



## study questions

Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.



### INTRODUCTION

Growing up, we had a dog that would do a strange thing when you pointed to his food dish. He would stare at your finger instead seeing the food you were trying to give him.

From what I've heard from other dog owners, this is not an uncommon occurrence in the dog world. I also suspect that our experience trying to lead our "best friend" to eat is the same experience God has trying to help us see his life-giving word, the Bible. We often miss his point at first glance because we are looking at his finger instead of the truth he's giving.

Nowhere is this truer than in Genesis 1-11. We get so wrapped up in "how'd he do it" that we miss the point of what those chapters mean – they introduce us to the God of creation. When we look at the truth instead of the "how," all of a sudden an amazing world opens up to us and we are filled with wonder for the One who made it.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had an experience or moment of realization that made you stop in awe and wonder at who God is and what he has done?
2. **Together, read Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 all at one time..**
  - a. In 1-3 words, what is the main theme of this passage?
  - b. Many see a gap between Gen. 1:2 & 3. Do you see one? What's there?
  - c. What word did Dwain point out on the weekend that occurs over and over in Chapter 1 (besides "God")? Why is it there and what does it mean?- i.e what is it pointing to?
  - d. Many people, who view the scriptures as wholly true and inerrant, have differing views of what the word "day" means. In the Hebrew it can mean 24 hours, but it also means other units of time. Where do you land and why? How does this add to your understanding of who God is?
  - e. In **Genesis 2: 2-3**, God rests on the seventh day. The word there is "Shabbat" from which we get "Sabbath." Why do you think he did it? Was God tired? What are the implications of this for us?
3. Focus in on Genesis 1:26-28.
  - a. What does it mean that we are made in the image of God?
  - b. What does this have to do with your relationship and approach to God?
  - c. What does the image of God mean for how you live our your daily life?
4. During this week, how can your group pray for you so that you would see the practical side of wonder in way you (this world, the people in it, and the one's you love) have been made by your loving Creator?

### MOVING FORWARD

There are many important explanations of life and why we're here in Genesis 1. Exploring them always raises our sense of wonder about who God is. We don't give much credit to wonder, but the Bible says God uses it in us to confirm our belief in him – even after wisdom and intelligence are gone (Psalm 78:32; Isaiah 29:14). To help you dig deeper into the story, a good study Bible is a real help. Consider getting/using one. Two of the latest and greatest are the Zondervan NIV Study Bible, and the English Standard Version Study Bible.

### PRAYER

**"...in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe." Hebrews 1:2**