

# Sermon Discussion Guide



**Speaker:** Casey Scott

**Series:** Origin Story

**Title:** It Was Good

**Primary Texts:** Genesis 1:3–2:3

**Big Idea:** God is good at worldbuilding, so our world is good.

---

## Sermon Outline

### I. God the Ultimate Worldbuilder

- Human authors like Tolkien and Brandon Sanderson create compelling fictional worlds, but God is the true and ultimate worldbuilder.
- Genesis is not merely a story about origins; it is *our* origin story.
- Throughout Genesis 1, God repeatedly evaluates His creation as **good (Hebrew: tov)**—ordered, beneficial, life-giving, and fit for flourishing.
- The repetition of “it was good” emphasizes not simply God’s satisfaction, but the objective goodness of creation itself.

## II. The Seven Days Reveal God’s Good Design

Genesis unfolds in a deliberate pattern of forming and filling:

Forming	Filling
Day 1 – Light and Time	Day 4 – Sun, Moon, and Stars govern time
Day 2 – Sky and Space	Day 5 – Birds and Fish fill space
Day 3 – Land and Vegetation	Day 6 – Animals and Humanity inhabit the land
Day 7 – Sabbath Rest	Creation completed in fellowship with God

- God speaks and creation responds.
- The universe is not the product of chaos or conflict but of God’s sovereign word.
- Humanity is uniquely created in God’s image and entrusted with stewardship over creation.
- Creation reaches its climax not merely in humanity, but in Sabbath rest with God.

## III. Why Is Creation Good?

### 1. It Is Ordered

- God creates a world marked by structure, purpose, rhythm, and harmony.
- The ordered nature of creation reflects the character of its Creator.
- God does not delight in chaos but in peace, wholeness, and flourishing.
- As image bearers, we are called to cultivate order, peace, and wisdom in our lives and communities.

## 2. It Is Pro-Life

- Creation is intentionally designed to support life and flourishing.
- God's repeated blessing reveals His commitment to growth, vitality, fruitfulness, and abundance.
- Followers of Jesus should be people who promote life, healing, justice, restoration, and human flourishing in every sphere of life.

## 3. It Is Blessed

- God blesses creation, humanity, and the Sabbath.
- The material world is not evil; it is a gift from God.
- Christians neither worship creation nor exploit it; we steward it faithfully.
- Every human being bears God's image and is worthy of dignity, care, and respect.

## IV. The Gospel Connection

Before Genesis tells us what is wrong with the world, it tells us what is right with it.

- Sin, death, and brokenness are real, but they are not the first word.
- Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God is restoring His good creation.
- The first word of Genesis is God's creative speech; the final word of creation week is holy rest.
- True rest is ultimately found in Christ.

# HEAD

*(Understanding the Text)*

1. What does the repeated phrase "it was good" teach us about God's view of creation?
2. How does the structure of the seven days reveal God's intentional design?
3. Why is it important that Genesis presents creation as ordered rather than chaotic?
4. What does it mean that humanity is created in God's image?
5. How does Sabbath rest complete the creation story?
6. How does Genesis 1 help shape a Christian understanding of the physical world?

# HEART

*(Personal Reflection)*

1. Which aspect of God's good creation most inspires worship or gratitude in you?
2. Where do you currently experience disorder, chaos, or brokenness in your life?
3. How does knowing that God created a good world affect the way you view yourself?
4. In what ways are you tempted to forget that people are image bearers of God?
5. What part of God's blessing in creation do you most need to receive today?
6. Are you currently experiencing the kind of rest God intends for His people? Why or why not?

# HANDS

*(Faithful Response)*

1. What is one area of your life where God may be calling you to create greater order this week?
2. How can you actively promote life, flourishing, and blessing in your family, workplace, or community?
3. What practical step can you take toward being a better steward of God's creation?
4. How can you honor the dignity of an image bearer who is difficult for you to love?
5. What rhythms of Sabbath, rest, or worship need strengthening in your life?
6. How can your group help create more shalom—wholeness, peace, and flourishing—in your church and community?

---

## Closing Reflection

Genesis begins with good news: God created a good world. The Creator's design is marked by order, life, blessing, and rest. As followers of Jesus, we are called to reflect His goodness by cultivating those same values wherever He has placed us. The God who created all things good is also the God who is making all things new.