

Bethel Bible Series

Creation and its Concepts

Week 1

Welcome & Announcements

Be sure to sign-in on a sheet in the hall

If you didn't pay last week, mark sheet & pay \$30

Roll Call - Introduce yourself to someone you don't know and tell them your favorite Bible verse

How many completed the homework from last week? = Recite together the first 14 books of OT

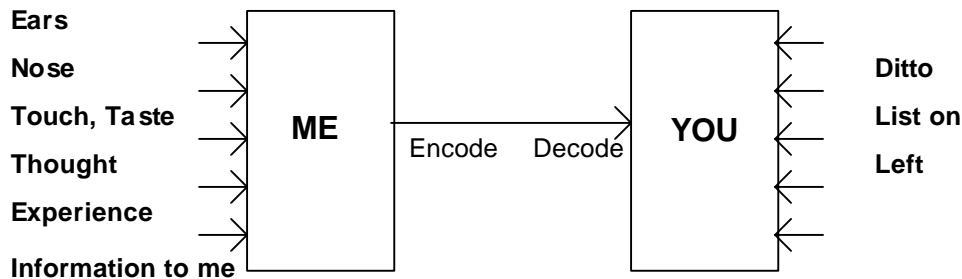
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Week

Think Hebrew

Look for the CARGO. Don't focus on the VEHICLE.

Words are the Vehicle. Listen for the Cargo. = See Teacher Notes from Week 0



Cargo of the Bible

HIS STORY = God's Biography

God works His Plan through & with people = God relates to people in their period

Examples in Historical Events = See Teacher Notes from Week 0

The Exodus Event (Exodus, Joshua)

Abraham & Lot (Genesis 13, 19)

Examples in Peoples' Lives = See Teacher Notes from Week 0

Joseph (Genesis 37-50)

Moses (Exodus, 2:1-3:10)

Paul (Acts & Epistles, Acts 9:1-19)

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Lesson

Why Study the Bible?

Why should we study the Bible?

Matthew 22:29 = To know God and His right plan for our lives

What did John say was the purpose for the Bible?

John 20:31 = The Bible is written so we may believe in Jesus & have life in His name

Is the Bible given only to build our faith to receive eternal life?

Matthew 4:4 = The Word is given for our daily lives also

How can the Bible help us in our daily lives?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 = Useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, training, equipping

Importance of the Bible

In the verse we just read, Paul said that "all Scripture is God-breathed." Did Peter agree?

2 Peter 1:20-21 = *Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit*

How did Paul, the author of nearly half of the New Testament books, feel about the message he gave?

Galatians 1:11-12 = He received it by revelation from Jesus Christ

How seriously should we consider the words in the Bible to be the exact Words of God?

Galatians 1:8 = Anyone who tries to change it should be eternally condemned

Did Jesus agree? = Old Testament was called *Law and Prophets* in Jesus' day

Matthew 5:17-19 = Not the tiniest letter can ever be changed

Receiving God's Word

How do we grow when we study His Word?

1 Corinthians 2:14 = We grow in spiritual discernment

1 Peter 2:2 = We grow up in our salvation (sanctification)

Psalms 119:98-100 = We grow in wisdom and understanding

Isaiah 50:4 = We grow more receptive and instructed

Creation and Its Concepts = Point to picture and work through concepts as described below

Hands lifting the earth out of hazy mist

Question 1a – Genesis 1 is designed to tell us everything about creation.

True or False? = False to Greek, True to Hebrew. Look for CARGO, not VEHICLE

What is the important CARGO?

Genesis 1:1 = God created heavens & earth

Does the Bible explain how God did it? = No - Greek, Yes - Hebrew (God said)

Bible is religious in emphasis, not scientific

The Hebrew's Concept of the Earth = Comment on sketch

Picture Concept = God created the heavens and the earth

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Creation and Its Concepts

Halo of white light circling the earth

Question 1b – Genesis 1 says nothing about the quality of creation.

True or False? = False

What does Genesis 1 say about the quality of creation?

Genesis 1:31 = God saw that it was very good

Other religions teach: = Spirit is good, matter is evil

Bible teaches: = Earth, plants, animals, man are good. Creation is very good

What is *evil*? = The misuse & abuse of God's creation

Is money evil? (1 Timothy 6:10) = No, the love of money is evil

Is sex good or evil? (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:24) = Good, God created it. Abuse is evil

Picture Concept = God created all things good

Fingers opened on the right hand

Question 1c – Gen. 1 indicates that God had human needs in mind when He created the earth

True or False? = True

How do we see this?

Genesis 1:29 = God made sure the earth met man's needs before creating man

Picture Concept = God relinquished the earth to humankind as a gift

White links attached to the arms and globe

Question 4a – These Psalms must have been written by Deists. True or False?

What is a Deist? = One who believes God created natural laws & then left it alone

Does the Bible agree with this idea? = No (False)

What are the messages of the 3 Psalms? = Don't read, just get the concepts

Psalms 23 = God takes care of us as a shepherd

Psalms 121 = The Lord is your keeper

Psalms 46:1-3 = God is an ever-present help in trouble

Picture Concept = God binds Himself to His creation

Lettered banner flying on the earth

Where do we see this concept explained?

1 Corinthians 10:26 = *The earth is the Lord's and everything in it*

Picture Concept = God claims ownership of all that He's fashioned

Figure grasping staff

Where do we see this concept explained?

1 Corinthians 6:19 = *You are not your own*

Psalms 24:1 = *The earth is the Lord's and all who live in it*

Picture Concept = Humankind, too, is owned by God

Banner furling around figure

Question 2a – Genesis 2 declares that God placed no limits upon human freedom.

True or False? = False

How do we see this?

Genesis 2:16-17 = Man was given freedom within limits

Picture Concept = Man has freedom within limits

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Creation and Its Concepts (continued)

Halo of light behind figure's head

Question 1d – Genesis 1 implies that the human species and the animals were created alike.

True or False? = False

How were animals created?

Genesis 1:20, 24 = "And God said", "Let the water team... Let the land produce..."

How were humans created?

Genesis 2:7 = God formed man & breathed His life into man

What is the greatest difference?

Genesis 1:26-27 = God created man in His own image

Picture Concept = Mankind was fashioned in the image and likeness of God

Figure holding crown in left hand

Question 3a – Psalm 8 makes it evident that the individual person has little worth in God's eyes.

True or False? = False

How do we see this?

Psalm 8:4-6 = *You crowned man with glory ... made him ruler over all creation*

Picture Concept = Man is the crown of God's creation

Four jewels in crown

Question 1e – Genesis 1 declares that [we] were given ... responsibilities toward the earth.

True or False? = True

How do we see this?

Genesis 1:28 = Be fruitful & multiply, subdue the earth, rule over every living creature

Question 2b – Genesis 2 implies that it is God's responsibility to take care of His earth.

True or False? = False

How do we see this?

Genesis 2:15 = Put man in garden to work and take care of the earth

Picture Concepts - Man's Four Responsibilities

Jewel 1 = To replenish the earth (Multiply)

Jewel 2 = To subdue the earth (Make Use)

Jewel 3 = To dress, till and keep the earth (Take Care)

Jewel 4 = To have dominion over the earth (Take Charge)

Summary

Review Picture Concepts

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study One and Assignment 2

Next Week - *Divine Intentions*