

Creating A New Community
 "God's Greatest Dream"
 Genesis 1-2

Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"

In the ancient near East

- There existed **creation myths**
- Life was seen as just an **endless cycle**

Three core facets of this new Genesis world view

I. "Why did God create anything in the first place?"

- v. 1 the work of the **Father** in creation
- v. 2 the **Spirit of God** hovers over the waters
- v. 3 God creates by speaking his **Word**

We know three things about what existed before "in the beginning"

1. God existed as **three persons** yet One God
2. There was **love** between the members
3. There was **communication** among the members

Why do we exist?

God wants others to enjoy the **richness of community**.

II. God wants His community to have a wonderful place to live

So God made the **universe**.

GOD

Creation

God creates **ex nihilo**.

The **goodness** of creation reminds us of the **goodness** of our Creator. *"And God saw that it was good."* Genesis 1

III. The climax of creation is the creation of human beings

Human beings are

- **finite limited** creatures (Gen. 2:7, 3:19)
- made in the **image of God** (Gen. 1:27)
- Latin: **the imago dei**

People matter so much to God that

- He **blesses them** (Gen. 1:28)
- He **provides food** for them (Gen. 1:29)
- He gives them **work** to do (Gen. 2:15)
- He gives them **each other** (Gen. 2:18-25)

Adam needs a **companion** - a **community**

READING PLAN:

Complete Track

Monday - Genesis 1; Psalm 1
 Tuesday - Genesis 2-3
 Wednesday - Genesis 4; Psalm 2
 Thursday - Genesis 5-6
 Friday - Genesis 7-8; Psalm 3
 Weekend - Genesis 9-11; Psalm 4

Fast Track

1st Reading - Genesis 1; Psalm 1
 2nd Reading - Genesis 2; Psalm 8
 3rd Reading - Job 38-39; Psalm 19