



Shelby Christian Church

CORE 52: NEW LENS – CREATION * GENESIS 1 & 2, JOHN 1:1, EPHESIANS 2:10 * 8/24/25

What first comes to mind when you think about the Book of Genesis?

Why can't we skip past Genesis? Why is the story recorded in Genesis critical to understanding God's Story as a whole?

Have you ever thought about all three members of the Trinity playing a role in creation before? What did you think about that? How does our human drive to create mirror God's creative nature?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ GENESIS 1

Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." What does this verse reveal about God's role as the source of all things?

In Genesis 1:2, we read about "the Spirit of God hovering over the waters." How does this description expand our understanding of God's presence in creation?

Why do you think God refers to Himself in the plural in Genesis 1:26 ("Let us make mankind in our image")? How have Christians historically understood this?

What do you think it means to be made in God's image, and how should that affect the way we live?

How does understanding humanity's role in caring for creation (Genesis 1:28–30) affect your perspective on stewardship of the environment, resources, or even your own body?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ GENESIS 2

How does Genesis 2 expand and give more detail to the creation story from Genesis 1?

What stands out to you about the way God forms Adam from the dust and breathes life into him (v. 7)? What does this show us about God's care for humanity?

Why do you think God gave Adam both work (to tend the garden) and a command (not to eat from the tree of knowledge)?

What does God's statement in v. 18, "It is not good for the man to be alone" reveal about His design for community and relationships?

How does the creation of woman (vv. 21–23) highlight equality, unity, and complementarity between man and woman?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ JOHN 1:1

John begins his Gospel with the words, “In the beginning was the Word.” How does this opening connect to Genesis 1:1? Why do you think John starts this way?

What do you think John means by calling Jesus “the Word” (Logos)?

The verse says, “The Word was with God, and the Word was God.” How do these two truths fit together? How does this verse affirm both the divinity and distinct personhood of Jesus within the Trinity? How might this verse have challenged or surprised John’s original Jewish and Greek readers?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ EPHESIANS 2:10

What does it mean that we are God’s “workmanship” or “masterpiece”? How does this differ from other ways people might define themselves?

What are some ways you might be tempted to earn God’s favor through works rather than resting in grace? How does this verse clarify the relationship between faith and action? How can you discern what specific “good works” God has prepared for you in your current season of life?

APPLICATION

What do you enjoy doing to connect with creation?

What is the consequence of ignoring God the Father, the Spirit, and Jesus as creator? How have you seen this play out? How does knowing that Jesus is eternal God affect the way you view His birth, life, death, and resurrection? What does it mean for your daily life that Jesus—the eternal Word of God—desires relationship with you?

If every person is created in God’s image, how should that influence the way we treat others in our community and around the world? How do you see God’s design for work, rest, and relationships reflected in your own life?

In what ways do we struggle today with living according to God’s original design?

PRAYER