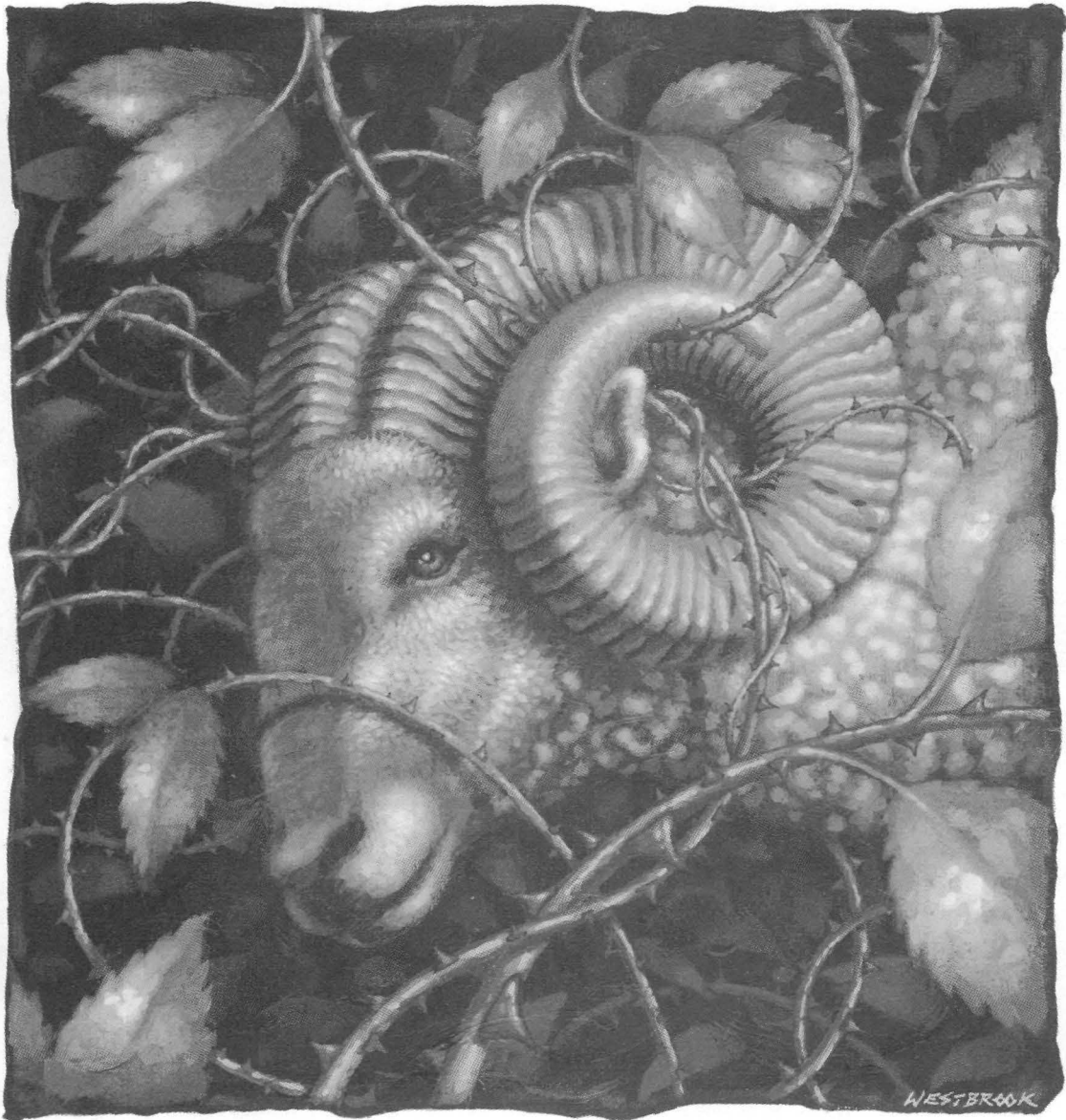


Study Guide





LifeLight

# LifeLight Expands

Available NOW!

The Bible: An Overview  
 Genesis, Pt. 1  
 Genesis, Pt. 2  
 Exodus, Pt. 1  
 Exodus, Pt. 2  
 Wilderness Wanderings  
 Joshua  
 Judges  
 Ruth/Esther  
 1 & 2 Samuel  
 Life of David

1 & 2 Kings  
 Ezra/Nehemiah  
 Job  
 Selected Psalms  
 Proverbs  
 Ecclesiastes/  
 Song of Solomon  
 Isaiah, Pt. 1  
 Isaiah, Pt. 2  
 Daniel  
 Minor Prophets

Matthew, Pt. 1  
 Matthew, Pt. 2  
 Mark  
 Luke, Pt. 1  
 Luke, Pt. 2  
 John, Pt. 1  
 John, Pt. 2  
 Acts, Pt. 1  
 Acts, Pt. 2  
 Romans, Pt. 1  
 Romans, Pt. 2

1 Corinthians  
 2 Corinthians  
 Galatians/Philippians/  
 Colossians  
 Ephesians/  
 1 & 2 Thessalonians  
 Timothy/Titus/Philemon  
 Hebrews  
 James/Jude  
 1 & 2 Peter  
 1, 2, 3 John  
 Revelation

## LifeLight Foundations

Baptism  
 Bible Feasts  
 Creation, New Creation

The Christian's Mission  
 Heaven & Hell  
 Law & Gospel

Ministry  
 Miracles  
 Prayer

Prophecy  
 Triune God  
 Worship

## LifeLight Release Schedule

### 2013 RELEASES

LifeLight—Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi July  
 LifeLight Foundations—Parables October

### 2014 RELEASES

LifeLight—Nahum/Habakkuk/Zephaniah January  
 LifeLight—1 & 2 Chronicles April  
 LifeLight—Hosea/Joel/Amos July  
 LifeLight Foundations—End Times October

### 2015 RELEASES

LifeLight—Jeremiah/Lamentations January  
 LifeLight—Ezekiel April  
 LifeLight—Obadiah/Jonah/Micah July

# Genesis: The Beginning of Life and Light

Distribute before session 1 for use in session 1.

## Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study and at the week's assembly.

Begin each day's study with a prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart to receive what He will teach you through the Word of God. Your prayers need not be long; a sentence or two will be sufficient. Sing aloud or read and meditate on the hymn stanzas.

## Hymn

Alleluia! Let praises ring!  
To God the Father let us bring  
Our songs of adoration.  
To Him through everlasting days  
Be worship, honor, pow'r, and praise,  
Whose hand sustains creation.

Singing, Ringing:  
Holy, holy, God is holy;  
Spread the story  
Of our God, the Lord of Glory.

Alleluia! Let praises ring!  
Unto our triune God we sing;  
Blest be His name forever!  
With angel hosts let us adore  
And sing His praises more and more  
For all His grace and favor!

Singing, Ringing:  
Holy, holy, God is holy;  
Spread the story  
Of our God, the Lord of glory!

Author unknown; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*

## Prayer

*Almighty God, in the beginning You created everything from nothing by speaking Your Word. As we begin to dig deeply into Genesis, uncover by Your Spirit the riches of Your forgiving love in Jesus Christ, Your Son. In His name we pray. Amen.*

## Digging Deep My Personal Study for Week 1

### Day 1 • Read Genesis 1

1. God created everything to have meaning and purpose. For what purpose was each of the following created?

a. The sun, moon, and stars (Genesis 1:14–18)

b. Human beings (Genesis 1:26–28)

c. Plant life (Genesis 1:29)

2. Many people go through life searching for meaning and purpose. According to Ephesians 2:10, for what purpose did God create you?

3. Can you think of any other purposes for your life?  
1 Corinthians 10:31

Matthew 28:19–20

4. Why did God inspire prophets and apostles, such as Moses and John, to record His movement in history (John 20:30–31)?

5. What further light does 2 Timothy 3:16–17 shed on the purposes for which the Lord gave us the inspired Scriptures? What do you understand by each of the terms used by these verses in describing those purposes?

d. Genesis 4:20

e. Genesis 4:21

f. Genesis 4:22

g. Genesis 11:1–7

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**Day 2 • Read Genesis 1; skim Matthew 1**

6. **Challenge question.** If you have completed the two LifeLight courses on Matthew, think about the connections between the two books. As you flip through the Book of Genesis, what specific parallels do you see?

7. The name *Genesis* means “beginnings.” It comes from the same root word as *genetics*. What “beginnings” or “firsts” do you see in these texts:

a. Genesis 3:15

b. Genesis 4:1–2

c. Genesis 4:8

8. Genesis traces God’s family back to its very roots. Moses pulls no punches; he records warts and all! How can that kind of honesty help us in our own walk with the Lord?

9. If there were no Book of Genesis, what would be missing from the record of God’s plan of salvation (Genesis 3:1–15; 9:8–11; 12:1–3; 49:8–10)?

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**Day 3 • Selected texts**

10. Leaf through Genesis, browsing the chapter headings. Or look over the outline in this leaflet. What story, character, or subject matter do you particularly hope to spend the most time examining and applying to your life? Why?

## The Lifeline Grows

Distribute at the end of session 1 for use in session 2.

John Marriott, alt.

### Genesis 1–2

#### Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study and at the week's assembly.

Your discussion group may have made arrangements for remembering and upholding one another in prayer. If not, pray for members of your discussion group one by one, praying for one or two individuals each day. Continue these intercessions throughout this course.

#### Hymn

God, whose almighty word  
Chaos and darkness heard  
And took their flight:  
Hear us, we humbly pray,  
And where the Gospel day  
Sheds not its glorious ray,  
Let there be light!

Lord, who once came to bring,  
On Your redeeming wing,  
Healing and sight,  
Health to the sick in mind,  
Sight to the inly blind:  
Oh, now to humankind  
Let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,  
Life-giving, holy dove,  
Speed forth Your flight;  
Move on the water's face,  
Bearing the lamp of grace,  
And in earth's darkest place  
Let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three,  
Glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, love, might!  
Boundless as ocean's tide,  
Rolling in fullest pride,  
Through the earth, far and wide,  
Let there be light!

#### Prayer

*Father of light and of every good and perfect gift, as we gaze in awe at the mysteries of the universe, take our finite minds and teach us to think the unthinkable. Create a clean heart within us and shape our words, thoughts, and deeds in the image of Your Son, who is the light of our lives. Amen.*

#### Digging Deep My Personal Study for Week 2

**Review question:** How are Genesis and the Gospel connected?

#### Day 1 • Read Genesis 1:1–8

1. Read Genesis 1:1. The Hebrew word for “create” means to make without the benefit of any raw materials. Why should this definition humble even the most “creative” artist?

2. The Apostles' Creed ascribes the primary work of creation to God the Father. However, what do the following verses tell us about how all three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—of the one true God cooperated in the work of creation?

John 1:1–3

John 1:10

Genesis 1:2

Genesis 1:26

3. a. What do David's statement in Psalm 19:1-4 and Paul's argument in Romans 1:19-20 tell us about what we can learn about God from nature?

b. Is what we know about God through nature adequate in itself to lead anyone to salvation? See John 14:6.

4. a. Note that in the opening words of Genesis 1:3, 6, 9 all things are called into existence solely by God's Word. According to Hebrews 1:3, what is that same Word doing today in the physical realm?

in the spiritual realm?

b. In what ways is the Word doing those things?

5. Read Genesis 1:3-4. How is God still separating the light from the darkness today?

John 3:18-21

2 Corinthians 4:6; 1 Peter 2:9

6. a. What repeating phrase in Genesis 1:5-2:3 indicates that the "days" were days as we know them, not indefinite periods of time?

b. What word(s) in Exodus 20:11 make the same point? (For a summary of creation week see the chart "Creation Day by Day" in the enrichment magazine.)

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**Day 2 • Read Genesis 1:9-25**

7. Read Genesis 1:9-10 and Psalm 33:7-9. Naming the land and seas implies lordship over them. Of what incident might this remind us (Mark 4:35-41)?

8. Why are the events of the third day in Genesis 1:11-13 vital to the events of the fifth and sixth days?

9. As we saw in Genesis 1:14-19, the luminaries (sun, moon, and stars) provide light and mark days and seasons. What other services do the luminaries perform?

a. Psalm 19:1-6

b. Matthew 16:2-3

c. Matthew 2:2

d. Luke 21:25-27

10. Nevertheless, why must Christians never believe the astrologer who claims the stars determine one's personality or destiny (Romans 1:25)?

11. a. Only 4,000 of the billions of stars can be seen with the naked eye. According to Isaiah 40:25-26 and Luke 12:6-7, what do those billions of stars have in common with sparrows and hair?

b. Why is knowing that so comforting to you?