



TEACHER NOTES FOR CHAPTER 2 IN THE BEGINNING

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THEME	Creation
HOMEWORK BIBLE READING	Genesis 1 & 2
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OVERVIEW

This chapter is designed to show students how foundational the opening two chapters of the Bible are to the Bible's storyline and the Christian worldview.

Without the foundation of these chapters clearly laid, many themes of scripture lose their potency. In the opening chapters of the Bible the message is unmistakably clear, we are made in God's image, we are accountable to him and we have been blessed to enjoy the gift of life that he has given.

The chapter does not engage with the Creation-Evolution debate as we believe this is a distraction from the teaching of the first two chapters of the Bible. We expect that there will be teachers who will want to cover this issue in their course at this stage

TIPS

The 'Creation: some perspective' section of the chapter (P20-21) is designed to help students see that in the first two chapters of the Bible we see two complimentary perspectives of God's creation of the universe. Students are encouraged to look at the two chapters at the start of the Bible and compare them. The goal of the exercise is to allow students to think through what the chapter's structure and composition teach about God and us. For example, chapter one's structure and composition leaves readers with a picture of God's overwhelming power, goodness and intentionality in creating. Chapter two shows the intimacy of God's relationship with his creation as he enters into the world that he has made to create Adam and Eve.

Pages 23-28 explore the truths that are contained in chapters one and two of Genesis. The task asks students to draw a picture or symbol to represent each truth. The scope of this task could be expanded significantly, asking students to make art works, individually or in groups that could be displayed around the room as a reminder of these facts.

Pages 29-30 explore a fundamental question that most students will ask. Why did God make us this way? Why did God put into creation the potential for rebellion? The answer that is explored is that, without the potential for rebellion, we are not truly free and our worship of God would be a robotic response. On page 31 there is an opportunity to explore some of the other passages in the Bible that speak about creation.

COMMON QUESTIONS STUDENTS ASK

- Why did God create the potential for Adam and Eve to rebel?
- Where did the wives / husbands for Adam & Eve's children come from?
- Is it a literal 24 hours or not?

We would love to hear what questions students are asking in response to the content of this chapter. Please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU TEACH THIS CHAPTER

If you know of any websites or resources that would assist teachers with brining this chapter to life please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.