

GOD'S STORY

*Finding Meaning for Your Life
Through Knowing God*

W O R K B O O K

Anne Graham Lotz

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A n n e G r a h a m L o t z

Called “the best preacher in the family” by her father, Billy Graham, Anne Graham Lotz speaks around the globe with the wisdom and authority of years spent studying God’s Word. The *New York Times* named Anne one of the five most influential evangelists of her generation. She’s been profiled on *60 Minutes*, and has appeared on TV programs such as *Larry King Live*, *The Today Show*, and *HannityLive*. Her *Just Give Me Jesus* revivals have been held in more than 30 cities in 12 different countries, to hundreds of thousands of attendees. Whether a delegate to Davos’ Economic Forum, a commentator to the *Washington Post*, or a groundbreaking speaker on platforms throughout the world, Anne’s aim is clear - to bring revival to the hearts of God’s people. And her message is consistent – calling people into a personal relationship with God through His Word. Anne is a best-selling and award-winning author. Her most recent releases are *Expecting to See Jesus* and her first children’s book, *Heaven: God’s Promise for Me*. She is the President of AnGeL Ministries, Raleigh, North Carolina.



AnGeL Ministries is a non-profit organization that seeks to revive the hearts of God’s people through drawing them into His Word that they might know Him. Contact AnGeL Ministries, 5115 Hollyridge Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612

P R E F A C E

The story is told of a couple who went to their lawyer to get a divorce. The lawyer began to question them about their decision. "What grounds do you have?" he inquired. "We have about four acres," the husband replied. "That's not what I meant," retorted the lawyer. "Do you have a grudge?" "No," the wife interjected, "we have a carport." Turning to the husband in exasperation, the lawyer said bluntly, "You don't beat her up, do you?" With a look of disgust that would have conveyed his denial without words, the husband responded vehemently, "Of course not! She gets up about an hour before I do every morning." Finally, in total frustration, the lawyer demanded, "Why in the world do you want a divorce?" "Oh," replied the couple, "we just can't seem to communicate."

Faulty communication can strain not only the relationship between husband and wife, but also between the believer and God.

What problems are you having in your relationship with God? Could some of those problems be related to a lack of communication? I happen to be a somewhat quiet, shy person. My mother taught me at a young age that even if I felt I could not carry a conversation, I could learn to be a good listener. This trait carries over into my prayer life. It is virtually impossible for me

to maintain a lengthy monologue in prayer, but I can speak briefly, then listen. Do you have trouble "carrying a conversation" with God? Do you pray for five minutes, then just dry up? Perhaps, like me, you need to learn to be a good listener. Do you have no trouble at all "carrying a conversation?" In fact, are you an extrovert with words that come easily so that you are accustomed to talking a lot, even in prayer? Then, you, too, need to learn to be a good listener.

God's Story begins with a workshop on how to read the Bible in order to listen to God's voice speaking to you through it. This approach is then used in the study of selected passages from Genesis 1-11. The seminar includes four video sessions based on key portions of this part of God's Word. In the pages of this workbook you will find worksheets to help you listen to God's voice as you study these selected passages.

My heartfelt prayer is that this seminar and accompanying workbook will aid you in developing your communication with God. And I pray also that in the process you will find new meaning for your life as you come to know personally and intimately the Living God Who has revealed Himself in His Story!



ABOUT THE STUDY

This workbook is primarily to be used with the DVD study *God's Story*, but it can also be used as a companion to the book *God's Story*. As an integral part of the DVD study, it provides a format for Bible study that serves as the basis for small-group study (Bible study classes, home or neighborhood studies, one-on-one discipleship) and individual study. Believing that God speaks to us through His Word, this workbook leads you through a series of three questions. The questions enable you not only to discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally through His Word. You are then prepared to participate in a meaningful small-group experience that features a video presentation by Anne Graham Lotz and discussion with other participants.

Individual Study

The course begins with a Bible study workshop. After participating in the workshop, you will be familiar with an approach to Bible study that will challenge you to hear and apply God's Word as never before. Then you will use this approach as you study selected passages from Genesis 1-11.

The first section of each seminar contains Scripture for individual study in preparation for the small-group time. Several portions of Scripture are provided for each seminar.

The video presentation during the small-group time will be more meaningful if all Scripture portions are completed prior to the group meeting.

Effective daily Bible study will occur if you:

- *Set aside a regular time for private devotions.*
- *Pray before beginning the day's assignment, asking God to speak to you through His Word.*
- *Write your answers for each step in sequence.*
- *Make the time to be still and listen, reflecting thoughtfully on your response in the final step.*
- *Don't rush. It may take you several days of prayerful meditation on a given passage to discover meaningful lessons and hear God speaking to you. The object is not to get through the material, but to develop your personal relationship with God.*

The separate audio CD set available with this resource can be used to support individual study. The CDs can serve as a review of the video presentations or as a way to make up a missed session.

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of a person's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through

knowledge and understanding of His Word. Take your individual study seriously and allow God to speak to you from His Word.

Group Study

Group study begins with a workshop on how to study and apply God's Word. At the conclusion of the workshop, you will be instructed to complete individual study for the first seminar session.

Once a week or once a month, depending on how often your group decides to meet, participants gather to watch a video presentation by Anne Graham Lotz and share insights from their individual study. Your group may decide to view the entire video presentation each time you meet, or you may want to divide the presentation and view each seminar over two sessions. Allow 90 minutes per session if you view the entire presentation.

A viewing guide is provided for each seminar for you to take notes during the video presentation. After the presentation, your group facilitator will lead participants in discussion using the Group Leader Guide on page 89. If the group is large (12 or more), the facilitator may divide the large group for discussion with moderators chosen to facilitate each small group.

God's Story includes the Bible study workshop and four seminar sessions on Genesis 1-11. If your group uses the 90-minute session format, the course can be completed in 5 weekly sessions, 5 monthly

sessions, or any schedule your group determines best for them.

God's Story

Genesis 1-11 contains important truths that pave the way to an understanding of the rest of the Bible. You will encounter some challenging passages. Don't get hung up on what you don't understand. Look for the general principles and lessons which can be learned. An example is given at the beginning of each seminar to help you get started.

Read the Book of Genesis prayerfully, objectively, thoughtfully, and attentively as you listen for God to speak. He may not speak to you through every verse, but God will speak. When He does, respond to God and grow in your personal relationship with Him.

Study Note

The Video study does not cover every chapter in Genesis 1-11. For Anne's full treatment of these passages, refer to the book *God's Story: Finding Meaning for Your Life Through Knowing God*. You are encouraged to use the Bible study approach presented in the workshop in your personal study of these passages.

BIBLE STUDY WORKSHOP

The Bible Study Workshop has a single purpose: to present an approach that will help you know God in a personal relationship through His Word. The Bible study approach you will be introduced to will help you communicate with God through the Bible.

The following information is introduced in detail on the video presentation. Use this section as your viewing guide and workshop material. Underline key thoughts and take additional notes as you participate in the workshop.

What You Need for Bible Study

- Bible
- Notebook
- Pen or pencil
- Time
- Prayerful, open attitude

Steps to Bible Study

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the designated passage of Scripture printed in each session (there are five daily passages for each session; if your group meets less frequently than once a week, you may want to extend your study time for each passage). When you have finished reading the passage, move on to step 2.

STEP 2

List the Facts

When you have finished reading the passage, make a verse-by-verse list of the outstanding facts. Don't get caught up in the details, just pinpoint the most obvious facts. As you make your list, do not paraphrase, but use actual words from the passage itself. Look for the nouns and verbs.

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

After reading the passage and listing the facts, look for a lesson to learn from each fact. Ask yourself: Who is speaking? What is the subject? Where is it taking place? When did it happen? What can I learn from what is taking place or what is being said? It may also help to ask: What are the people doing that I should be doing? Is there a command I should obey? A promise I should claim? A warning I should heed? An example I should follow?" Focus on spiritual lessons.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

Though step 4 is the most meaningful, you can't do it effectively until you complete the first three steps. In order to complete step 4, rephrase the lessons you found in step 3 and put them in the form of a question you could ask yourself, your spouse, your child, your friend, your neighbor, or your coworker. As you write the questions, listen for God to communicate to you through His Word.

STEP 5

Live in Response

Read the assigned Scripture passages prayerfully, objectively, thoughtfully, and attentively as you listen for God to speak. He may not speak to you through every verse, but he *will* speak. when He does, record in step 5: the verse number (if applicable), what it is He seems to be saying to you, and your response to Him. You might like to date it as a means not only of keeping a spiritual journal but also of holding yourself accountable to following through in obedience. God bless you as you seek to learn this simple yet effective method of reading His Word, that you might hear His voice speaking to you personally through it.

Completed Example: 1 Samuel 3:7-10

A completed example of Anne's Bible study method follows on pages 12-13. This example uses the passage Anne referenced in the first portion of the workshop video, 1 Samuel 3:7-10. After you work through the process yourself, look at the example. Compare the progression of your work to how Anne's example carefully tracks each verse through all five steps showing how the facts are developed into lessons which then unfold into personal questions.

Exercise: Psalm 1:1-6

Work through Psalm 1:1-6 on pages 14-15 using the approach just presented. Follow the instructions on the video presentation.

God bless you as you seek to learn this simple yet effective method of communicating with Him.

Completed Example of 1 Samuel 3:7-10

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

1 Samuel 3:7-10

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD; The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

8 The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy.

9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'"

10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

- 7 Samuel did not know the Lord; the Lord had not been revealed.
- 8 The Lord called Samuel a third time, Samuel went to Eli and said, "here I am," and Eli realized the Lord was calling.
- 9 Eli told Samuel to, "Go say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'"
- 10 The Lord came calling "Samuel." Samuel said, "Your servant is listening."

STEP 3**Learn the Lessons**

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

- 7 There are many people today who call themselves by God's name, yet who do not know Him or His Word.
- 8 Other people may recognize before we do that in the midst of our confusion, God is trying to speak to us personally.
- 9 We need instructions on how to recognize and listen to God's voice.
- 10 We need to give God our attention.

STEP 4**Listen to His Voice**

What does the passage mean to me?
Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

- 7 How well do I really know the Lord?
- 8 What spiritually mature person can I turn to when I am confused?
- 9 Am I willing to accept instructions on how to recognize and listen to God's voice?
- 10 How attentive am I to God's voice as I read His Word?

STEP 5**Live in Response**

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

I confess I have not listened for, nor recognized Your voice because I did not know You speak personally through Your Word. I now choose to approach Your Word as though listening for a voice. Speak, Lord, I am willing to listen. Use this book to help me hear Your voice that I might get to know You better and love You more.

Psalm 1:1-6

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Psalm 1:1-6

- 1 Blessed is the man
 who does not walk in the counsel
 of the wicked
 or stand in the way of sinners
 or sit in the seat of mockers.
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the
 LORD
 and on his law he meditates day
 and night.
- 3 He is like a tree planted by streams
 of water,
 which yields its fruit in season
 and whose leaf does not wither.
 Whatever he does prospers.
- 4 Not so the wicked!
 They are like chaff
 that the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand
 in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the assembly of the
 righteous.
- 6 For the LORD watches over the way
 of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked will
 perish.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

- 1 Blessed is the man who does not walk, stand or sit with the wicked.

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

- 1 Compromise with the world begins casually—and can rob us of God's blessing.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

- 1 What blessing am I missing because I don't take seriously the first step of compromise?

STEP 5

Live in Response

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

SEMINAR 1

THE GOD OF CREATION

GENESIS 1

Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
Isaiah 40:28

Worth Remembering

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of a person's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of His Word. The following worksheets enable you not only to discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally through His Word. The Scripture you study will prepare you to participate in a meaningful small-group experience where you will use the viewer sheets during the video presentation and engage in discussion with other participants.

Genesis 1:1-2

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Genesis 1:1-2

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

1 God created the heavens and the earth.

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

1 God is active in big things and small things.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

1 What do I think is too big or too small in my life for God's activity?

STEP 5 **Live in Response**

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

Genesis 1:3-10

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 1:3-10

3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

6 And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water."

7 So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so.

8 God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so.

10 God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 1:11-18

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 1:11-18

11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.

12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

13 And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years,

15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so.

16 God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

17 God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth,

18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 1:19-25

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 1:19-25

19 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

20 And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.”

21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.”

23 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

24 And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so.

25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 1:26-31

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 1:26-31

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 1

Responding to God

Focus on what God is saying to you from this section's Scripture passages. Rewrite your responses below from each step 5 on the previous pages.

Genesis 1:1-2

Genesis 1:3-10

Genesis 1:11-18

Genesis 1:19-25

Genesis 1:26-31

Prayerfully review your responses. What will you do now? Write down today's date and what you will commit to do about what God has said.

Talk with God about your commitment. Pray for continued direction and a deeper relationship with God.



The God of Creation

Genesis 1

I. Supreme in His Person—Genesis 1:1

A. In His Eternity

B. In His Deity

C. In His Activity

II. Sufficient in His Power—Genesis 1:2-25

A. Released Through the Preparation of His Spirit—1:2

B. Released Through the Proclamation of His Word—1:3-25

III. Sovereign in His Purpose—Genesis 1:26-31

A. For Us to Reflect His Image—1:26-27

B. For Us to Receive His Blessing—1:28-31

SEMINAR 2

THE GOD OF
COMPASSION

GENESIS 3

There is but one God, the Father from whom all things
came and for whom we live.

1 Corinthians 8:6

Worth Remembering

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of a person's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of His Word. The following worksheets enable you not only to discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally through His Word. The Scripture you study will prepare you to participate in a meaningful small-group experience where you will use the viewer sheets during the video presentation and engage in discussion with other participants.

Genesis 3:1-5

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Genesis 3:1-5

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,

3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

1 The crafty serpent said to the woman, "Did God really say?"

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

1 Satan still tries to cast doubt on God's Word.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

1 How has Satan cast doubts on God's Word in my own mind?

STEP 5

Live in Response

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

Genesis 3:6-7

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 3:6-7

6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 3:8-13

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 3:8-13

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 3:14-19

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 3:14-19

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.☒

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 3:20-24

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 3:20-24

20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

22 And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

23 So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 3

Responding to God

Focus on what God is saying to you from this section's Scripture passages. Rewrite your responses below from each step 5 on the previous pages.

Genesis 3:1-5

Genesis 3:6-7

Genesis 3:8-13

Genesis 3:14-19

Genesis 3:20-24

Prayerfully review your responses. What will you do now? Write down today's date and what you will commit to do about what God has said.

Talk with God about your commitment. Pray for continued direction and a deeper relationship with God.

Genesis 3



The God of Compassion Genesis 3

I. Allows Us to Make Bad Choices—Genesis 3:1-6

A. The Choice Is Confronted

B. The Choice Is Cultivated

C. The Choice Is Clear

D. The Choice Is Compelled

E. The Choice Is Contagious

II. Disciplines Us with Bitter Consequences—Genesis 3:7-24

A. Shame—3:7-13

B. Suffering—3:14-21

1. Spiritual Suffering

2. Relational Suffering

3. Physical Suffering

4. Environmental Suffering

5. Eternal Suffering—Death

Genesis 3

C. Separation—3:22-24

III. Promises Us Blessing to Come—Genesis 3:15,21

A. Through His Son—3:15

B. Through Our Savior—3:21

SEMINAR 3

THE GOD OF
SALVATION

GENESIS 6:1 — 8:18

We have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior
of all men, and especially of those who believe.

1 Timothy 4:10

Worth Remembering

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of a person's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of His Word. The following worksheets enable you not only to discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally through His Word. The Scripture you study will prepare you to participate in a meaningful small-group experience where you will use the viewer sheets during the video presentation and engage in discussion with other participants.

Genesis 6:1-7

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Genesis 6:1-7

1 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them,

2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.

3 Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterwards—when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

5 The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.

6 The Lord was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain.

7 So the Lord said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them."

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

1-2 When men began to increase, the sons of God saw the daughters were beautiful, and married any they chose.

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

1 It is important to teach our children that the choice of a marriage partner is not based on physical attraction alone, but on God's principles.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

1 When have I instructed my children on how to select a marriage partner?

STEP 5

Live in Response

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

Genesis 6:8-18

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 6:8-18

8 But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord.

9 This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.

10 Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence.

12 God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.

13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.

14 So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

15 This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.

16 Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks.

17 I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish.

18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 6:19—7:5

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 6:19—7:5

19 You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you.

20 Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive.

21 You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.”

22 Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

7:1 The Lord then said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation.

2 Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate,

3 and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.

4 Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.”

5 And Noah did all that the Lord commanded him.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 7:6-16

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 7:6-16

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth.

7 And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood.

8 Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground,

9 male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah.

10 And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.

12 And rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights.

13 On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark.

14 They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings.

15 Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark.

16 The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the Lord shut him in.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 7:17—8:1**STEP 1****Look in God's Word**

Read the passage.

Genesis 7:17-8:1

17 For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth.

18 The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

19 They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered.

20 The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet.

21 Every living thing that moved on the earth perished— birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind.

22 Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died.

23 Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

24 The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

8:1 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded.

STEP 2**List the Facts**

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 6:1—8:18

Responding to God

Focus on what God is saying to you from this section's Scripture passages. Rewrite your responses below from each step 5 on the previous pages.

Genesis 6:1-7

Genesis 6:8-18

Genesis 6:19—7:5

Genesis 7:6-16

Genesis 7:17—8:1

Prayerfully review your responses. What will you do now? Write down today's date and what you will commit to do about what God has said.

Talk with God about your commitment. Pray for continued direction and a deeper relationship with God.



The God of Salvation

Genesis 6:1—8:1

I. Walking with Him—Genesis 6:1-10

A. In a Willful World—6:1-2

B. In a Wicked World—6:4-5

C. In a Watching World—6:5-6,12

D. In a Warned World—6:3,7

II. Working for Him—Genesis 6:11—7:5

A. In an Immense Job

B. In an Impossible Job

III. Witnessing of Him—Genesis 7:6-10

A. By the Example of His Life

B. By the Expression of His Lips

Genesis 6:1—8:18

IV. Waiting on Him—Genesis 7:11—8:18

A. During the Storm

B. During the Silence

C. Until God Brought Him Through

Seminar 4

The God of Redemption

GENESIS 11:1-9; 10:1-32;
11:10-12:4

This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb:
I am the LORD,
who has made all things,
who alone stretched out the heavens,
who spread out the earth by myself.

Isaiah 44:24

Worth Remembering

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of a person's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of His Word. The following worksheets enable you not only to discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally through His Word. The Scripture you study will prepare you to participate in a meaningful small-group experience where you will use the viewer sheets during the video presentation and engage in discussion with other participants.

Genesis 10:8-12

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Begin by reading the passage of Scripture. Underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Special note: Most of Genesis 10 has been omitted in the worksheets because of the difficulty of ancient names and places. Please refer to pages 227-235 in *God's Story: Finding Meaning for Your Life Through Knowing God* for commentary.

Genesis 10:8-12

8 Cush was the father of Nimrod, who grew to be a mighty warrior on the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; that is why it is said, "Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before the Lord."

10 The first centers of his kingdom were Babylon, Erech, Akkad and Calneh, in Shinar.

11 From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah

12 and Resen, which is between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most outstanding, obvious facts. Don't paraphrase; be literal as you list the facts.

8 Cush was the father of Nimrod, a mighty warrior.

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean? Identify a lesson to learn from each fact. Focus on spiritual lessons.

8 A child's reputation often reflects on the parent.

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of questions. Be personal as you formulate your questions.

8 Does my reputation honor or dishonor my parents?

STEP 5

Live in Response

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

Genesis 11:1-7

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

Genesis 11:1-7

1 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech.

2 As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar.

4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

6 The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 11:8-9

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 11:8-9

8 So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

9 That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 11:10-11, 27-30**STEP 1****Look in God's Word**

Read the passage.

Special note: Because of repetition, some verses have been omitted in Genesis 11:10-32.

Genesis 11:10-11, 27-30

10 This is the account of Shem. Two years after the flood, when Shem was 100 years old, he became the father of Arphaxad.

11 And after he became the father of Arphaxad, Shem lived 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

27 This is the account of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot.

28 While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth.

29 Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah; she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milcah and Iscah.

30 Now Sarai was barren; she had no children.

STEP 2**List the Facts**

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 11:31—12:4

STEP 1

Look in God's Word

Read the passage.

Genesis 11:31—12:4

31 Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran, they settled there.

32 Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Haran.

12:1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you;

I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

4 So Abram left, as the Lord had told him.

STEP 2

List the Facts

What does the passage say?

STEP 3

Learn the Lessons

What does the passage mean?

STEP 4

Listen to His Voice

What does the passage mean to me?

STEP 5

Live in Response

What are you going to do?

Genesis 11:1-9; 10:1-32; 11:10—12:4

Responding to God

Focus on what God is saying to you from this section's Scripture passages. Rewrite your responses below from each step 5 on the previous pages.

Genesis 10:8-12

Genesis 11:1-7

Genesis 11:8-9

Genesis 11:10-11, 27-30

Genesis 11:31—12:4

Prayerfully review your responses. What will you do now? Write down today's date and what you will commit to do about what God has said.

Talk with God about your commitment. Pray for continued direction and a deeper relationship with God.

Genesis 11:1-9; 10:1-32; 11:10—12:4

VIDEO LISTENING SHEETS

The God of Redemption

Genesis 11:1-9; 10:1-32; 11:10—12:4

I. Lets Go of the Rebellious—Genesis 11:1-7

A. Rebellious Society

B. Rebellious Activity

C. Rebellious Spirituality

D. Rebellious Identity

E. Rebellious Unity

II. Limits the Rebellion—Genesis 11:8-9; 10:1-32

A. By Confusion

B. By Separation

C. By Dispersion

Genesis 11:1-9; 10:1-32; 11:10—12:4

III. Loves the Rebel—Genesis 11:10—12:4

MY COMMITMENT

*Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him.*

Psalm 37:5

Just as Samuel set up a stone of remembrance saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us" (1 Sam. 7:12), use this time of commitment as a spiritual landmark in your journey of faith to remember God's faithfulness.

If God has spoken to you in this study and you have made a decision before Him, please indicate your decision here:

- I have been moved to accept Christ as my Savior.
- I have decided to renew and develop my relationship with God by spending time each day in prayer and in studying His Word.
- I choose to apply God's promise in _____ (Bible reference) to _____ (specific area/need in my life).
- Other commitments I wish to make:

Signed: _____

Date: _____

If you checked the first item above, share your decision with a Christian friend or minister. He or she will rejoice with you in your decision, pray with and for you, and provide you additional guidance. He or she will also help you become part of a church and join other believers in the body of Christ in worship and discipleship. If you checked any of the other items above, share your decision with a Christian friend. He or she will pray regularly for you and the specific decision you have made.

Consider removing this page from the book and keeping it as a "stone of remembrance." God bless you in your commitment.

AFTERWORD

God's Story commenced in the dark void of eternity, erupted in the glorious dawn of creation, climaxed in the Person of Jesus Christ, and continues in your life and mine today. The God of the universe has made Himself visible, approachable, and knowable through Jesus Christ.

The world of humanity that was separated from God and unable to approach Him except indirectly through the Jewish sacrifices and ceremonies has been invited to be reconciled directly to Him through the Baby born in Bethlehem two thousand years ago!

Man's praise and worship of God for the revelation of His glory in that Baby have not ceased. The skeptic's doubt, the mocker's scorn, the professor's criticism, the public's apathy, the crowd's jeers, the pagan's blasphemy, the authorities' threats, the executioner's sword, the Devil's lies, have not diminished the Hope that was born that night nor dimmed the glorious dawn of His Story that continues to radiate down through the years. Because, "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:1,14).

God's Word still becomes flesh today when you read it, study it, obey it, and live by it. What astounding truth! What a life-changing message:

Because He emptied Himself of all but love, you can be filled.

Because His body was broken, your life can be whole.

Because His blood was shed, your sin can be forgiven.

Because He submitted to injustice, you can forgive.

Because He finished His Father's work, your life has worth.

Because He was forsaken, you will never be alone.

Because He was buried, you can be raised.

Because He lives, you don't have to be afraid.

Because He was raised, you can live eternally.

Because He reached down to you, you don't have to work your way up to Him.

Because His promises are always true, you can have Hope!

God's Story, which began in the glorious dawn of history, continues as it is lived out in your life and mine. As you conclude your study of Genesis 1-11, take a moment to thank God for His Story. Reflect on how it is continuing in your life. Make plans now to tell His Story to someone else.¹

1. Portions of this afterword have been adapted from Anne Graham Lotz, *God's Story: Finding Meaning for Your Life Through Knowing God* (Dallas: Word, 1997).

Group Leader Guide

Group Leader Guide

GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Notes

The following Group Leader Guide includes:

- **Group Leader Ideas** (below)
- **Bible Study Workshop Plans** (pp. 85-86)
- **Group Session Plans** (pp. 87-90)

Read the entire guide before you plan for your group study.

Group Leader Ideas

What?

A group study of *God's Story* is appropriate for home and neighborhood groups, Bible study classes, accountability groups, discipleship and prayer groups, and one-on-one discipleship. The study will benefit adults of all ages. Promote the study by showing the promotional video segment.

When?

Meet at a time appropriate for your participants. Sessions can be conducted weekly, monthly, or any interval in between. Group sessions are designed for 90 minutes each, but allow the Holy Spirit to determine your schedule. For example, your group may decide to spend two group sessions on each seminar. Group plans in this section serve as a framework; your goal should be to meet the needs of your group.

Where?

Participants can meet at the church or in a home or business; anywhere that will accommodate a computer for video sessions and is conducive for discussion and prayer.

How?

Use the following group plans. As facilitator, you should:

- *Pray for group members before each session.*
- *Complete Bible study material for the session.*
- *Prepare material for the session; this includes securing video equipment to show the video presentations.*
- *Encourage group members.*
- *After each session, contact participants who were absent.*

BIBLE STUDY WORKSHOP

Notes

The Bible Study Workshop is a time of gathering and introducing group members, distributing and overviewing study materials, and participating in the workshop.

1. Begin on time. As participants arrive, play the music video, "The Creation Song," provided for you on the video. Participants introduce themselves by giving their names and one expectation they have of the study. Said another way, "Why are you here?"
2. Tell participants that prayer will be an important part of this study. Ask for prayer concerns and praises. Pray for the concerns shared and ask God to guide the group during the study.
3. Give each participant a copy of the workbook. Briefly overview the contents page and explain the progression of the study. Invite participants to turn to Seminar 1 on page 17. Call attention to the two major sections in each seminar: individual study (beginning on p. 18) and the video listening sheets (p. 30). Emphasize the importance of completing the Bible study material before each seminar session. Also review the "Study Note" in the box on page 7.
4. Explain the schedule your group will be following during the study. Also cover any other logistical issues such as when and where the group will meet, child care for those who need it, and so on.
5. Say, "We will begin the study with a Bible Study Workshop. During the Bible Study Workshop, Anne Graham Lotz presents an approach that will help us know God in a personal relationship through His Word. The Bible study approach introduced in the workshop helps us communicate with God through the Bible."
6. Explain that this Bible study approach is introduced in detail through a video presentation. Invite participants to use the workshop section as a viewing guide to underline key thoughts and take additional notes as they participate in the workshop.

Notes

7. View the video presentation on the Bible Study Workshop (viewing time: approximately 45 min; does not include stopping the video for the activities). Stop the video as directed during the presentation. Allow the time recommended for participants to complete work. The following will be suggested during the presentation for each group activity.

First activity: List the Facts:

What does the passage say?

10 minutes

Completed individually

Second activity: Learn the Lessons:

What does the passage mean?

10 minutes

Completed in small groups (three or four in a group)

Third activity: Listen to His Voice:

What does the passage mean to me?

5 minutes

Completed individually

Anne Graham Lotz interacts with the audience after each of these activities. You will want to do the same before you restart the video; then observe the examples and comments made on the video.

8. Instruct participants to complete the Bible study material for the first seminar (begins on p. 18). Remind them to bring their workbooks, Bibles, and a pen or pencil with them to every group session. Announce the day, time, and place for the next session.

Seminar 1: The God of Creation

Notes

Genesis 1

1. Begin on time. As participants arrive, play the music video, “The Creation Song,” provided for you on video. Make latecomers welcome with as little interruption as possible. Provide name tags during the first group session unless participants know each other well.
2. Say, “Anne Graham Lotz says, ‘The primary purpose of Genesis is to reveal God. Nowhere is God revealed as powerfully as He is in the first 11 chapters—unless it is in the Gospels through the Person of Jesus of Nazareth. Yet Jesus did not “begin” in the Bethlehem of the Gospels. He was already there in the beginning, before time and history began. Our minds explode and our hearts soar as we discover not only God the Father and God the Spirit but also God the Son in the very first verses of the Bible.’”
3. Say, “As we begin our journey through Genesis 1-11, let’s ask God to guide us as He reveals Himself to us at the beginning of human history and the dawn of God’s story.” Lead the group in prayer.
4. Before viewing the video of Seminar 1, review participants’ responses to steps 2, 3, 4, and 5 on each worksheet (pp. 18-27). Focus on what God is saying to participants from this section’s Scripture passages.
5. View the video presentation of Seminar 1: The God of Creation (viewing time: approximately 45 min.). Encourage participants to open their Bibles to Genesis 1 and take careful notes during the presentation on the video listening sheets that begin on page 30.
6. Close by reading together the Scripture on page 17 that introduced the seminar: Isaiah 40:28. Ask one of the participants to pray for the group and their individual study during the week.

Seminar 2: The God of Compassion

Notes

Genesis 3

1. Honor each participant's time commitment by starting on time. As participants arrive, play the music video, "The Creation Song," on video. Read 1 Corinthians 8:6 (p. 33) and open the session with prayer.
2. Say, "God is righteous and just. But God is also loving and merciful. He cannot be less than Himself. Satan, in his temptation of Adam and Eve and in his plan to defeat the purpose of God, failed to take into account the very character of God. He failed to realize one very important thing—how much God loved the man and woman He had created and the depths to which His grace would go in order to bring them back to Himself. It never occurred to Satan that the Creator of the universe would lay down His own life in atonement for man's sin. But that's exactly what happened. The solution to the problem of sinfulness is the cross of Jesus Christ. Let's view the seminar on The God of Compassion." Lead the group in prayer
3. Before viewing the video of Seminar 2, review participants' responses to steps 2, 3, 4, and 5 on each worksheet (pp. 36-43). Focus on what God is saying to participants from this section's Scripture passages.
4. View the video presentation of Seminar 2: The God of Compassion (viewing time: approximately 60 min.). Encourage participants to open their Bibles to Genesis 3 and to take careful notes during the presentation on the video listening sheets that begin on page 46.
5. Close by reading together the Scripture on page 33 that introduced the seminar (1 Corinthians 8:6). Pray for any concerns and needs facing group members as well as continued direction and a deeper relationship with God.

Seminar 3: The God of Salvation

Notes

Genesis 6:1—8:18

1. As participants arrive, give each person an encouraging word, a firm handshake, a hug, or a pat on the back. Play the music video, “The Creation Song,” on video. Begin on time.
2. Ask, “What difference does your stand for righteousness and against wickedness make? When you stand alone against the tide of public opinion or the erosion of spiritual principles or the decay of personal morality, what difference can you make? You and I will never know the answer to that until we are willing to be one person, standing alone.”
3. Say, “As we continue our journey through Genesis 1-11, let’s ask God to give us courage to walk with Him in obedience.” Lead the group in prayer.
4. Before viewing the video for Seminar 3, review participants’ responses to steps 2, 3, 4, and 5 on each worksheet (pp. 50-59). Focus on what God is saying to participants from this section’s Scripture passages.
5. View the video presentation of Seminar 3: The God of Salvation (viewing time: approximately 60 min.). Encourage participants to open their Bibles to Genesis 6—8 and take careful notes during the presentation on the video listening sheets that begin on page 62.
6. Close by reading together the Scripture on page 49 that introduced the seminar: 1 Timothy 4:10. Ask two or three participants to voice prayers of encouragement for the group to walk with God, work for God, witness of God, and wait on God.

Seminar 4: The God of Redemption

Notes

Genesis 11:1-9; 10:1-32; 11:10—12:4

1. Begin on time. As participants arrive, play the music video, “The Creation Song,” on video. Ask, How would you respond to a call from God to “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you” (Gen. 12:1)? Allow several participants to respond.
2. Say, “Anne Graham Lotz says, ‘God designed and created you because He loves you. He carved the initials of His own image in your life. But you drifted in the currents of sin and were swept from Him into the world. He worked for years, making the necessary arrangements to buy you back. Finally everything was ready. The purchase price was the blood of His own Son. As He strode victoriously out of the tomb on Easter morning, you could almost feel Him hugging you to Himself, whispering triumphantly, “Oh, boy! You’re twice Mine! I made you at Creation; now I’ve bought you at Calvary!’” This week we have studied a portion of Genesis that illustrates how God redeemed us.” Lead the group in prayer.
3. Before viewing the video of Seminar 4, review participants’ responses to steps 2, 3, 4, and 5 on each worksheet (pp. 66-75). Focus on what God is saying to participants from this section’s Scripture passages.
4. View the video presentation of Seminar 4: The God of Redemption (viewing time: approximately 61 min.). Encourage participants to open their Bibles to Genesis 10-11 and take careful notes during the presentation on the video listening sheets that begin on page 78.
5. Close by reading the Scripture on page 65 that introduced the seminar (Isaiah 44:24). Ask, “What prayer concerns would you share as we pray together?” Ask several participants to offer prayer and praise for the hope we have because of God’s love.

Thank you

for taking the time to reflect on God's Word through this study.
We pray that it was a blessing to you.



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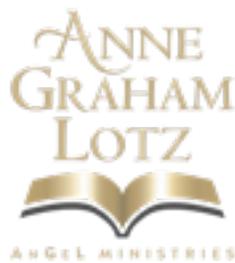
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