

Lesson 3 Genesis 2
The Beginning, the Details

1. From Gen. 1:26 through 2:25 list at least seven facts concerning the creation of Adam and Eve.

Gen. 1:26

26 Then God said: Let us make* human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth.

27 God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female* he created them.

28 God blessed them and God said to them: Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.* Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that crawl on the earth.

29 God also said: See, I give you every seed-bearing plant on all the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;

30 and to all the wild animals, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the earth, I give all the green plants for food. And so it happened.

31 God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-25

1 Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.

2 On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing; he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken.

3 God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work he had done in creation.

4 This is the story* of the heavens and the earth at their creation. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens—

5 there was no field shrub on earth and no grass of the field had sprouted, for the LORD God had sent no rain upon the earth and there was no man* to till the ground,

6 but a stream* was welling up out of the earth and watering all the surface of the ground—

7 then the LORD God formed the man* out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

8 The LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east,* and placed there the man whom he had formed.

9 Out of the ground the LORD God made grow every tree that was delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

10 A river rises in Eden* to water the garden; beyond there it divides and becomes four branches.

11 The name of the first is the Pishon; it is the one that winds through the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

12 The gold of that land is good; bdellium and lapis lazuli are also there.

13 The name of the second river is the Gihon; it is the one that winds all through the land of Cush.

14 The name of the third river is the Tigris; it is the one that flows east of Asshur. The fourth river is the Euphrates.

15 The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it.

16 The LORD God gave the man this order: You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden

17 except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. From that tree you shall not eat; when you eat from it you shall die.

18 The LORD God said: It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suited to him.

19 So the LORD God formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each living creature was then its name.

20 The man gave names to all the tame animals, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be a helper suited to the man.

21 So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

22 The LORD God then built the rib that he had taken from the man into a woman. When he brought her to the man,

23 the man said: “This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called ‘woman,’ for out of man this one has been taken.”*

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.*

25 The man and his wife were both naked, yet they felt no shame.

2. Which fact gives you a feeling of gratitude towards God? Which do you find most challenging?

3. According to this chapter, how was the earth watered in those days?

4. What one restriction was given?

Why do you think God gave them this restriction?

5. A. What did God plan for mankind to do in the garden?

B. What work has God planned for us? (See Ephesians 2:10)

10 For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

6. A. Who named the animals that God made?

B. Why do you think God did not name them himself?

7. God himself is often described as a “helper” (Hos. 13:9 and Ps. 115:9-11).

What does it imply that the woman is described as a partner or “helper” for man in vs.18?

Hos. 13:9

I destroy you, Israel! who is there to help you?

Ps. 115:9-11

9 The house of Israel trusts in the LORD, who is their help and shield.

10 The house of Aaron trusts in the LORD, who is their help and shield.

8. *Challenge Question:* What do you think the “tree of life” represents?

Was it forbidden before the fall? Do you think that there is a “tree of life” promised to us today?

9. What additional facts about the creation of man can be found in Hebrews 2:6-8?

6 Instead, someone has testified somewhere: “What is man that you are mindful of him, or the son of man that you care for him?

7 You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor,

8 subjecting all things under his feet.” In “subjecting” all things [to him], he left nothing not “subject to him.” Yet at present we do not see “all things subject to him,”

10. How would you characterize the relationship between God and man at this point?

What makes this possible?

Note: God speaks through a human author in a human way. The author’s intention, conditions of the time, culture, and the literal and spiritual sense of the text must be taken into account. (CCC115-117)