

**Weekly Bible Study  
group – October 8, 2008**

*This week's reading assignment: **Genesis 1***

Please join us as we study the book of Genesis this quarter! The best way to let this book change our lives is to focus on it when we're at group on Wednesdays, and then also focus on it throughout the week in our personal devotion times and our small groups. You can use these study questions to help guide your reflection.

**1)** Genesis chapter 1 is written like poetry, like a song. We read a whole list of what God created (like individual verses in a song) and at the end of each item we read that "God saw that it was good." Whenever a phrase is repeated over and over like this in scripture, we had better pay attention. Why do you think this phrase "it was good" is one of the most emphasized ideas in the very beginning of the Bible?

**2)** Probably the main point of chapter 1 is the teaching that God created everything. The whole universe, all parts of it. The point is not HOW God created the world. The point is that God is the ultimate SOURCE of it all. God is the source of the world around us, right here and now. God is the source of you and me. Our bodies and minds and hearts. God keeps it all in existence, holds it in his hands. Now this is a difficult, deep question, but ponder it: given the fact that we humans are complex, beautiful, broken creatures even as we worship tonight – what does it look like for us to give praise to God and recognize that he is the source of our lives, *everything* that we are? What does it look like to live our lives in full recognition that God holds ALL parts of us in his hands – even the broken parts?

**3)** The end of chapter 1 tells us that God created humans in his own image and gave them charge over the other parts of creation. Some translations tell us that God gave them *responsibility* for the earth. God didn't give us a special place in creation so that we can abuse or greedily devour it – he gave us the task of *taking care* of it, on his behalf. How can we live out this calling in our daily lives? How can we show the rest of the world what it means to be stewards of a creation that doesn't belong to us?

*Have a good week!*

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