

One Year Bible – Week 1

Reading schedule:

Genesis = Ge / Matthew = Mt / Psalm = Ps / Proverbs = Pr



Jan 1 – Ge 1:1-2:25 / Mt 1:1-2:12 / Ps 1 / Pr 1:1-6

Jan 2 – Ge 3:1-4:26 / Mt 2:13-3:6 / Ps 2 / Pr 1:7-9

Jan 3 – Ge 5:1-7:24 / Mt 3:7-4:11 / Ps 3 / Pr 1:10-19

Jan 4 – Ge 8:1-10:32 / Mt 4:12-25 / Ps 4 / Pr 1:20-23

Jan 5 – Ge 11:1-13:4 / Mt 5:1-26 / Ps 5 / Pr 1:24-28

Jan 6 – Ge 13:5-15:21 / Mt 5:27-48 / Ps 6 / Pr 1:29-33

Jan 7 – Ge 16:1-18:19 / Mt 6:1-24 / Ps 7 / Pr 2:1-5

Summary: Genesis reading

A dramatic start to a dramatic story... The book of Genesis opens with the miracle of God's creation out of nothing and the dawn of humanity. From a beginning of harmonious communion with God, humanity is deceived and willingly disobeys God forsaking that communion and entering into a life marked by sin. The reading in Genesis shows God's interaction with humanity from the time of the fall onward and illuminates important attributes of God's character that help us to know God as we relate to him now.

Summary: Matthew reading

Matthew is the first of the four gospels in the New Testament. Matthew begins with Jesus' genealogy which is significant in its detail. He then gives several accounts of Jesus being foretold as the awaited Messiah. Our reading in Matthew chapter 5 on through chapter 7 is what will be Jesus' longest recorded sermon, notably titled his "Sermon on the Mount"

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- This week's reading includes a long repetitive list in both Genesis with Adam's descendants (ch 5) and in Matthew with Jesus' genealogy (ch 1). Do you note any significant particularities in either of these lists? If not, feel free to ask someone at church and discover something new. If so, why do you think they might be included?

What do the accounts of Creation and the Fall divulge about humanity, both positive and negative? About God?

- Noah and the Flood is a well known Biblical story to some. As you read in Genesis about the flood and God's interaction with Noah, pay particular attention to what God is acting to accomplish in the event. Also, do you notice any repeated phrases. Repetitive phrases in the Bible are always significant keys to help us understand what is being communicated.
- As you read Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, Jesus seems to be drawing a picture of a life of one who associates themselves with the God of the Bible. What elements of that picture stand out to you?

Small Group Questions:

- 1) Have you ever had, or heard someone else have, a conversation about the origin of life and the beginning of the world? What do you remember about that conversation?
- 2) What did you observe about God from the creation story? How does that help you relate to him?
- 3) In the Genesis account for this week are the first two covenants that God makes with his people: the Noahic (Ge 6:18-22; 9:1-17) and the Abrahamic (Ge 12:1-3; ref Ge 17:1-8). Have someone read these passages and discuss the following:
 - a. Who is the initiator of these covenants and what might that reveal to us?
 - b. What might God be accomplishing in these promises?
 - c. What does God expect in return?
- 4) We see Satan in the Fall in Genesis as the serpent and with Jesus in Matthew during his 40 day fast. What do you observe about the goals of Satan? How can knowing this help you as you strive to live a life of surrender for God?
- 5) Is there anything you read in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount that struck you as personally challenging? What would it take for you to begin to seek change in that area?

Journal the Psalms this week:

The Psalmist of Psalm 6 speaks of great personal anguish. Are you currently or have you been in such a place? Write to God about the pain brought to mind. Then note what assurance the Psalmist identifies in God; "because of your unfailing love...", "The Lord has heard my cry." Write about your assurance in him based on what you have read about him this week.