

Oxford Baptist Church" – Sunday September 11th

Pastor Robin W. Pifer

Series: The Story Message #1 Creation:

The Beginning of Life as We know it.

Scripture Reading - Genesis 1-11 The Story Chapter 1.

Last Week.... -

The Creation – God’s Best - Genesis 1:1; Psalm 24:1-2;

- **There was a beginning. Cause, Plan and Purpose.**
- **God began the beginning. “He is the main person; you are not.”**
- **God created the natural world. God is not natural He is supernatural. Read Genesis 1.**

Days 1, 2, and 3 are places created by God.

Day 1- Light and Dark

Day 2 – Sky and Water Day 3 – Land

Days 4, 5, 6 – Those places are filled with the things the places were created for. Day 4- Sun, Moon and Stars. Day 5 –Birds and Sea Creatures Day 6 – Animals and Human Beings.

God’s Core Passion is people made in God’s Image. Genesis 1:26-27; Deut 7:6. God’s supreme passion is to be with us at all costs.

The Fall – Our Mess - Genesis 3

The Lies of Satan – 1) Do not Trust God. 2) Do not take God at his Word. 3) You can be God. Same lies Jesus had to deal with at his temptation as we do today. What do you do with a mess? Genesis 6:5-8

But Noah was different. Genesis 6:8

The Flood – God’s judgement and Grace

- **Noah was not absent from sin but aware of his sin. Genesis 6:9; Romans 3:23; Romas 6:23**
- **Righteous man – right conduct with right relationships.**
- **Blameless – a relationship with God with moral integrity. Psalm 1**
- **Walked with God – he agreed with God about his sin so he lived a life dependant on the Lord. He is not following the crowd but is committed to the Lord. Grace – the unmerited, undeserved, unearned love and justice of God. God gets into our mess. 1Peter 3:20. Noah and his family experienced God’s grace.**
- **Genesis 8:20-21 – Noah’s offering on the alter postponed his judgement, did not pardon his sin but looked toward the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ. He looked ahead to the saviour/Messiah. We look back to the cross of Jesus Christ.**

Colossians 1:15-23



THE STORY

For Life Groups

ICEBREAKER QUESTION: We’ve all had prized possessions: gifts given to us as children, family heirlooms, and expensive purchases. And most likely, at one time or another, someone or something has ruined or broken something we cherish. Can you share such a time in your life and what was destroyed?

1. Chapter 1 shows that everything began with God creating and ordering. How is this different than other explanations you have heard of how the world began? How might knowing that life has purpose and direction affect your daily decisions?

2. What do think it means to be made in the image of God?
3. Part of the meaning of being made in the image of God is that we were made for relationships and community. When sin entered the world relationships were destroyed. Describe the change in relationships that occurred between the following:
 - a. God and humankind
 - b. Adam and Eve
 - c. Humankind and the rest of creation
 - d. Humankind and everlasting life
4. After each event in the creation story, God said “It is good.” Where does God say it is not good (p. 4)? What does this say about God’s plan for the human family?
5. Explain how Adam and Eve played the “blame game” (p. 5). Why is it so hard for us to accept the responsibility for our bad choices?
6. Discuss the parallels between Noah’s culture and our own. What attributes and actions of Noah can help us face the challenges of godly living in the world today?
7. Many people perceive God as vengeful and distant when they encounter an event such as the Flood in the Old Testament. While God clearly establishes Himself as Judge of His creation, chapter one is overflowing with examples of His love and grace. How many can you identify?
8. God made a promise to Noah never again to destroy mankind by a flood, and He confirmed it with a rainbow. What promises has he made to you?

In the time remaining ask your group members to share any of their personal reflection insights from their journal entries or how the teaching this week impacted you personally.

Personal Notes and Application

This Week on your own or with your family.

- **Read through Genesis 1-11 or take time to read through the Story chapter 1.**
- Discuss the Creation, Fall and Flood. What were the things that impacted you this week about God’s plan, purpose, and grace shown in these true stories of God’s plan?
- Take a walk on a trail or through a park and notice the amazing and unique design of God’s creation. What stands out to you?
- Take some time this week to sit outside your house or on a bench downtown and people watch. Thank God and pray for each person as they walk by you. Smile, wave (This is the Friendly City) and pray for them silently that they would know the one true and living God. God created them and each one is made in his image needing his love and salvation.
- Take time to review the scriptures contained in the message notes this week. How is Jesus and the gospel so clearly a part of creation, the fall and the flood? How do you see Jesus in these major events of Genesis?