

**Foundations:  
The Mission of God in the Biblical Story**

**What would you say to someone who asked you, “What is the Bible about?”**

*Watch The Bible Project “The Story of the Bible” (via YouTube)*

**Setting the Model:**

**Read Genesis 1:1-25 through the lens of God as King. “Authority” is a main theme.**

How would you describe God based on these verses?

Why do you think it was important for Moses to describe God in this way?

*(References: Deuteronomy 10:14, Psalm. 24:1, Job 41:11)*

**God describes the creation as “good” over and over. It is His handiwork, a reflection of His creativity. (Isaiah 66:1, Psalm 104:2-4)**

In light of this, Read Psalm 19:1-6 and respond to this statement: “He who destroys or degrade the earth spoils its reflection of its maker.”

How could caring for creation be a part of the Mission of God?

**Read Genesis 1:26-31 and 2: 15-25. How would you describe humanity’s role in relation to God’s authority? (Ps 115:16)**

**Just like the rest of creation, God calls humanity “good” as well.**

**Read Proverbs 14:31 and Proverbs 17:5.**

Respond to the thoughts here. How do they strike you? How is caring for the poor an act of worship to God?

**In Genesis 2:2, God institutes Sabbath rest. This is a REVOLUTIONARY idea for a people whose history had been recently defined by slavery. Once again God is establishing human dignity in the creation narrative.**

*Something REALLY important to mention before we get much further. Moses’ audience is surrounded by people groups that worship either the creation or humanity. Going back to the “authority” theme, the point is not to worship the creation but instead our treatment of the creation is a way we give glory to God. This is a CRUCIAL distinction for us as we do mission!*

## **Trouble in Paradise:**

### **Read Genesis 3**

#### **What do you notice about:**

The Serpent and his strategy...

Adam and Eve and their relationship (pre-sin)...

Adam and Eve and their relationship (post-sin)...

How God relates to them pre-consequences and post-consequences...

The impact of Adam and Eve's sin on creation...

## **Consequences:**

### **When sin enters the world...**

**...it breaks relationship between people...**

**1st Murder (Gen. 4:8)**

**1st Revenge (Gen. 4:15)**

**...Life becomes fragile...(Gen. 6:3)**

**...sin multiplies...(6:5-7)**

**God makes a redemption plan...(Gen. 6:7-14, 8:21-9:17)**

**Making God in our Image...Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9)**

### **The Mission Established: Genesis 12:1-3**

What do you notice about Abram? Why does God choose him?

What is the purpose behind the blessing of Abram? What is he chosen to do?

How far does the mission extend? Matthew 1, Revelation 7:9-10

