source! Hence, the spirit of

man is nourished on the Word. Seeing these relationships to the word *breath*, what do you think is the significance of God, “*breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being*”?

4. Using the following verses, identify some of God’s traits He gave man when He breathed life into him: Deuteronomy 7:7-8; 1 John 4:16; Isaiah 55:8; Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 4:24; Philippians 4:7, 2:7

5. Using Genesis 1:26-30; 2:7, 19 describe how man was created with a special dominion over the animals.

Application 3: The “*breath of life*” was God’s breath that gave Adam life, spiritual understanding, and a functioning conscience. Write a brief prayer of thanksgiving to God for His intimacy in your life, even though you may not sense it at times.

Day 4: God prepares a special garden for the man. – Read Genesis 2:8-17

1. Use the map in your Bible; try to locate at least two of the four rivers in Eden. What is the name of the region that sets between the two main rivers today?

2. Give some of the pleasant conditions that existed for Adam and Eve in Eden?

3. How did God test the obedience of Adam (and Eve)? What do the words “*you will surely die*” tell you about God’s original plan for the life of men and women?

4. What are some things you do that test your obedience to God and your love for Him?

5. What do you think the *tree of life* represents? See John 4:14, 6:29-63, 10:28.

Application 4: What garden has God placed you in and how are you being obedient to Him in it? Does there seem to be a lot of weeds? Maybe your obedience to Him is lacking? Will you ask Him for help?

Day 5: God gives man a helper and institutes marriage. – Genesis 2:18-25

1. God had placed Adam in the Garden of Eden and gave him the assignment of naming all the animals. God brought the animals and birds to Adam to name. However after naming them all, the Lord saw there was a problem, what was it (see 2:20)? Had Adam been complaining of being alone? List some reasons that you think made it bad for Adam to be alone (see Proverbs 18:22)?

2. Who was Jesus referring to when He used the same word (*ezer*) for *helper* in these passages: John 14:16, 14:26, 15:26, 16:7-11? What are some ways He will be a *helper* for believers?

3. Some people think the word *helper* is demeaning and speaks in a negative way of women. However this is not true since this word *helper (ezer)* is often used in Scripture to describe God Himself. How do these verses describe God: Exodus 18:4; Deuteronomy 33:29; Psalm 118:7; Hebrews 13:6.

4. What do you think is the significance of God making the woman from the man’s rib? Was Adam satisfied with the helper God provided?

5. From these verses 2:21-25, identify particulars about marriage that God originally intended?

Application 5: His image, His relationship, His best, these are all things He desires for you. How will you demonstrate your appreciation to Him this day/week/month for all He has done for you? Will others see His image in your relationship with them, will you give Him one day in seven, will you work in the garden He has placed you in, and if you are married, will you love your spouse as He intended him/her to be loved by you?