

Study Guide





LifeLight Expands

LifeLight

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|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| * The Bible: An Overview | * Proverbs | John, Pt. 1 | Galatians/Philippians/
Colossians |
| Genesis, Pt. 1 | Isaiah, Pt. 1 | John, Pt. 2 | |
| Genesis, Pt. 2 | Isaiah, Pt. 2 | Acts, Pt. 1 | **Ephesians/1 &
2 Thessalonians |
| Exodus, Pt. 1 | Minor Prophets | Acts, Pt. 2 | Hebrews |
| Exodus, Pt. 2 | Daniel | Romans, Pt. 1 | * James/Jude |
| * Joshua | Matthew, Pt. 1 | Romans, Pt. 2 | * 1 & 2 Peter |
| * Judges | Matthew, Pt. 2 | 1 Corinthians | 1 John |
| * Ruth/Esther | Mark | 2 Corinthians | * Revelation |
| * Life of David | Luke, Pt. 1 | * Timothy/Titus/Philemon | |
| Selected Psalms | Luke, Pt. 2 | | |

LifeLight Foundations

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|--------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| * Prophecy | * Miracles | * Baptism | * Triune God |
| * Bible Feasts | * Law & Gospel | * Worship | * Ministry |
| * Creation, New Creation | | | |

* all-new LifeLight material ** does not include the Enrichment Magazine

LifeLight Release Schedule

2011 RELEASES

- * LifeLight—Ecclesiastes/Song of Solomon January
- LifeLight—Ephesians/1 & 2 Thessalonians April
- * LifeLight—Job July
- * LifeLight Foundations—Prayer October

2012 RELEASES

- LifeLight—1, 2 & 3 John January
- * LifeLight—1 & 2 Samuel April
- * LifeLight—Wilderness Wanderings
(Lv., Nu., & Dt.) July
- * LifeLight Foundations—Heaven & Hell October

2013 RELEASES

- * LifeLight—Ezra/Nehemiah January
- * LifeLight—1 & 2 Kings April
- * LifeLight—Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi July
- * LifeLight Foundations—Parables October

This helpful resource is available now:

Intro Kit

The God of Creation

Psalm 104:24–30; Genesis 1:1–25; Psalm 113:4–6; Genesis 11:1–9; Psalm 115:2–8

*Distribute before session 1 for use in session 1.
Use enrichment magazine pp. 2–7.*

Resources for Worship

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

Hymn

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I
wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain
grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my
heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great
Thou art!"

Refrain

(LSB 801; LW 519)

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Prayer

Blessed are You, O Lord, triune God, ruler over all of creation. I come to You this day in awe and admiration for Your creative power, which diminishes all other claims of man and materials for my devotion.

As I study Your Sacred Word in the coming days and weeks, bestow upon me the gift of the Holy Spirit that He may enable me to see and apply to my life what it means to reflect Your magnificent glory and grace to all those about me. I ask for this on the merits of Jesus Christ, who has redeemed me. Amen.

Digging Deep

My Personal Study for Week 1

Day 1 • Read Psalm 104:24–30

1. What might a non-Christian who is viewing the magnificence of the Grand Canyon say about it that is different from what a biblically informed Christian would say?

2. Why can't the manner in which the universe came into being be proven and demonstrated scientifically?

3. In what two ways are all human beings confronted by the existence of their Creator (Romans 1:19–21; 2:12–16)?

4. Why is it irrational to think that the universe is eternal, never having a Maker (Hebrews 3:4)?

8. On certain days, God created living things, while on other days, He created the inanimate parts of creation. What does such action tell us about God's nature (1 Corinthians 14:40)?

5. In what sense does the word *Creator* apply only to the eternal, self-sufficient God (Psalm 104:30; Hebrews 11:3)?

9. What word in Genesis 1:11 indicates that God gave the animals and vegetation the mechanism for reproduction?

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Day 2 • Read Genesis 1:1–25

6. Where do you think the creative work of God the Holy Spirit is alluded to in Genesis 1?

10. How is your understanding of creation and your use of the physical world impacted by the fact that God called creation as it originally came forth from His hands "good" (Genesis 1:25; 1 Timothy 4:4)?

7. What possible explanation could there be for the avoidance of the terms "sun" and "stars" when referring to the light-bearing bodies?

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Day 3 • Read Psalm 113:4–6; Genesis 11:1–9

11. Some world religions teach that there is not any substantial difference between what Christians call "God" and all living things. Chinese Taoism (pronounced *dow-ism*) and philosophical Hinduism both teach that all things are actually "one thing." What words in Psalm 113:4–6 clearly differentiate God from earthly things?

Creation of Man and Woman

Genesis 1:26–2:25; Other Selected Passages

Distribute before session 2 for use in session 2.

Use enrichment magazine pp. 8–10.

Resources for Worship

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

Hymn

Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.

Break down the wall that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.

Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.

With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.

(LSB 844)

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, I thank You for the gift of life that You, as Creator, have bestowed upon me. I am aware of my limitations as a fallen, sinful person to carry out the great responsibility of exhibiting Your caring government over all within creation. Therefore, I seek the guidance of Your Holy Spirit, enlightening me through Scripture, that I may be enabled to exhibit care and respect for other people, beginning with the way I treat members of my immediate family. Let not another person's differences from me inhibit my extending the gracious love and help that You extend so limitlessly to me, even though I am a sinner. Help me to share the gifts I have as a member of Your forgiven, redeemed family. In the name of Jesus Christ, Savior of all nations, I pray. Amen.

Digging Deep

My Personal Study for Week 2

Day 1 • Read Genesis 1:26–27;

Romans 5:17–20

1. What difference might it have on your self-image, and the way you treat others, if you were to seek your ancestors in a zoo or in some evolved form of an amoeba or fish of the sea?

2. Why is the question of Psalm 8:4 and Job 7:17 so important not only theologically but also socially and politically?

3. Why must Christian people defend the Genesis narrative of Adam and Eve to be a description of real, historical people (Romans 5:17–20)?

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Day 2 • Read Genesis 2:18–25

4. Why do you think Adam might have felt that he was lacking when God had him looking carefully at all the animals (Genesis 2:18–20)?

5. In what significant way did God create Eve that differed from the method of the creation of Adam?

6. When the Hebrew Scriptures speak of the union of a husband and wife being that of becoming “one” flesh, they use the same word as the famous passage in Deuteronomy (6:4) that describes God as being “one.” Can you think of how this relates to the relationship of a husband and wife within marriage that is analogous to that of the three distinct persons (God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) within the one Godhead and expressed in the great blessing of 2 Corinthians 13:14?

7. How is the “headship” of a husband over a wife, as affirmed in Ephesians 5:23, been misunderstood or misapplied?

8. According to Genesis 2:25, both Adam and Eve were naked before each other and not uncomfortable about it. How is this related to the fact that marriage involves two people who are different from each other?

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Day 3 • Read Ephesians 5:22–33; Genesis 2:18–25

9. What words in Genesis 2:18–25 indicate that marriage is more than something society thought up in order to keep wealth within the “family”?

10. Scripture so esteems marriage that it compares it to what eternally significant life-changing event (Ephesians 5:25)?

11. A God-pleasing marriage involves not only God, the husband, and the wife but also society in general. What visible action of a man and woman indicate that they are forming a new basic unit of society, a family? Consider Genesis 2:24.