

Tuesday Bible Study: Week 1

# Genesis 1:1-25



September 10, 2024

1. Opening icebreaker: What parts of Genesis confuse you? What parts excite you? What do you want to learn more about?
  
2. Water is essential to human life but can also be deadly. In what ways has water played a life-giving role in your life? Have you been afraid or at risk from water?
  - a. Aside from Genesis 1, where does *water* play a significant role in the Old or New Testaments. Write down as many as you can.
  
  - b. What do these stories have in common? What might this suggest about the symbolic significance of water in the Bible?
  
3. What is your experience of time? Do you feel controlled or ruled by time, or are you master of the time you have? Why do you feel this way?
  - a. What are some ways that we can *sanctify* time in our daily lives?

4. Read Job 38. What connections do you see between this powerful passage from Job, and the description of the creation of the cosmos in Genesis 1? What differences are there? What do you think is the main point or emphasis in each passage?
  
5. Genesis 1:9-14 describe the ordering of the "natural world." Where do you see God reflected in nature or in the world around you?
  - a. Have you ever had an encounter with the natural world that made you feel closer to God's presence?
  
  - b. How does technology change our encounter with nature? Why implications might this have for our encounter with God?
  
6. Genesis 1 has features in common with other Ancient Near Eastern creation myths, but draws distinct differences. What "myths" in our society today does Scripture come into contrast or conflict with?
  
7. After reading Genesis 1:1-25, why do you think God chose to create the universe?