

God Creates All Things for His Glory

Genesis 1:1-25

Read Genesis 1:1-2.

God created everything from nothing.

- What did God create in Genesis 1:1?
- What are other explanations people give for the beginning of everything?

Principle: God is the Creator.

Read Genesis 1:3-13.

God created the light, sky, land, seas and plants in days 1 through 3.

- What do you learn from the repeated phrase, “God said, ‘Let there be ... And it was so’ ”?
- In what way do God’s creations cause you to praise Him?

Principle: God’s creation shows His power.

Read Genesis 1:14-25.

God created the sun, moon, stars and animal life in days 4 through 6.

- What do you learn from the repeated phrase, “God saw that it was good”?
- What do you learn about God and creation from these verses?

Principle: God’s creation brings Him glory.

Review Genesis 1:1-25.

- What is the most surprising or challenging thing you discovered this week?

Main truth: All creation brings God glory.

Scripture Memory Verse

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” – Genesis 1:1

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Exploring the Christian Faith

An Attribute of God

from this week's passage

Incomprehensible

We cannot understand God's thoughts and ways. God is infinite and eternal; He knows all things. God made human beings in His image, but we are finite and flawed by sin. In heaven, we will be perfect. However, we will still not know all there is to know about God because we will always be finite. Thankfully, we can understand all we *need* to know about God because He has given us His Word and His Spirit.

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A Basic Truth of the Christian Faith

What is the Trinity?

The Trinity describes the truth that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one God.¹ They have always existed in loving relationship as One.² Each is fully God with the same attributes. They work with one mind to accomplish one will and are equally worthy of worship.³

Matthew 28:19-20¹; John 14:16-17²; 2 Corinthians 13:14³

Think About It

Is the Father older than Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

The Father, the Son and the Spirit are equally eternal and glorious. No one person of the Trinity has attributes in greater measure than the others. The Father did not exist before the Son. The Son has always been the Son, even before the Father sent Him to be born as a human baby. And the Father and Son did not exist before the Spirit. Each is equally and always God, but there is order in the Trinity. The Father sends the Son to do His will, and the Father and Son send the Spirit. The Son gladly submits to the Father's authority (John 3:17; 4:34; 8:28-29). The Spirit has the same joy in submitting to Father and Son (John 16:12-14). The three persons of the Trinity have one will and always work together in perfect harmony.

Why is it important to know God is three persons in one?

The Trinity fills us with wonder and awe of God. No human mind could have imagined something so complex and yet so true. Jesus is fully God and a separate person from God. Only One who is God, yet separate from God, could bear the full wrath of God for our sin. The Father and the Son sent the Spirit to continue the work of redemption and sanctification (John 14:16, 16:17). As in creation, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have different roles in redemption (Genesis 1:9-10; John 1:3; Genesis 1:2). To ignore that God is the Trinity is to believe less than the truth of Him. When we have a wrong picture of God, our worship will not be true, and our lives will not glorify God as He deserves.

How can God be three persons and one?

While there is much that our limited human minds cannot fully grasp about God, the Bible is very clear that God is three persons yet one God (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14). God is infinite. He alone can be three persons in one being. He is not divided into parts (Deuteronomy 6:4). Each person within the Trinity is all that God is. Every illustration we try to use falls short. The Trinity is not like an egg, H₂O, a shamrock or an apple. Even though we use these illustrations as examples of three in one, they are lacking, for nothing created compares to God. Each person of the Trinity is at work in every work of God. For example, the Father sent the Son (John 3:16-17); Jesus came to do the will of His Father (John 6:38); and the Father and the Son sent the Spirit to complete the work they started (John 14:16; 16:7). No one is like God; how great is our Lord!

To learn more Basic Truths of the Christian Faith, visit mybsf.org.