



the **GOSPELPROJECT**®

how to use
The Gospel Project
for students

SESSION 1 IN THE BEGINNING

MAIN POINT

God created everything out of nothing, revealing His unmatched glory.



GENESIS 1:1-5 • GOD CREATED EVERYTHING GOOD

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was an evening, and there was morning: one day.

GENESIS 1:14-19 • GOD CREATED EVERYTHING BY DESIGN

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will serve as signs for seasons and for days and years. 15 They will be lights in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth." And it was so. 16 God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night—as well as the stars. 17 God placed them in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth, 18 to rule the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 Evening came and then morning: the fourth day.

HEBREWS 11:1-3 • GOD CREATED EVERYTHING WITH PURPOSE

1 Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen. 2 For by this our ancestors were approved. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

INTRO OPTION 1 NEVER BEEN DONE

SUPPLIES LIST

2 PIECES OF PAPER, 2 WRITING UTENSILS.

Have your group get into two teams. Give each team a piece of paper and a writing utensil. When you say "Go," each group will work together to brainstorm as many things they can think of that have never been done before. Examples could include: invented time travel, cured cancer, walked on Mars, turned invisible, etc. After giving students a few minutes to work on their lists, let a spokesperson from each team share their answers with the rest of the group and see which team has more answers. Award an extra point for each answer that the other team does not have on their list. Explain that today, we are going to look at something that God did at the very beginning that no one else has ever done before. God created everything out of nothing, revealing His unmatched glory.

INTRO OPTION 2 WRONG MATERIALS

SUPPLIES LIST

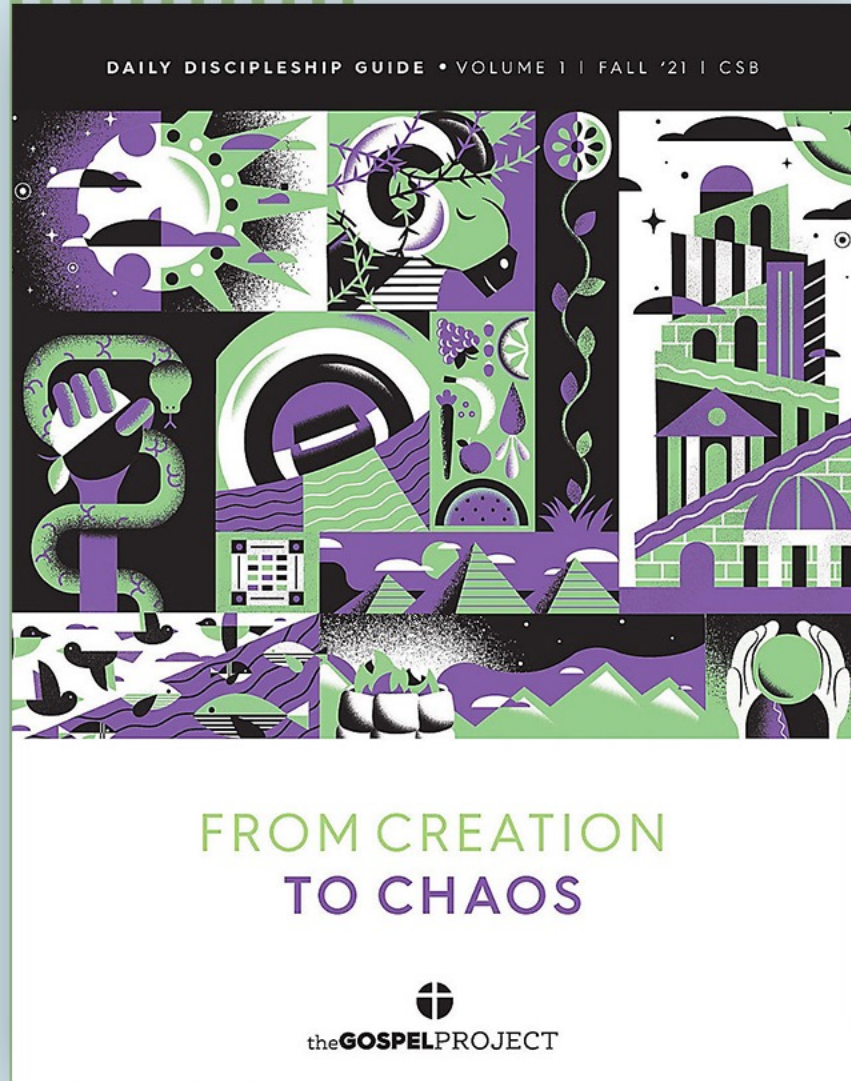
A LARGE STACK OF FOAM, PAPER, OR PLASTIC CUPS, A DECK OF PLAYING CARDS OR INDEX CARDS.

Ask for four volunteers to participate in a game in front of the rest of the group. Divide the four students into two teams of two. Tell the teams that they have three minutes to build the tallest tower possible with the materials you give them. Give one team a large stack of disposable cups and the other team a pack of index cards or playing cards. While students may protest that the supplies they have been given aren't fair compared to the other team, insist that they only use the supplies you give them. After time is up, see who has the tallest tower. Admit that the different materials you gave the two teams made the game unfair. Point out that in this activity, like many things we do in life, success is dependent on the quality of the equipment or materials we have. Today, however, we are going to look at a story from the Bible where someone built something absolutely astounding without any equipment or materials at all.



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understand
the resources



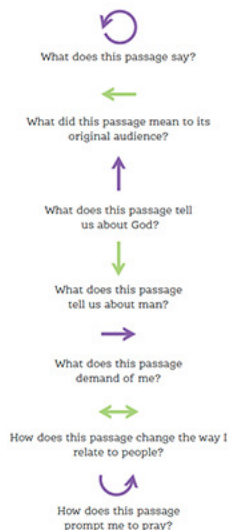
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Daily Discipleship Guide



DAILY DEVOTIONS

THE 7 ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



DAY 01

GENESIS 1:1-5

There is a tremendous amount of truth packed into the very first verse of the Bible. This one verse is foundational to our understanding both of God and the of the world in which we live. The Hebrew word for God in Genesis 1:1 is plural, but the Hebrew verb for "create" is singular. This is intentional. In the first verse of the Bible, we find the Triune God acting as one in accomplishing what is arguably the single most powerful act in the history of the universe: creating everything out of nothing. No one has ever done anything like this before. Every time anyone has ever created anything, they have always done so out of something—everyone except for God, that is. This passage highlights God's power and sovereignty. The picture painted here is that God is the source of all things and is also in control of all things as He shapes the world to His liking and to our benefit. This should change how we think about, relate to, and pray to God. Our God is powerful and He is in control.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT GOD CREATED EVERYTHING OUT OF NOTHING?

WHAT DOES THAT TELL YOU ABOUT HIM? ABOUT HOW YOU SHOULD PRAY TO HIM? RELATE TO HIM?



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BIG QUESTION

**IN GENESIS 1:1, GOD
CREATED "THE HEAVENS
AND THE EARTH." BUT
WHAT ABOUT THE REST
OF THE UNIVERSE?**

When you hear the word "heaven," you probably think of a beautiful paradise in the clouds with streets of gold where you will hopefully live after you die. That is not what is meant by the phrase "the heavens" in Genesis 1:1. Sometimes the word "heaven" refers to the place where God lives, but in Gen. 1:1, this phrase refers to the stars. It is used that way in several other places in the Old Testament (Ps. 19:1; Deut. 10:14; 1 Kings 8:27). There is no Hebrew word for "universe," so the creation of "the heavens and the earth" in Genesis 1:1 includes our planet, but also our solar system and the vast galaxies of stars beyond it. Absolutely everything that exists finds its origin in God.

1. GOD CREATED EVERYTHING GOOD

READ GENESIS 1:1-5

WHAT DID GOD DO IN GENESIS 1:1? HOW IS THE WAY GOD MADE THE WORLD DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY PEOPLE MAKE OR BUILD THINGS TODAY?

HOW DOES VERSE 2 DESCRIBE THE WORLD GOD MADE?

ON DAY 1 OF CREATION, WHAT DOES GOD INTRODUCE TO THE WORLD (V. 3-5)?



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essential doctrines



discussion time