

Genesis Part 2

Leader Guide

(NASB and ESV)

THE FALL, THE FLOOD,
AND THE NATIONS
(CHAPTERS 3–11)

The Fall, the Flood, and the Nations
Genesis Part 2 Leader Guide (NASB and ESV)
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USING LEADER GUIDES

Leader Guides are intended for you, the leader, to guide your Precept Upon Precept® and In & Out® discussions. They are designed to help you reason through the content of the lessons and to ensure you have understood what your group should have learned from their study. The guides offer effective plans for leading discussions.

The Holy Spirit is your guide as you prepare. He is the one who knows what your group needs to apply to their lives. Pray for them as they study and for yourself as you prepare to lead the discussion.

These guides can be used for either the NASB or the ESV edition of the courses. ESV words follow the NASB after a slash / or are set off with parentheses.

Leader Guides include the following:

- Lesson emphasis
- A logical order for the discussion
- Discussion questions
- Suggested visual aid(s)

Practical tips for using the Leader Guide:

- **Don't simply "do" the lesson.**
Stay with the lesson until you have a good understanding of it. This will give you a better grasp of how the Leader Guide takes you through the lesson.
- **You don't have to ask every question in the guide.**
Often one question will be covered while discussing another question so there is no reason to ask it. Your goal is not to ask every question, but to ask enough questions to make sure your group understood the lesson and to help them apply the truths to their lives.

Using the Leader Guide with In & Out


When your entire group uses In & Out

Compare an In & Out lesson with the Leader Guide. Use what relates to the In & Out lesson as a guide for the discussion. Don't teach what's not in In & Out lessons. Remember your goal in the discussion is for your group to discuss what they've learned, not for you to lecture on what you learned.

For groups studying both Precept Upon Precept and In & Out

Use the Leader Guides as designed for PUP, knowing that the In & Out assignments will be covered in the discussion. Make a note in the Leader Guide of what is not in the In & Out.

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GENESIS, PART 2
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 1

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 3
- The serpent, devil

REVIEW GENESIS 1–2

To begin your discussion, tell your group to look at the Genesis at a Glance chart as a visual aid for this part of your discussion.

What and when is Genesis 1 about?

In the beginning God created heaven and earth in 6 days

What is Genesis 2 about?

Genesis 2:1-3 tells what happened on the seventh day.

The rest of Genesis 2 gives more detail about man and woman’s creation and the garden of Eden. It gives detail not in Genesis 1.

It also tells about man’s and woman’s relationship with their Creator, the LORD God.

It can be summarized as something like,
“God rested 7th day; God created man and woman”

You might ask what your group learned about God from Genesis 1–2.

God spoke and brought all that there is into existence. He is the Almighty God.

He created the heavens and the earth in an orderly manner. He provided for the living creatures before He created them.

He made woman because it was not good for the man to be alone. He made them to enjoy a relationship with each other, and with Him.

Adam and Eve were in God’s image.

What did God tell Adam to do, and not do?

God told Adam and Eve both to be fruitful and fill the earth and subdue it.
He said for them to rule (ESV—have dominion) over the other living creatures.

God clearly told Adam that he could eat from any tree in the garden except one, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. At this point he had no knowledge of evil, and therefore, the difference between good and evil.

The condition of all of creation at this point was good, very good.

How does Genesis 2 describe the relationship between Adam and Eve?

She was his helper suitable / fit for him, his wife. He was to be joined to her. They were naked and not ashamed; they were to be one flesh.

There was purity in their relationship and their relationship with God.

GENESIS 3

Verses 1-7

You might ask your group who this chapter begins with, and what they learned about him from this chapter and the cross-references. Tell them to look at the chart at the end of the lesson as a visual aid.

It begins with the crafty serpent.

Revelation 12:9 and 20:2

The dragon is the serpent of old / ancient serpent, the devil, and Satan.

John 8:44

He is a murderer, a liar, and the father of lies.

Relate this to what he did with the woman in Genesis 3.

He asked the woman a question about what God had said. He questioned God's Word. She gave him an answer.

Then he contradicted what God had said. He lied about it.

He's the father of lies and a murderer from the beginning.

He wanted the man and woman to eat the forbidden fruit so that they'd die.

The serpent was crafty, and he deceived the woman by questioning what God had said. Then he said that they would not die, stating the opposite of God's Word, and that there would be good results from doing what God said not to do.

How does this information relate to people today? To those in your group?

People still listen to the questioning and lies of the devil. He is the deceiver, and he uses parts of God's Word to deceive people just as he did with Eve.

Believers who know the truth aren't deceived by the devil's lies and questions.

What was the result of the devil deceiving the woman?

She took from the tree and ate, then she gave to her husband and he ate.

They had an immediate knowledge that they were naked, so they covered themselves with fig leaves. There was shame from doing what God said not to do.

Relate this to Genesis 2:25.

Give time for your group to discuss application at any time during your discussion.

Verses 8-13

What happened next? Tell your group to look at the chart in the lesson on Days Two and Three.

They heard God walking in the garden.

They were afraid of God and hid themselves from Him, from His presence.

Some people still try to hide from God when they sin.

God asked if they had eaten from the tree. He gave them opportunity to confess.

They told what happened when they ate, and the consequences resulted.

Verses 14-15

Who did God speak to first? What did He say?

God addressed the serpent first.

The serpent was cursed more than all the cattle / livestock and every beast, which gives the impression that all the animals were cursed.

There would be enmity between the seed / offspring of the serpent and the seed / offspring of the woman. The serpent would be bruised on the head by the woman's seed.

NOTE: This promise will be studied in the next lesson.

Now ask your group what else they learned about the serpent from the other cross-references in the lesson.

Ezekiel 28:11-19

Many understand this to be a reference to the devil because of the description in this passage of the king of Tyre who rules over the prince of Tyre.

He was created by God, perfect in beauty and full of wisdom. The anointed covering / guardian cherub was in Eden. This isn't like a description of an earthly king of Tyre.

He was blameless in his ways until unrighteousness was found in him. Then he was filled with violence and sinned, his heart was lifted up because of his beauty, and his wisdom was corrupted by his splendor.

It seems that his corruption might have taken place sometime the last day of creation between when God said all His creation was very good and when the serpent deceived the woman in the garden of Eden.

There will come a time when he will be no more.

Matthew 25:41

Jesus said that the eternal fire was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Revelation 20:1-10

When Jesus returns, the devil will be put into the abyss / bottomless pit for 1,000 years during which he can no longer deceive the nations. After that time, he'll be released from his prison and deceive the nations to come against the Lord.

He will then be thrown into the lake of fire.
He'll be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Revelation 12:1-17

The sign in heaven of the great red dragon is interpreted as being the serpent of old (ESV—ancient serpent), called the devil and Satan. Part of the sign showed that the devil tried to kill Jesus when He was born, but he was unsuccessful. His power is not a match with God's.

Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7

Satan had to have permission from God to do what he did to Job. God set limits to what Satan could do. First he could not harm Job, then he could not kill him.

He deceives the whole world and is the accuser of the brethren / brothers.

2 Timothy 2:26

The devil snares unbelievers and holds them captive to do his will.

Lead your discussion back to Genesis 3 and ask about verse 16.

Who did the Lord speak to next, and what did He say?

He addressed the woman and told her that she'd bear children in pain and her husband would rule over her.

Compare with Genesis 1:26-28.

Verses 17-19

Who did God speak to next, and what did He say?

The man would face the curse of the ground and would sweat to get food from it.
He would return to the dust from which he came.

Compare with Genesis 2:15-16 and 3:23.

Verses 20-24

What are these verses about?

The man named his wife Eve, indicating that she's the mother of all living.

God provided for them. Even though they had made for themselves coverings of leaves, God made garments of skin for them. One or more animals died to give that skin.

Because of their disobedience, He put them out of the garden away from the tree of life.

Death was the result of their disobedience; they couldn't eat from the tree of life in their sinful state.

Ask what your group learned about death.

Although Adam and Eve didn't physically die at the moment when they ate of the tree, they died in that they had no right to the tree of life from that time on. There was also the first death for the skins.

There was death to their purity and their relationship with God.

They had the knowledge of good and evil, but death was the result of their disobedience.

Romans 5:12 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

When sin entered the world through one man, Adam, death also entered the world and spread to all men.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask what they noted as a possible chapter theme for Genesis 3.

Serpent deceived Eve, Adam and Eve ate, God's curse

To end this discussion, you can ask what understanding they gained for their lives from this lesson.

One thing is that there are great consequences to believing the devil's lies, for going against what God has clearly said.

GENESIS, PART 2 LEADER GUIDE Lesson 2

Lesson emphasis:

- Temptation and sin

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask what your group remembers as the main themes of Genesis 1–3. Refer them to their Genesis at a Glance charts as a visual aid for this review.

Genesis 1	God created heavens and earth in 6 days
Genesis 2	7 th day God rested, man and woman's creation
Genesis 3	Serpent, Adam and Eve ate, God's curse

TEMPTATION AND SIN

What happened in Genesis 3:1-5?

The serpent questioned God's word when he talked to the woman.
Then, he contradicted God's word.

She was deceived and looked at the forbidden tree. She saw that it was:
Good for food
A delight to the eyes
Desirable to make one wise

How does 1 John 2:16 relate to this? What are the things in the world?

The lust / desires of the flesh seems to parallel "good for food."
The lust / desires of the eyes fits with "a delight to the eyes."
The boastful pride of life (ESV footnote—"or *pride in possessions*") goes with "desirable to make one wise."

There are a diagram and two short lists at the end of this guide which can be used as visual aids for this discussion.

At this point, you can ask about the other illustrations of this.

Achan, Joshua 6–7

God had clearly said that Israel was to take nothing under the ban (ESV—devoted to destruction) for themselves when they destroyed Jericho. Achan knew what was right.

Achan said that he saw some things that looked beautiful to him.

Then he took the things as his own possessions.

He tried to hide what he'd done.

David, 2 Samuel

David saw a beautiful woman taking a bath.

Then he inquired about her.

He took her and lay with her.

When she became pregnant, he tried to cover what he'd done.

He had her husband killed.

He sinned when he sent for her, knowing that she was married to another man.

He sinned when he lay with her.

What is the progression from temptation to sin, according to James 1:13-15?

Temptation does not come from God.

temptation—means “to try . . . test”¹; “to make proof of”²

It comes when a person is carried away / lured and enticed by his own lust / desire.

lust / desire—means “deep desire, longing”³

When lust / desire conceives, then it gives birth to sin.

sin—means “to miss the mark,”⁴ “error”⁵

Sin brings forth death.

What is the mark? How does one know if he misses the mark?

The mark is God's standard of righteousness, what He says in His Word.

Adam, Eve, Achan, and David missed the mark by doing what God said not to do.

What are some of the biblical statements which define sin?

Isaiah 53:6

To go astray, to turn to one's own way is called iniquity.

Today people are saying that a person is only fulfilled when he or she lives according to what self desires. Fulfilling oneself is the main thing in life.

¹ James Strong, *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2001), G3985.

² R. L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition*, (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), G3985.

³ James Swanson, *Dictionary of Biblical Languages With Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

⁴ James Strong, *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2001), G266.

⁵ Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary, New Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 1994), G266.

Relate this to what God says about going one's own way.

Romans 14:23

Whatever is not (ESV—does not proceed) from faith is sin. Faith is believing what God says.

James 4:17

A person sins when he knows what is right but does not do it.

1 John 3:4

Sin is lawlessness; to break the law is sin.

Eve, Achan, and David all knew what God had said. They all disobeyed His Word and sinned. In each of these three illustrations, temptation led to sin.

Give time for your group to discuss the difference between temptation and sin. Help them to answer the question, "When does temptation become sin?"

How important is what believers see?

In these illustrations of the temptation, it all began with what the person saw—how the forbidden thing looked to the one being tempted.

Relate this to what people look at today. Ask your group what they look at. This can be a very important part of this discussion to help them keep from falling into temptation.

Compare what Matthew 5:27-28 says with what has been discussed to this point.

Some sin takes place in the mind. That is why it is so very important to be careful about what one looks at.

After David had seen Bathsheba, he allowed his lustful thoughts to continue. He didn't stop his thoughts but acted on them.

Achan, too, didn't stop his thoughts but acted on them. God had said to keep themselves from things under the ban, or they might covet them and take some. Achan evidently was looking at the spoil, rather than keeping himself from it. He coveted some of the things he saw and took them.

JESUS' TEMPTATION

Ask your group what they learned about Jesus' temptation.

Matthew 4:1-11

After Jesus fasted forty days, he was hungry and then was tempted by the devil to turn stones to bread. The devil is called the tempter in this passage. Jesus resisted all three temptations in this passage by using God's Word.

Mark 1:12-13

Satan was tempting Jesus during the forty days in the wilderness.

Luke 4:1-13

Verse 2 says He was tempted during the forty days. This passage also says in verse 13 that the devil tempted Jesus with every temptation. And when the devil departed, it was only until an opportune time.

Comparing these accounts it's clear that Jesus was tempted during and after the forty days. Also, He was tempted more than the just the three times after the forty days.

Hebrews 4:14-16

He was tempted in all things as we are.

Relate the three specific temptations to what has already been discussed.

Jesus had fasted for forty days when the devil suggested that He turn stones into bread. That was a temptation to one who was as hungry as Jesus was at that time. This was a temptation to test God's provision and to meet His physical needs Himself.

The pinnacle of the temple was a high place in Jerusalem. Satan tempted Jesus to test God's care of Him as the Son of God. Many today are tempted to put God's care to the test.

The kingdoms of the world belong to the devil, as was studied in the previous lesson. He was offering to give them to Jesus, Who will rule over them after His second coming, at a different price than God had said. Satan said for Jesus to worship him, but God had said that it would cost Jesus' life. What will many do to save their own lives?

What was the result of Jesus' temptations?

He did not sin.

According to Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13 how did Jesus deal with temptations?

It is written . . . Jesus knew the Word of God, and He used it when being tempted.

Encourage your group to keep studying God's Word so that they know how to keep from giving in to temptation. Ask what they learned about this.

Psalm 119:11

Knowing and remembering His Word keeps believers from sin.

Matthew 26:41

Jesus also said to keep watching and praying as a deterrent to temptation.

SIN AND DEATH

What does Romans 6:23 teach about sin?

The wages of sin is death.

This statement is good to memorize as prevention of sin.

This is the same as what James says—sin brings death.

Discuss the result of the temptation in the three illustrations about Eve, Achan, and David.

Temptation led to sin, and sin led to death.

They all sinned, disobeyed what God had said.

Death was the result in each case.

Eve gave to Adam, and death entered the world through sin.

Achan and his whole family were killed because of his sin.

Many of Israel had died in battle as a result of his sin.

David had Bathsheba's husband killed, and the baby from his adultery died.

Who is under the penalty of death because of sin?

Romans 5:12

Death spread to all because all sinned.

Ephesians 2:1

All were dead in trespasses and sins.

How did sin affect creation?

Genesis 3:17-18

The ground was cursed as a result of Adam's sin. He could no longer just tend and keep the garden. He had to work hard among thorns and thistles to eat from the earth.

Romans 8:18-22

Creation was subjected to futility, enslaved to corruption (ESV—bondage to corruption).

GOD'S RESPONSE

Ask your group what they learned from their study.

Genesis 3:9-24

God told Adam and Eve the consequences of their sin.

He cursed the serpent, but also made a promise of one who would crush his head. Genesis 3:15 is the first promise of the coming seed of the woman, the Lord Jesus Christ. It's the first time in God's Word that He promised the cross and victory.

Matthew 1:1 and Galatians 3:16

Matthew says that Jesus was the son of David and Abraham.

The seed / offspring of Abraham was the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for the sins of the whole world. He defeated the devil when the devil thought that he had defeated God. Christ's heel was bruised on the cross, but the devil's head was crushed / bruised.

How did the woman's seed / offspring crush / bruise the serpent's head?

John 12:23-33; Ephesians 1:19-23; and Revelation 20:10

The serpent crushed / bruised the heel of the woman's seed / offspring when Jesus was killed on the cross. But when He rose again in victory over death, He crushed / bruised the serpent's head. Although it will not be until the end time when the devil will be thrown into the lake of fire forever.

CHRISTIANS AND TEMPTATION

To end your discussion, you can ask what your group learned from the cross-references on Day Four in the lesson. How can one keep a temptation from becoming sin?

Draw near to the Lord Jesus Christ Who has been tempted in all ways as we are, yet without sin. He will aid the one being tempted.

Be alert, keep watching and praying. Pray not to enter into temptation, to be delivered from temptation when faced with it.

Treasure God's Word in the heart to keep from sin.

Relate this to how Jesus dealt with His temptations.

Encourage your group that when they are tempted to sin, they can remember or quote or read Scripture that deals with that particular sin. But they need to know the Word to be able to do that.

You might ask if anyone in your group has an illustration of doing this.

Again, encourage them to study the Bible. It is their protection.

Ask what they learned from Galatians 5:16.

Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out / gratify the desires of the flesh.
That is a promise. Believers won't give in to temptation if they walk by the Spirit.
If they listen to God the Spirit and are led by Him, they won't sin in a particular situation.

What is the promise about temptations in 1 Corinthians 10?

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

God will not allow believers to be tempted beyond what they are able to bear. In other words, believers can handle whatever temptations come.

He will provide the way of escape so that believers can endure.
That way might be to flee. It might be to remember His Word, etc.

Christians don't have to give in to temptations.


What does a believer do when he or she has sinned?

Proverbs 28:13 and 1 John 1:9

Confess and forsake the sin. Don't try to hide from the Lord as Adam and Eve did.

He is faithful and righteous to forgive and cleanse His believers.

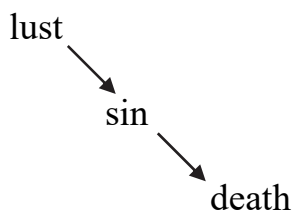
Ask your group if this lesson has helped them to be aware of temptations. Has it helped to arm them against falling into sin as a result of temptations?

 good for food lust / desire of flesh
delight to eyes lust / desire of eyes
desirable to make wise pride of life

Believers
Spirit
Word

Confess sin

Temptation



GENESIS, PART 2 LEADER GUIDE Lesson 3

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 4–5
- Cain and Abel and descendants

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you might ask what Genesis 1–3 is about. Tell your group to look at their At a Glance charts as a visual aid.

Genesis 1	God created heavens and earth in 6 days
2	7 th day God rested, God created male and female
3	Serpent deceived Eve, Eve and Adam ate, God’s curse

GENESIS 4

Verses 1-8

Ask your group what they learned from their study of verse 1. Relate this to what the lesson stated as the meaning of the word “manchild / man” and Genesis 3:15.

Eve said that she had gotten a manchild / man with the help of Lord.
This can also be translated that she had gotten a man, the Lord.

Perhaps Eve thought that this was the fulfillment of the promise that her seed / offspring would bruise the head of the serpent, the devil. She had given birth to a male child.

If so, it showed that Adam and Eve believed the promised seed / offspring was coming.

What are verses 2-5 about?

Eve gave birth to another son, Abel.

Abel was a keeper of the flocks / sheep, and Cain was a tiller / worker of the ground.
They had different occupations even this early in the development of mankind’s history.

Cain brought an offering to the Lord from the fruit of the ground.
Abel also brought an offering from the firstlings of his flock and their fat portions.

Direct your group to the chart in the lesson, “Cain and Abel before God,” as a visual aid to see the main points about them.

You might ask if their offerings seemed reasonable based on each one’s occupation.

What was God’s response to the offerings? How does Hebrews 11 relate to this?

God had regard for Abel and his offering, but not for Cain and his offering.

Hebrews 11:1-7

Men / people of old gained approval (ESV—received commendation) with God by their faith. Abel was a man of faith, therefore approved / commended by God.

Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Cain had no faith; therefore, neither he nor his offering was pleasing to God.

Abel offered a better sacrifice by faith, obtaining the testimony that he was righteous.

“Faith,” *pistis*, is “firm persuasion, conviction, belief in the truth.”¹

Faith is believing God; that He is, that what He says is truth, etc.

Lead your discussion back to Genesis. What was the interchange between Cain and God?
Direct your group to the second chart in the lesson as they discuss this.

As a result, Cain became very angry and his countenance / face fell.

The Lord asked Cain why he was angry. He also told Cain that if he did well, he would be lifted up / accepted. This seems to indicate that God was telling Cain to do what is right and he would not be rejected.

God also gave a warning to Cain that if he did not do well, then sin would try to overtake him. This is exactly what happened because he killed his brother. Sin mastered him; he did not master it.

Verses 9-16

What are these verses about?

God asked Cain where his brother was, giving Cain the opportunity to confess his sin. This is what God had also done with his parents when they sinned in the garden. They confessed their sin, but Cain did not. He lied to God.

Of course, the Lord knew what happened to Abel, and he told Cain of his punishment. He would no longer cultivate the ground, he would be hidden from God’s face, and he would be a vagrant / fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.

Cain said that his punishment was too great to bear.

¹ Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000, c1992, c1993), G4102

God appointed a sign / mark for Cain’s protection against anyone who wanted to kill him, perhaps thinking to avenge Abel’s death.

Verse 16 gives a sad commentary on Cain; he went out from the presence of the Lord.

You might give your group time to comment on Cain’s sad progression. How does the same thing happen now?

Ask what your group learned about Cain from the cross-references.

1 John 3:11-12

Cain was of the evil one, the devil, and he did evil deeds.

The reason he killed / murdered Abel was because Abel’s deeds were righteous.

Jude 11

Even though Cain was an evil man, he brought an offering to the Lord.

Perhaps the way of Cain is referring to men trying to come to God on their own terms, not accepting the fact that without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

After the cross, men must have faith in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ as the sacrifice for the sins of the world. He shed His blood for all mankind.

Hebrews 9:22

There’s no forgiveness without shedding blood.
Jesus’ blood offers forgiveness.

Verses 17-24

What happened to Cain after he went out from the presence of the Lord?

Use “Adam’s Descendants” as a visual aid for the rest of this discussion.

He settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden, where he built a city and named it after his son Enoch. Men built cities from the early times of man’s history.

There is a list of Cain’s descendants from verses 17 to 22. Among these were men who dwelt in tents and raised livestock. There were also those who played the lyre and pipe. This is the first mention of people with musical instruments. And again, this was in the beginning of man’s history. Some believe that these things didn’t happen for many millions of years in the development of history.

At that time men were also forging implements from bronze and iron.

You might ask what your group learned about God’s creation of man from this chapter so far.

God created man with intelligence and skills.

What does the text say about Lamech? Ask your group what they learned about him.

He had two wives and told them that he killed a man for wounding him. It seems that Lamech thought that killing a boy for striking him was justified since Cain was avenged sevenfold for anyone who would have killed him.

Cain killed his own brother because of Abel's righteousness, and he went out from the presence of the Lord. Therefore, his sons were probably not raised with a godly influence.

The effects of Cain's sin were passed down through his line.

Cain's line was society away from the presence of the Lord.

People were involved in life and doing the different things of life, but it was away from God.

Verses 25-26

What are these verses about?

Eve gave birth to another son named Seth. This might have been only her third son, since she said that he was in the place of Abel.

Seth had a son named Enosh and then men began to call on the name of the Lord. This points even more to Cain's line of descendants being away from God.

Although Adam and Eve had been put out of the garden of Eden, the text never says that they went away from the presence of the Lord. And evidently they had raised Cain and Abel in His presence because Cain went out from it.

Seth apparently had the influence of God in his life since his sons called on the Lord's name.

What are the main events or theme of this chapter? Ask your group what they noted on their At A Glance charts.

Cain killed Abel, Cain's descendants

GENESIS 5

How does the chapter begin? What's significant about the statement?

“This is the book of the generations of Adam.”

Here is the second time this kind of statement is used in Genesis. The first was in Genesis 2:4 about the account of the heavens and the earth. These are the main segments of Genesis up to this point. The generations of the heavens and the earth, and the generations of “Adam” or man.

What do verses 1-5 say about Adam?

Adam was created in the likeness of God.
Seth was born in Adam's own likeness, according to his image.

Adam lived to be 930 years old and had continued to do what he was supposed to be doing from the beginning, populating the earth. He was 130 years old when Seth was born.

He and Eve had other sons and daughters.
Therefore, Cain and Seth had to have married their sisters.

Verses 6-31

Tell your group to look at the family tree of Adam's Descendants at the end of this lesson as a visual aid. What are the repeated statements in this chapter? Ask what your group learned.

“And he died.”

“And he had other sons and daughters.”

This chapter tells about the earth being populated. These men lived for very long periods of time and had many children. This is what God told Adam and Eve to do in Genesis 1. They were to multiply and fill the earth.

The repeated statement about death is such a sad contrast from Genesis 1 and 2. God's intent was for man to live forever since the tree of life was in the garden for Adam and Eve to eat from freely. It wasn't until they sinned that they were put out of the garden and blocked from eating of the tree of life in their sinful state.

Death is the wages of sin. These people died because sin had entered the world.

Ask your group what they learned about Enoch.

Enoch walked with God for 300 years after his son Methuselah was born.
His total age was 365 years.

Not all of the men in Seth's line were godly and righteous, but Enoch was.
And God took him; he didn't die.

Hebrews 11:5-6

He was pleasing to God because of his faith.

Jude 14-16

In the seventh generation from Adam, Enoch prophesied about the ungodly that God would send judgment, the Flood, on all of them for their ungodly deeds.

This shows that the time in which he lived was ungodly; even Seth's descendants were ungodly.

Ask what they learned from the chart in the Appendix, "The Overlapping of the Patriarchs' Lives."

Enoch was taken only 69 years before Noah was born.

Enoch lived the shortest of all the men mentioned in the Genesis account. His forefathers back to Enosh were still alive when Noah was born.

Verse 32

Who is the last man in Genesis 5? What does it say about him?

Noah lived 500 years and became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Ask how Luke 3:36-38 relates to Genesis 5.

The men in Seth's line are part of the line of Christ.

What is the main theme or event of this chapter? Tell your group to look at the At a Glance chart.

Generations of Adam, Seth; and he died

To end this discussion you might ask questions like the following:

Was God not fair with Cain because He didn't accept his offering?

No, without faith it is impossible to please God.

Do men still try to come to God on their own terms like Cain did?

Some do, but it's the righteous like Abel and Enoch who truly have called on the name of the Lord.

GENESIS, PART 2
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 4

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 6–8
- The Flood

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you might ask what your group remembers from Genesis 1–4. Tell them to look at their At a Glance charts if they need help remembering.

Genesis 1	God created heavens and earth in 6 days
2	7 th day God rested, created male and female
3	Serpent deceived Eve, Eve and Adam ate, God’s curse
4	Cain killed Abel, Cain’s descendants
5	Adam’s generations from Seth, and he died

GENESIS 6

How does this chapter begin?

“When men / man began to multiply on the face of the land”

Relate this to what was chronicled in Genesis 4 and 5.

Men were multiplying on the earth, as God intended.
Genesis 4 tells of Cain’s descendants, and chapter 5 gives Seth’s line.

Verses 1-4

What are these verses about?

Daughters, as well as sons, were born to men as they multiplied on earth.
This is also what Genesis 5 said, “and he had other sons and daughters.”

The sons of God saw the beautiful / attractive daughters of the men who were multiplying on the earth. These sons of God took wives for themselves from the daughters of men.

There is a contrast between “sons of God” and “daughters of men.”

NOTE: Some think “the sons of God” were the godly line of Seth from Genesis 5. They married the “daughters of men” who they think came from the ungodly line of Cain from Genesis 4.

Other people think that these were angelic/demonic beings who took physical bodies and married the daughters of literal, physical men. Or the demonic beings possessed bodies of men to marry and produce children.

Ask your group what they learned about “the sons of God.”

Job 1:6; 2:1 and 38:7

The sons of God came to present themselves before God, and Satan was with them. These references indicate that these were angelic beings. These three references are the only other ones in the Old Testament to the “sons of God.” Therefore, many think that the same is indicated in Genesis 6.

1 Peter 3:18-20

In Noah’s days there were some spirits who were disobedient, and at the time of Christ’s death they were in prison.

NOTE: The term “spirits” in this passage might refer to the spirits of men who died or angelic beings.

2 Peter 2:4-5

The main point of this passage is that God judges sin, even angels. There were some angels who sinned and were cast into hell and committed to pits of darkness reserved for judgment. The ancient world of Noah’s time was also destroyed, but Noah was preserved.

Jude 6-7

Angels did not keep their own domain (ESV—position of authority) but abandoned their proper abode / dwelling. At some point, some angels went where they weren’t supposed to. They’ve been kept in eternal bonds / chains for judgment. This seems to correspond with 2 Peter 2:4-5.

These angels are compared with Sodom and Gomorrah who indulged in gross / sexual immorality, and went after strange flesh / unnatural desire. The strange flesh / unnatural desire concerning Sodom and Gomorrah was homosexuality. Some think that the strange flesh / unnatural desire concerning the angels might have been mankind. Some who hold this interpretation think that Genesis 6 is when it happened.

Encourage your group, regardless of what they think about the “sons of God,” to be careful about arguing with brothers and sisters over the interpretation.

Who / what are the Nephilim?

The Nephilim were on the earth in those days. They might have been the children that the daughters of men bore to the sons of God, or they might have been a different group of people.

“Nephilim,” can mean a giant, a bully, or tyrant.¹

Holman Bible Dictionary says that it was probably derived from the root “to fall” and can be translated as “fallen ones” or “ones who fall [violently] upon others.”²

However, most scholars agree that these meanings are uncertain, which is why it is translated as “Nephilim.”

Numbers 13:33

They were sons of Anak, and Israel appeared like grasshoppers in their sight. This probably means that they were much larger than the average man, giants.

How does Genesis 6:4 describe them?

They were on the earth in those days, the time when men were multiplying on the earth, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them, the mighty men of old, men of renown.

The term “and also afterward” might be a reference to the Numbers account, which is after the Flood. Some scholars think that this phrase refers to the time of Genesis 6 and that there were Nephilim on the earth before that time.

What does verse 3 say?

God’s Spirit would not always strive with man because he was also flesh.

His days would only be 120 years. This might state the time until the Flood came.

NOTE: Some think this is the length of time that it took Noah to build the ark. But the text indicates that it took him less time than 120 years. He was 500 years old in Genesis 5:32 and became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth, also stated in Genesis 6:10. He was 600 years old when the Flood came, Genesis 7:6. Genesis 6:13-18 indicate that the Lord told Noah about the Flood after his sons were married, which makes the time less than 100 years.

Others think that God reduced man’s lifespan to 120 years. But that doesn’t happen in Genesis.

Verses 5-8

What does this text say about the Lord and man?

The Lord saw man’s great wickedness, that every intent of man’s heart was only evil continually. And He was sorry and grieved to His heart.

¹ Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Old Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 1994), H5303.

² Trent C. Butler, general ed., *Holman Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, Tennessee: Holman Bible Publishers, 1991), p. 1017.

He said He would blot out man, animals, and birds, because the earth was corrupt and filled with violence.

Who was the exception to this?

But Noah found favor in the Lord's eyes.

Verses 9-10

Who are these verses about? Tell your group to look at the chart about Noah and Enoch as a visual aid for this discussion.

These are the generations of Noah.

The focus of Genesis moved from the creation of the heavens and the earth, 2:4, to the generations of Adam, 5:1. And now it moves to the generations of Noah.

He had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

He was righteous and blameless and walked with God.

How does this compare with what the Lord said about Enoch?

Enoch and Noah both walked with God and were spared by Him.

What do the cross-references say about Noah and his time?

Hebrews 11:7

Noah was a man of faith warned by God about what was to come.

Ezekiel 14:12-23 and 2 Peter 2:5

He was righteous and a preacher / herald of righteousness.

1 Peter 3:20

Noah built the ark. He and his family were the only people to be preserved in it.

Matthew 24:37-38 and Luke 17:26-27

“The days of Noah” were a time of normal living, eating and drinking and marrying until the flood came and destroyed them all.

The description in Genesis 6 says that there was also great wickedness at that time.

Even though Enoch and Noah warned people by prophesying of coming judgment, the people didn't believe them. Instead, judgment came and took them away because they didn't listen to the warnings.

The coming of Christ, the Son of Man, will be just like the days of Noah.

People will be going on about their life as usual.

Ask your group how these warnings relate to their lives.

Live as Enoch and Noah did, walking with God even among ungodly and wicked people.

Be righteous and preach righteousness.

Warn the ungodly of the coming judgment if they continue in their ungodliness.

Verses 11-12

How did God describe the earth at that time? Contrast with Genesis 1:31.

Corrupt, filled with violence—all flesh had corrupted their way.

Verses 13-22

What did God and Noah say or do in these verses?

God said the end of all flesh had come. He was about to destroy the earth by sending a flood of water. Then He told Noah to build an ark.

NOTE: The specifics of the ark and the Flood will be studied in detail in the next lesson.

God made a covenant with Noah and provided protection for him, his wife, his sons and their wives, birds, and animals.

Noah responded by doing all that God commanded him.

Ask what your group recorded on their At A Glance charts as a possible theme of Genesis 6.

Earth corrupt, God grieved, Noah found favor and built ark

GENESIS 7

How does this chapter begin?

The Lord told Noah to enter the ark.

Verses 1-5

What / who was taken on the ark?

Noah and his wife, Noah's three sons and their wives
Seven pairs of each clean animal and bird, male and female
Two of every unclean animal, male and female

This was to keep offspring alive on the earth. God provided everything Noah needed to stay alive, because He was going to judge the earth for man's wickedness. God rescued Noah, the righteous man.

Verse 5 again says that Noah did all the Lord commanded him to do.

Ask your group how this repeated statement about the righteous man relates to them.

Verses 6-16

What are these verses about?

Noah was 600 years old when the fountains of the great deep burst open and the floodgates of the sky (ESV—windows of the heavens) were opened. It rained forty days and nights.

But Noah and his family had entered the ark as God commanded.
Then verse 16 says the Lord closed the door (ESV—shut him in).

Verses 17-24

How is the Flood described?

The water increased so that the ark was lifted above the earth and floated on the surface of the water. Then the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered.

All flesh that moved on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing and all mankind.

Every living thing was blotted out except those on the ark.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask about a theme for this chapter.

The Flood

GENESIS 8

Verses 1-19

What happened in these verses?

God remembered Noah and those with him in the ark.
He caused a wind to pass / blow over the earth, and the water subsided.

The waters receded, and the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat.

Then, the tops of the mountains became visible.

Noah opened the window and sent out a raven. Then he sent out a dove, but the dove returned because water was still on the surface of the earth.

After seven more days, he sent out the dove. She returned with a freshly picked olive leaf. Noah waited another seven days and sent out the dove, but she didn't return.

Noah removed the covering of the ark, and the ground was dried up.

God told Noah to go out of the ark.

What did God tell Noah that all flesh was to do?
Relate this to what has been discussed from previous lessons.

Breed abundantly / swarm on the earth; be fruitful and multiply on the earth.

God had told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

Everyone up to the point of the Flood came from Adam and Eve.
Since the Flood, everyone has also come from Noah and his sons.

Verses 20-22

What do these verses say about Noah and the Lord?

Noah built an altar to the Lord and offered of every clean animal and bird.

The Lord smelled the soothing aroma and said to Himself that He would never again curse the ground on account of man.

Isaiah 54:7-10

Isaiah's time was similar; judgment was coming because of wickedness.
But God had sworn that He'd not destroy the earth with a flood again.

God cursed the ground in Genesis 3 when sin came into the world.
He knows the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth.
He'll never again destroy every living thing as He did with a flood.
While the earth remains, the times and seasons will not cease.

What is a possible theme for Genesis 8? Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart.

Noah came out of ark, offering to the Lord

To end this discussion, you can ask your group how they can be like Enoch and Noah.

Walk with God by faith, and do what He says.
Warn the ungodly of coming judgment.
Tell about God's grace that saves from destruction.

GENESIS, PART 2 LEADER GUIDE Lesson 5

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 6–8
- The Flood

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you might ask what Genesis 1–8 is about.

Direct your group to look at their At a Glance charts as a visual aid for this review.

Genesis 1	God created heavens and earth in 6 days
2	7 th day God rested, created male and female
3	Serpent deceived Eve, Eve and Adam ate, God's curse
4	Cain killed Abel, Cain's descendants
5	Adam's generations from Seth, and he died
6	Earth corrupt, God grieved, Noah found favor and built ark
7	The Flood
8	Noah came out of ark, offering to the Lord

THE FLOOD

Tell your group to look at the drawing of the ark on the first page of the lesson as a visual aid for this discussion, along with the charts at the end of the lesson.

What was God's picture of salvation from judgment?

The ark
Noah and his family were saved by grace.

God told him to build an ark, and he did.

Genesis 6

Use the chart in the lesson "The Biblical Facts of the Flood" as a visual aid.

What do verses 1-13 tell about the Flood? Why did God send the Flood?

Man's wickedness was great on the earth, and his heart was evil continually.
The Lord was sorry He'd made man and said He would blot man out, along with animals, creeping things, and the birds.

The earth was corrupt, and all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

The Lord told Noah that the end of all flesh had come, and He was going to destroy them.
It was God's judgment on the ungodly.

What do verses 14-22 say about the ark?

Noah was to make the ark of gopher wood and cover it inside and out with pitch.
He was to make rooms in it.

Length—300 cubits, about 450 feet; 1 cubit = approximately 18 inches
about a football field and a half

Width—50 cubits, about 75 feet

Height—30 cubits, about 45 feet
a four-and-a-half-story building

Use the drawing in the lesson as a visual aid here.

The ark had a window (ESV—roof or skylight) one cubit from the top and a door on the side.
There were three decks.

The Lord told Noah that he and his family and two of every kind of living thing would enter the ark. They were to also take some of all edible food for themselves and the animals.

This chapter ends with the repeated statement that Noah did all God commanded him.

Genesis 7

What did the Lord tell Noah in verses 1-5?

He told him to enter the ark and what to take with him. This was after the ark was constructed.

The Lord said that He would send rain on earth in 7 days, and it would rain for 40 days and nights. He'd blot out every living thing that He'd made.

They might not have known what rain was, but they would have understood what God meant when He said He would destroy the earth, blot out every living thing.

God told Noah what would happen. He told Adam what would happen if he ate of the tree. He told Cain what would happen. He told Enoch. He has told all men who read His Word what will happen.

Remind your group that they have a responsibility to warn the ungodly.

Again, the repeated statement, Noah did what the Lord commanded.

What are the details of the Flood in verses 6-16? And ask about word studies.
Use both charts in the lesson as visual aids.

Verse 6 tells the timing of the Flood. Noah was 600 years old.

Verses 7-9 and verses 13-16 tell about all entering the ark.

Verse 16 says that God closed the door (ESV—shut him in).

On exactly the 600th year of Noah’s life, 2nd month, 17th day, the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates / windows of the sky / heavens were opened. It rained forty days and nights.

fountains, *ma`yan* {mah-yawn'}—“a spring”¹

deep, *tehom* {teh-home'}—“deep, sea, abyss”²

burst open, *baqa`* {baw-kah'}—“to split, cleave, break open, divide...rip up, tear”³

floodgates / windows, *'arubbah* {ar-oob-baw'}—“window, chimney, floodgate”⁴

sky / heavens, *shamayim* {shaw-mah'-yim'}—“heaven, heavens, sky”⁵

How is the flood described in verses 17-24?

The water increased so that the ark was lifted above the earth and floated on the water. Then the high mountains everywhere were covered.

All flesh on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing and all mankind. Every living thing was blotted out except those on the ark, and the water prevailed 150 days.

It was a worldwide flood—everywhere.

¹ R. L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition*, (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), H4599.

² R. L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition*, (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), H8415.

³ J. Strong, *The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* (Ontario: Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1996). H1234.

⁴ R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer, Jr., and Bruce K. Waltke, eds., *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1999), p. 68.

⁵ R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer, Jr., and Bruce K. Waltke, eds., *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1999), p. 935.

What do the cross-references teach about the extent of the Flood?

Psalm 104:5-7 and 2 Peter 3:3-7

God covered the earth with the deep. The waters were standing above the mountains.

The world was destroyed / perished, flooded / deluged with water.

Matthew 24:38-39 and Luke 17:27

Jesus spoke about the flood that destroyed them all.

2 Peter 2:5

The flood was on the world of the ungodly. Noah alone was preserved.

You might ask your group why people deny the Flood was global. Relate this to 2 Peter 3:3-7.

They don't want to believe in God's judgment on the ungodly.

Mockers / scoffers will come in the last days asking, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

They say that everything is as it has been since creation. But that's not true—the Flood destroyed the earth.

Genesis 8

How does this chapter begin, verses 1-5?

God remembered Noah...and caused a wind to pass / blow over the earth so that the water subsided. He closed the fountains of the deep and floodgates of the sky / windows of the heavens so the rain was restrained.

The waters receded, and the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat on the 17th day of the 7th month. That's five months, 150 days, from when the Flood began.

On the 1st day of the 10th month, the tops of the mountains became visible.

What do verses 6-12 tell about?

Then at the end of 40 more days, Noah opened the window and sent out a raven
Then he sent out a dove, but the dove returned because water was still on earth.

After seven more days, he sent the dove out again and it returned with a freshly picked olive leaf. Then Noah knew the water had abated.

Noah waited another seven days and sent out the dove again, but it didn't return.

What happened in verses 13-19?

On the 1st day of the 1st month of the 601st year, Noah removed the covering of the ark, and the ground was dry.

Then on the 27th of the 2nd month, the earth was dry, and God told Noah to go out of the ark.

How long had Noah and the others been in the ark?

The Flood began: 600th year, 2nd month, 17th day

They left the ark: 601st year, 2nd month, 27th day

They were in the ark 1 year and 10 days.

How do the facts about the Flood relate to believers' lives now?

DINOSAURS

You can end this discussion by asking what your group learned about creatures called dinosaurs.

Job 40

Some of the references in Job 40, *behemoth*, might refer to the larger dinosaurs.

Did dinosaurs go on the ark?

All of God's creatures went on the ark, so the dinosaurs would have been included. Maybe not the largest ones, but at least some in the family.

What happened to the creatures known now as dinosaurs?

Maybe the larger ones became extinct.

Ask your group if their beliefs about the flood and dinosaurs line up with what God says.

Applying the Word of God to our lives can involve doing something, but it can also simply be lining up our beliefs with what God says.

GENESIS, PART 2
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 6

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 9
- God's covenant
- Sanctity of life

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you might ask what Genesis 1–8 is about. Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart to help remember.

Genesis 1	God created heavens and earth in 6 days
2	7 th day God rested, created male and female
3	Serpent deceived Eve, Eve and Adam ate, God's curse
4	Cain killed Abel, Cain's descendants
5	Adam's generations from Seth, and he died
6	Earth corrupt, God grieved, Noah found favor and built ark
7	The Flood
8	Noah came out of ark, offering to the Lord

What are the segment divisions in Genesis 1–9?

Genesis 1–2 is about creation.

Genesis 3–5 is about man's sin and death.

Genesis 6–9 is about Noah and the Flood, God's judgment on sin.

So far, Genesis is about the generations of:

The heavens and the earth, 2:4

Adam, 5:1

Noah, 6:9

GENESIS 9

Verses 1-7

What happened in these verses?

God blessed Noah and his family and told them again to be fruitful and multiply. Relate this to Genesis 1:22, 28. This would be necessary to repopulate the earth.

All the beasts, birds, creeping things, and fish would be given into man's hand. Before the fall man was to rule over the creatures. Now the creatures would have fear and terror of man.

How do the cross-references in Romans and Isaiah relate to this?

Romans 8:18-23

In the future creation will be set free from its slavery / bondage to corruption.

Isaiah 11:6-9

Wolf will dwell with the lamb
Leopard will lie down with a young goat
Boy / child with lion and calf
Cow and bear graze together

Isaiah 65:24-25

Wolf and lamb graze together
Lion will eat straw like an ox
Dust will be the serpent's food

They'll do no evil or harm in all the Lord's holy mountain.

A time is coming when things will be like they were before the fall of man.

Lead your discussion back to Genesis 9:3-4. What could man eat and not eat, and why?

God gave man every moving thing as food, only he was not to eat flesh with blood—its life. Previously man could eat plants; after the Flood he could eat meat.

What do verses 5-6 say about punishment?

God requires the lifeblood of man from every man and beast. Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood is to be shed, because man is made in the image of God.

So even though Genesis 5 says that Seth was made in Adam's image, there is still a sense in which man is made in the image of God.

He values the life He gives to individuals. Murder is severe to Him.

Ask your group what they learned from the cross-references about the sanctity of life.

Exodus 20:13; 21:12-14, 28-32

"You shall not murder."

A person who kills intentionally, a murderer, should be put to death.

An ox that gores a person to death was to be stoned. If the ox was in the habit of goring, the owner was responsible and was to be stoned.

Leviticus 24:17-21

A man who takes the life of a human being was to be put to death.
Animal for an animal, injury for injury, eye for eye, tooth for tooth

Numbers 35:9-34

Provision for unintentional killing
Cities of refuge to which the slayer could run from the blood avenger
Congregation judged
2 witnesses necessary to put manslayer to death
If innocent, stay in the city until the high priest dies

Blood pollutes the land.
The blood is the life.
Man is made in God's image.

Give time for application discussion. How do these references relate to now?

Verses 8-17

What happened in these verses?

God established an everlasting covenant with Noah and his sons and every living creature that a flood would never again cut off all flesh or destroy the earth.

The sign of the covenant is a bow in the clouds.

Does this mean that God will never destroy the earth again?

2 Peter 3:10-13

It won't be destroyed again with a flood, as God did in Genesis.
But He'll again destroy it because of ungodliness. The next time with fire.
Then there will be a new heavens and earth in which righteousness dwells.

Give your group time to discuss application. Are they looking forward to the time when righteousness instead of wickedness is on the earth? How are they living now?

Verses 18-19

Who are these verses about? Tell them to look at the chart in the lesson on Day Five.

The whole earth was populated from Noah's three sons—Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Ham was the father of Canaan. Canaan is important because he had children who settled in the area that was called the land of Canaan. God gave that land to Israel.

Verses 20-27

What happened?

Noah began farming and planted a vineyard. He was drunk and naked inside his tent.

Ham, Canaan's father,
saw his nakedness
told his brothers

There's a contrast with what Shem and Japheth did.

They walked backward so as not to see Noah's nakedness and covered him.

Noah knew what Ham had done and cursed Canaan. He would be a servant to his brothers.

Then there is a blessing in contrast with the curse.

He said, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Shem," and "May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem."

NOTE: The text does not tell more details concerning Ham. Be careful not to allow speculating about it.

You might ask your group how the chapter ends, verses 28-29.

Noah lived 350 years after the Flood, so he lived a total of 950 years, and he died.

Relate this to Genesis 5:32. He was 500 years old, and became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Ask your group how they summarized the theme of this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Probably something like: God's covenant, no flood, sign—bow

Ask what they've learned for their lives from studying Genesis 1–9.

How does knowing and understanding the content of these chapters help with everyday life?

What have these chapters taught about the Lord? A relationship with Him?

GENESIS, PART 2 LEADER GUIDE Lesson 7

Lesson emphasis:

- Genesis 10–11
- The Nations

REVIEW

Begin with a review of the main events of Genesis 1–9.

Direct your group to look at their At a Glance charts as visual aid for this part of your discussion.

Genesis 1–2 Creation
 The account, generations of the heavens and the earth, 2:4

Genesis 3–5 Man’s sin and death
 The generations of Adam, 5:1

Genesis 6–9 Noah and the Flood
 The generations of Noah, 6:9

GENESIS 10

Use the map and “Noah’s Descendants” chart as visual aids for this discussion.

Verses 1-5

What is the repeated statement in Genesis 10:1?

These are the generations of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, Noah’s sons

Who is mentioned first? Where did his descendants go?

Japheth’s sons or descendants

Verse 5 talks about the coastlands.

According to the names on the map and the large arrow, Japheth’s descendants went somewhat west and north.

Ask if any of the names in verses 1-5 are familiar to those in your group. Or ask what they read in their commentaries about these names.

Ashkenaz—Some relate Ashkenaz with the Scythians, a group of people that came up later in history.

The footnote for “Dodanim” in verse 4, says “Rodanim,” and some think that this was a reference to the island of Rhodes.

Tarshish—Jonah tried to flee to Tarshish when told to go and warn Nineveh.

Several of these—Gomer, Magog, Tubal, Meshech, Togarmah, Tarshish—are mentioned in Ezekiel in relationship to war and God’s judgment in the end times.

Verses 6-20

Who, what and where are these verses about?

Ham’s sons

According to verses 6-7 and the map, these people went west and south.

One of Ham’s sons was Cush, who became the father of Nimrod.

Nimrod was a mighty hunter before the Lord.

The beginning of his kingdom was Babel or Babylon, Erech, Accad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar. Then he built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and Resen in Assyria.

NOTE: Assyria and Babylon took the Northern and Southern kingdoms of Israel, respectively, captive later in history.

How does Genesis 11:1-9 fit here?

Genesis 11 gives the details about Babel.
Chronologically it happened during Nimrod’s time.

The whole earth used the same language.

Verse 2 says that people journeyed east (ESV—migrated from the east).
They were some of the families of Noah’s sons.

They found a plain in Shinar and settled there.
That was where the beginning of Nimrod’s kingdom was.

NOTE: They journeyed from the area of Mount Ararat, in modern-day Turkey. Babel is southeast of Mount Ararat.

They used bricks for stone and tar / bitumen for mortar to build a city and a tower whose top “would reach” into heaven (ESV—with its top in the heavens).

NOTE: Since the words “would reach” are not in the Hebrew, the statement might mean that the tower was not intended to reach to heaven but to represent it in some way.

They wanted to make for themselves a name, lest they be scattered / dispersed. . . .

In Genesis 9:1, 7, God told them to multiply and fill the earth.
They were being disobedient to God’s command.

The Lord came down to see the city and the tower.

He said that since they were one people and all had the same language, nothing they purposed to do would be impossible. And these were evil people going against Him.

Then He used the plural pronoun in verse 7 as in Genesis 1:26, “Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language.”

This was His plan—that they be scattered abroad. What He planned will happen.

The result of God’s action was that they stopped building.

That was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of the whole earth and scattered / dispersed men over the face of the earth.

Direct your group back to Genesis 10:13-20, and ask what else they learned about Ham’s sons.

Mizraim was the father of Casluhim from which came the Philistines.

Canaan was the father of Sidon, Heth, the Jebusite, the Amorite, the Girgashite, the Hivite, the Arkite, the Sinite, the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.

You might ask your group if they recognize any of these names.

These were the nations living in the promised land that was given to Israel.
The promised land was called Canaan.

What does verse 20 say about the people? Relate this to verse 5.

according to their families and languages, by their lands and nations
(ESV—by their clans, their languages, their lands and their nations)

Verse 5 says that they were separated into their lands according to their language and families / clans. They were separated into their nations by these things.

Verses 21-32

Who are these verses about?

Shem is called the father of all the children of Eber, his grandson.

NOTE: Some commentators think that “Eber” is the root word for “Hebrew.”

Arpachshad became the father of Shelah, and Shelah became the father of Eber, and two sons were born to Eber, Peleg and Joktan.

Ask your group what they learned about Peleg.

The earth was divided in his days.

Shem had Arpachshad 2 years after the Flood. Arpachshad was 35 when he had Shelah, Shelah was 30 when he had Eber, and Eber was 34 when he had Peleg; a total of 101 years after the Flood.

So the earth was divided at least 101 years after the Flood.

Where did they go?

According to the map and verse 30, Shem’s descendants spread east and some south.

As with Ham and Japheth’s descendants, Shem’s also separated by language and families / clans into lands and nations.

How does verse 32 summarize this chapter?

These are the families / clans of Noah’s sons according to their genealogies and by their nations.

Out of his sons the nations were separated / spread abroad on earth after the Flood.

Ask your group what they wrote on their At a Glance chart as the theme of Genesis 10.

Probably something like: Sons of Shem, Ham and Japheth—nations

What is the relationship between Genesis 10 and Genesis 11?

Chapter 10 tells the overview of what happened.

Genesis 11 gives more details.

This is the usual literary style for Genesis—an overview, then more details.

GENESIS 11

Verses 10-26

Continue discussing Shem’s genealogy beginning with Genesis 11:10.

Ask your group what they learned from these verses.

Verse 10 has the repeated statement, “These are . . . the generations of Shem”

First Genesis gave the account or generations of the heavens and the earth.
Then Adam
 Noah
 Shem, Ham, and Japheth

The focus narrows to one of Noah’s sons, Shem.
In verse 27 it narrows even more to Terah.

You might ask your group what they noticed about the ages in Shem’s genealogy.
Tell them to look at the chart “The Overlapping of the Patriarchs’ Lives.”

After the Flood, life spans began to decline.

How does Psalm 90 relate to this?

Verses 9-10 speak of man’s days declining to seventy or eighty years.

What is the application in verse 12? Give time for your group to discuss this.

Verses 27-32

Who are these verses about? Where did they live?

Terah and his sons, Abram, Nahor, and Haran lived in Ur of the Chaldeans.

They left Ur and traveled to Haran; going to the land of Canaan.
You might relate this to what Genesis 9:25-27 says about Shem and Canaan.

Terah
 Son Abram and his wife Sarai
 Lot, his grandson, Haran’s son

Ask your group what they put on the At a Glance chart as the theme of this chapter.

Babel, language confused; generations of Shem and Terah

To end your discussion, you might ask your group what they learned in this study about Who God is.

God is creator and provider.
He is judge.
He is sovereign, rules over all.
He rescues the righteous while judging the wicked.
He is righteous.

Have they changed their thinking about any of the things in this study?

Do they believe what God has said?