

Bethel Bible Series

Creation and its Concepts

Week 1

The message of Scripture is not scientific. Take care not to use the Bible to support scientific theory. PK

Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer = Prayer Request sheet

Welcome

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

If you didn't pay last week, mark sheet and pay (\$35 for Sundays, \$75 for Mondays)

How many completed the homework from last week? = Recite first 14 OT books / Throw out concepts

Memory is cumulative, Make cards and carry = Swiggum: *Buy dinner if caught without cards*

Introductions

Name

Years of Purposeful Bible Study

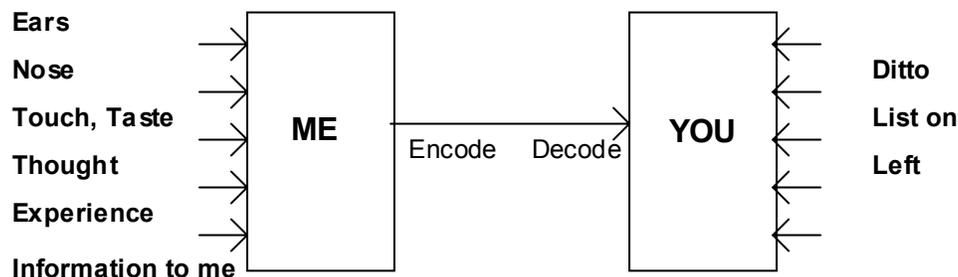
Major Bible Study Courses Completed = List and check off on board

Favorite Bible Study Experience

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 and 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 and 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 and 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 and 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? = List on board

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 2:10-14 = We grow in spiritual discernment (Spirit reveals spiritual truths)

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? = God had a purpose, plan and direction

Genesis 1:1 = God created heavens and earth

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

Bible is religious in emphasis, not scientific

Picture Concept = God created the heavens and the earth

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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 (1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 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 and 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 (2:9) = God made sure the earth met man's needs before creating man

Eden - Hebrew for *Delight* = Given to meet needs and to please

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 and then left it alone

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

What are the messages (Cargo) 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 our keeper, Watches over us

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 (1 Chron 29:10-14) = *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? = Freedom is found within God's limits, Go outside and live in bondage

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 and breathed His life into man

What is the greatest difference?

Genesis 1:26-27 (5:1-2) = *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? = Man has immeasurable value in God's eyes, chief object of His love

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 = Assign In-Depth student to present next week

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 1 and Assignment 2

Next Week - *Divine Intentions*