



Study #7

Questions for Genesis:

Day Seven of the Creation Account (2:1-4)

DAY 1

1. Understand that when the different books of the Bible were written, they did not have chapter and verse numbers as we do in our modern translations. With this in mind, *how does Genesis 2:1 fit within its larger context?*
2. Genesis 2:1 declares that “the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.” *How might the word “completed” as used in its context inform our understanding of the creation/evolution debate?*
3. *Imagine being an eyewitness when God created everything and now you are present at its completion. What impact does that moment of completion have on you? Explain.*

DAY 2

4. The passage states that God “rested on the seventh day.”

Does this passage indicate that God was tired and therefore needed rest? How do you know?

In what way should the word “rest” be understood? In other words, what does it mean that God “rested”?

5. The word for rest is Sabbath. This is what God did on the seventh day. He had a Sabbath. *The passage goes on to say that God “blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.” What does this mean?*

How might this passage help in informing your view of work and rest? Perhaps it would do you well to think in terms of God's view of work and rest. What is His view and how should this shape your own approach to work and rest?

6. *There are numerous references to the Sabbath in the OT. Look up the following references. How do these references inform your understanding of the Sabbath?*

Exodus 16:23-30

Exodus 20:8-11

Exodus 31:14-17

Exodus 35:2

Leviticus 23:3

Numbers 15:32-36

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

7. *Look up the following references to the Sabbath in the NT. How do these passages inform your understanding of the Sabbath?*

Romans 4:5

Colossians 2:16

Hebrews 4:4

Mark 3:2

8. *It is clear from several OT passages that God's people were to obey the Sabbath. However, a careful study of the NT indicates that a shift regarding the Sabbath had occurred. Describe that shift. Is there any biblical basis for the shift? Explain.*

DAY 3

9. What do you learn about God as revealed in these passages?

10. In what ways does this passage minister to you personally?

11. *You have finally completed your study of creation as revealed in Genesis 1:1-2:4. Please list at least 5 ways in which this entire section of scripture has ministered to you personally.*

12. In what way should Genesis (1:1-2:4) have impacted the Israelites as they were preparing to take control of the promise land?

Options for teenage adults and children

Assigned teens should pick one option and come ready to share. Teens are free to use their creativity and come up with a different idea! Please allow your parents to assist you as you prepare for Care group.

Another option is to give the teen some time during the Care group meeting to prepare one of the following and then have one of the teens present to the entire group.

- In the creation account we witness from God the value of work and rest. God worked diligently for six days as He created all things. God's typical refrain after an aspect of His creation was to declare, "Behold, it was good." Clearly, God delighted in His creation. We also see a God who ceases from His labor. You have been asked to speak at a youth camp on the topic of "work and rest." Please come up with a basic outline of what you would want to say at this youth camp. You should be able to share your outline in less than three minutes. However, if you were to deliver the complete message it would last closer to 15 minutes. Come to Care Group prepared to share your outline.
- Take time to reflect on God's work of creation as well as the day in which He rested. What are three of the most important ways in which this passage ministers to you personally? Explain your answers. Be ready to share with the Care Group, allowing the Care Group to ask you some questions in response to what you share.
- If you are an artist, take time to illustrate the days of creation, including the seventh day in which God rested. Come to the Care Group ready to share your art work.
- Write a poem that is based on Genesis (1:1-2:4). Come prepared to share your poem with the Care Group.
- You have been asked to speak on the topic of creation at a secular university. Create an outline of what you will say in an attempt to defend creation. Come prepared to share your outline with your Care Group.