

4. What are some of the ways John 1:1-4,14a echos (and hyperlinks) to Genesis 1?
 John 1: ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ...¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
5. What are some of the commonalities between the first page and the last pages of the Bible?
 Genesis 1: ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.
 Revelation 21: ¹ Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."
 Revelation 22: ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.
6. How does the message that God's desire is to dwell with you impact your heart and life?

The First Page (A Series on Genesis 1)

"Masterpiece" (Part 1)

Genesis 1 (Overview)

The first page of the Bible introduces almost every major _____ of the Bible, and it does so in such incredible and breathtaking detail that it deserves an immersive and expansive study.

Genesis 1 as a Literary Masterpiece (or How long would it take you to decide to pay \$5 for a \$500 painting?)

Notes on "Genesis 1" BibleProject Video: <https://bit.ly/3AHA57K>:

The 7's

What are the 7's?

- ▶ 7 days of creation
- ▶ 7 announcements that the creation is _____
- ▶ 7-word _____: 7x1 (1:1), 7x2 (1:2), 7x3 (2:1-2)
- ▶ Key Hebrew words that occur in _____ of 7: God (35x), Earth (21x), Heaven (21x)

Why 7?

- 7 symbolizes _____/fullness/wholeness/perfection.

S _____ = Seven = שבע

S _____ = Fullness/Completion = שבע

- The numerous ways 7 is featured naturally points to the actual use of the number 7 in the story—the 7th day, the _____ of creation.

“Genesis 1 has been designed to show us that God’s purpose is to share creation with his images, so they can rest and rule it with him forever.” (Tim Mackie)

- The 7th day (and other literary features) point to God making a _____ where he will live with us.

“God rests on the seventh day. This is a standard biblical image, where God, after ordering the cosmos, comes to rest and dwell in his sacred space. It’s like the whole world is a holy temple where God lives with his people.” (Tim Mackie)

God at Home, Dwelling with Us

Any place where God is going to settle in and live (“rest”) will be complete and perfect and _____.

For God, making a home started with bringing _____ out of chaos. (Genesis 1;2)

As we turn to the end of the story, on the last pages of the Bible, he _____ our disordered world. (Revelation 21:1-4; 22:3-5)

That’s the story of God in a _____. God creates a home where he will dwell with us, and God will recreate a home where he will dwell with us forever. There’s a lot that happens between Creation and New Creation (much of it tragic), but those are the bookends of the story.

This story, from the first page to the last, tells us God’s deep _____ is to live and dwell with us.

God Sees You

Our God is a _____ God.

God looked across the _____ of time, he saw you, and he desired to dwell with you and you with him.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week’s sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. What do you do to turn a house or apartment into a home?
3. Read Genesis 1:1–2:4 in three different translations. Look for and record the literary design features you notice (e.g., repeated phrases, key words, etc.).