

Knowing God Week 4- (January 30th-February 5th)

God Time – Looking Back Over Genesis Chapters 1-11

These scriptures are selected to help you gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is. You can read them each day or listen to the daily audio that is sent to you. They are intentionally designed for you to engage in your time alone with God. You will find them complementary to the teachings on the weekend (gatherings) and to the LIFE Group materials.

Some tips:

Use a Bible that is easy to read. The ESV or The NLT are both good translations.

Use a prayer journal. After you read the passages jot down what “jumped out” at you while reading. Then take a few minutes to write a prayer response to what you have read.

There are only five days of reading provided, so if you miss a day, you have time to catch up. Do not get legalistic! If you miss a day or even a week, God still loves you!

Monday: Genesis 1:27

Tuesday: Genesis 2:18

Wednesday: Genesis 3:15

Thursday: Genesis 4:7

Friday: Genesis 8:21

Diving Deeper

Knowing God from the Start – Looking Back Over Genesis Chapters 1-11

In these first eleven chapters of Genesis we see the seeds of many of the major themes of the Bible. Sin, redemption, covenant, the image of god in humanity, the Trinity, family relationships, and many more. It's easy to overlook these stories because they are simply so well known. But this week make it your goal to lean into these stories a bit deeper. Specifically look for the "scarlet thread" that Pastor Scott mentioned in last week's sermon. Look for the places where there are shadows of Jesus in first chapters of Genesis. These shadows are commonly called "types or typologies." Here are a few key types you'll want to look for in Genesis 1-11. The following types and insights are quoted from the work of Nicholas T. Batzig.

Adam- Adam is explicitly said to have been a type of Christ in that he was the representative of humanity (Rom. 5:12). Paul unfolds one of the foremost ways in which he was a type of Christ in Romans 5:12-21. Adam's role as first head of the human race—together with the guilt, corruption and death that his disobedience brought on all humanity—is contrasted with the headship of Christ, and salvation brought about by his obedience unto the point of death and resurrection.

Abel- Abel is shown to be a type of Christ in that he was the first one to suffer for righteousness sake (Matt. 23:34-35). The hostility that Cain directed toward his brother was ultimately meant for God. Charles Spurgeon said, "If Cain could have gotten at the throat of God he would have done so." This is precisely what men did in the crucifixion of Christ. Abel died because he worshiped God rightly. Jesus died because He always did the will of His Father in Heaven. The writer of Hebrews tells us that "the blood of Jesus speaks better things than that of Abel" (Heb. 11:4; 12:24). As was true of Adam, so Abel was a type of Christ by way of comparison and contrast. He is compared with Christ in that he was martyred for righteousness; he is contrasted with Christ in that his blood cried out for vengeance while Christ's blood cries out for mercy.

Noah- Noah's name meant "rest." His father named him "Rest," saying, "This one will give us rest from the ground that the Lord God has cursed." Noah only brought rest in a typical sense when he walked off of the Ark with his family to inhabit a typical new creation. But Christ, the greater Nodah, actually gives rest to the souls of men and women (Matt. 11:25-30). Jesus alone has secured the new creation through His death and resurrection.

- 1) Why do you think God chose to include these types of Christ in Genesis?

- 2) What are some times where you've seen a "scarlet thread" of Jesus running through your life story? Have there been times where something was a clear sign of Jesus but you didn't see it in the moment?

- 3) Can you find a few other times in the Old Testament when "types" of Jesus show up? What do those instances reveal to you about the character of God?

- 4) After looking back at the teachings from this Knowing God series, write down a few (no more than three) ways that the stories of Genesis 1-11 will change the way you live.