

The Creation  
1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.  
2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

WHY ARE

WE HERE?



STUDENT BOOK

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## INTRO

Many of us live day to day without considering some really important questions about life. We are so busy going through the motions of our daily routines, we never slow down to ask, “Why am I even here?” People with a completely secular worldview believe we are here by mere chance, but the truth is God designed and created us with a purpose. When we discover God’s intent for our lives, we move from merely existing to truly living—living for His purpose.

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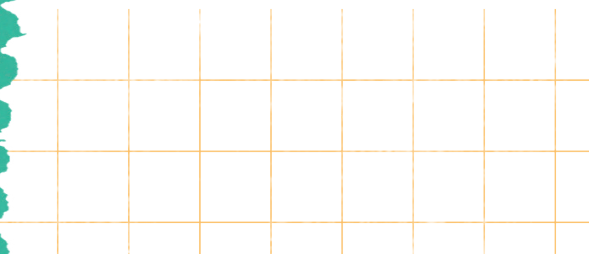
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WHY ARE

WE HERE?

MEMORY VERSE

John 17:3

KEY PASSAGE

Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

NOTES

THE POINT

God created us to live in fellowship with Him.

THINK

READ GENESIS 1:1-5.

How do people today act like they're the center of the universe? How are you tempted to live like this?

What difference does it make that the Creator, not the creation, is at the center of the creation story?

READ GENESIS 1:26-27.

How does knowing you're created in the image of God affect the way you see yourself and others?

What does it mean that God created both male and female in His image?

READ GENESIS 1:28-31.

How would you describe our responsibility for taking care of the world God created?

Based on this passage, what is the purpose of our lives?

**CHRIST**

God's power was on full display through creation (Ps. 19:1-4; Rom. 1:20). However, many times we not only fail to live in wonder and admiration toward God, but we relate to Him with an utterly unhealthy familiarity.

**What activities will you engage in this week to help you cultivate a sense of wonder in response to God's majesty?**

**What do you know about God which should cause you to live in continual awe?**

**COMMUNITY**

In the creation story, the name for God that's in Scripture—Elohim—is plural and points to the diversity of our one God. For eternity, the Father, Son, and Spirit have lived in perfect relationship with one another, and God created us to live in relationships as well.

**What characteristics do you see in the relationship within the Trinity?**

**What will you do this week to cultivate those characteristics in your relationships?**

**CULTURE**

Culture buys into evolution, but we know from Scripture that these worldly views aren't just inaccurate—they're blasphemous because they rob God of His creative power and authority over creation.

**What steps will you take to help someone understand more clearly the beauties of God on display through creation?**

**How will you make sure to be sensitive to their perspectives and avoid coming across as arrogant and judgmental, while boldly holding to the truth?**



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3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.



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DEVOS



# GOD IS THE LIGHT

## READ

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night."*

*There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day. —GENESIS 1:1-5*

## THINK

The Bible begins by telling of the origin of the universe, and from the very beginning, God created our world—and all the cosmos—to function according to regular rhythms, intervals, and seasons. God's first creative act was to take a void and formless earth, apply brilliant light, and separate light from darkness so the whole system would begin to function as God had designed it. This separation of light and dark He called "day" and "night."

The Bible then says, "There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day." God did all this in one day, and though the sun was yet to be created (this would happen on day four), the earth was already rotating on its axis, and there was a source of light on one side. How could this be? The answer is that God doesn't need a sun, moon, or stars to provide light—God is the light!

During the first three days of creation, God Himself provided light for the newly created earth. Today, we know Jesus as the light of the world, who allows us to see spiritual truth as we never could before. And one day, in the new heavens and new earth, there will once again be no sun, because God will be the light.

## LIVE IT OUT

**How has Jesus served as a source of light in your life?**

**What truths are you coming to see that are challenging you? What changes do you feel you need to make?**