

**Goldstone Church**  
**Small Group Questions**  
**Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31**

**Talk About**

- If you could sit on a bench in a beautiful wood, who would you like sitting next to you on the bench - and why?
- What are your (no more than) FIVE favorite foods?
- What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about God creating the world?

**Read About**

- How is the earth described before God created (v.2)?
- Who was “hovering over the waters” (v.2b)?
- What does God do to initiate a creative action (v.3 & 26)?
- What does God separate first (v.4)?
- What are the significant differences between the description of the creation of human beings and the rest of creation (v.26-30)?
- What is God's assessment of all that He created (v.31)?

**Think About**

- What does it mean that humanity is made in the image of God (v.26)? Which of the following is *closest* to the truth?
  - We physically resemble God.
  - Our personality mirrors God's.
  - We are gods.
  - We represent God.
- There is a man standing on a ledge 15 floors up. Below him a crowd has gathered. The man cries out, “What is the point of life?” How would you reply?
- Your friend or neighbour believes that the universe exists by pure chance and evolution. What questions would you ask them to try to suggest another view?
- Quote: “v.27-28 provides a mandate for us to exploit the earth's resources.” Do you agree? Why or why not?
- You could end by reading / memorising Genesis 1:31a.

## **Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.

<sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

<sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.' And it was so.

<sup>31</sup> **God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.** And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.