



Read Genesis 1:1-2:3

What are the repeated words and phrases?

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What do we learn about God?

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What do these verses tell us about God's creation?

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What are we told about human beings?

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What made the 7th day different from the rest?

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Read Genesis 2:4-25



What is the relationship?

- God and humans?

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- Man and woman?

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- Human beings and creation?

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Reflection

How does the teaching of Genesis 1-2 differ from other worldviews in society?

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How does it challenge your thinking and behaviour?

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What could you do this week to enjoy God as the creator and enjoy rest with him?

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Read Genesis 3

The serpent

How do we see Satan using the same tactics today?

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The sin

What did Adam and Eve do wrong?

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The consequences

How do we see sin damaging relationships in Genesis 3 and today between:

- Men and women

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- Human beings and creation

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- Human beings and God

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What signs of hope can be seen in this chapter?

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How can we be encouraged by this hope?

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Read Genesis 17:1-8

1. What is a covenant? (v2, 3, 7)

God confirms his covenant by repeating his promises.

List them under these headings:

- People

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- Land

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- Blessing

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Genesis 15:6 describes Abraham's response to God's promises

Put it in your own words

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2. How is that a model for us (see Gal 3:6-9)?

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3. What would have been hard for Abraham?

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4. When is it hard for us to believe God's gospel promises?

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5. Why is it easier for us than Abraham?

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Read Exodus 19: 4-6



What has God already done for Israel?

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What role does God want the Israelites to play in the world?

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How does this relate to his promises to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3?

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What must the Israelites do to fulfil the role?

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Read Exodus 20:1-17

Group the commandments into different categories

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Why do they begin as they do (v1-3)?

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How does God's law reveal:

- Our sin?
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- Our Saviour
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- God's standards?
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Choose one or two commandments you find especially challenging

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What will obedience look like in practice?

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How does the gospel of Christ help us do this?

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Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17

What are the different stages in the narrative?

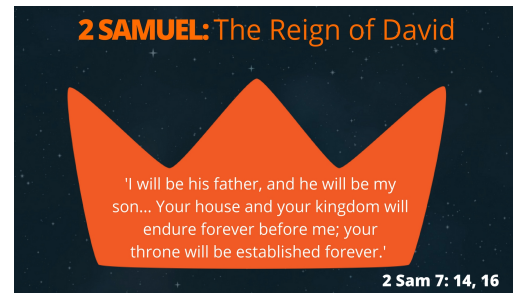
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How will God act in fulfilment of his promises to Abraham in Genesis 12?

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What does God promise concerning the coming king (v11b-16)?

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How does Jesus fulfil these promises?

Matthew 1:1

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Mark 12:35-37

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John 2:18-22

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Romans 1:1-4

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How should we respond to king Jesus?

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Read Hosea 1-3

What are the different stages in the relationship between Hosea and Gomer?

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What does God want the Israelites to learn about their sin from Hosea's marriage?

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What do the children's names teach them about God's judgement?

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GOD'S COVENANT	
CONDITIONAL	UNCONDITIONAL
MOSES	ABRAHAM
Disobey - lose God's blessing	'I will bless you'
JUDGMENT	HOPE

What hope is there? (look for echoes of the promises to Abraham and David)

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What do we learn about God from this passage?

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What impact should these chapters have on our lives?

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Read Luke 1:67-75

What do these verses imply about the situation before Christ came?

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What do we learn about salvation?

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How should God's people respond to salvation?

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Read Luke 1:76-79

What more do we learn about salvation?

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What are the implications for our lives?

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Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

When are we tempted to use 'shameful ways' or 'distort the word of God' in evangelism?

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What can we learn from Paul's example?

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What response should we expect?

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Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Explain verse 7 in your own words

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To what extent do v8-12 reflect your experience of evangelism?

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Red 2 Corinthians 4:13-18

What do these verses tell us about what we can expect now, in this present age?

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What will we receive in the age to come?

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What difference should this hope make to us now?

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Read Revelation 21:1-8

What images are used to describe the perfected kingdom?

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How do they build on previous passages in the Bible?

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What will life be like in the perfected kingdom?

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Read Revelation 21:22-22:5

What features of the perfected kingdom are described here?

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Kingdom of God Perfected Kingdom

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God's people

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God's place

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God's rule and blessing

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Close with praise and intercession in the light of what you have learnt