

An underwater scene with sunlight rays filtering down from the surface, creating a serene and spiritual atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are bright and clear.

GOD'S STORY

ANNE
GRAHAM
LOTZ

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

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A DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR

GOD'S
STORY

DAILY STUDIES FOR
PERSONAL OR GROUP USE

A PERSONAL WORD FROM ANNE

My beloved friend, Jill Briscoe, once visited what had been an extremely poverty-stricken country in Africa. As she flew in, she looked down on miles and miles of African veldt that had previously been covered by a lush grasslike crop, but was now an unbroken, brown, dusty plain stretching all the way to the horizon. As Jill traveled to the mission station where she would be staying, mile after mile of barren, dry, poverty-stricken land passed by her window. Little dust devils danced in the hot afternoon sun, while shimmering heat waves made the emaciated, dust-covered people walking listlessly beside the road look more like ghostly apparitions than humans.

The relief workers told her the sad story: The veldt had once been a beautifully green, rolling expanse covered by a newly discovered crop that adapted easily to the climate and soil of the area. Within a few short years, this crop had promised to make the people in the area totally self-sufficient as it became the main, and plentiful, staple of their diet.

Sadly, the relief workers shook their heads as they explained what had happened: The crop had, indeed, become the main staple in the diet of the local people, but too late it had been found to have no nutritional value at all. The tragedy was that hundreds of people had starved to death—with their stomachs full!

Those pitiful African people seem to symbolize many church members in America today who are spiritually starving to death with their stomachs full! We have made the main staples of our “diet” those things that have no real nutritional value—political agendas, social issues, human rights, books about God’s Word, musical videos, theological formulas for reaching the postmodern man,

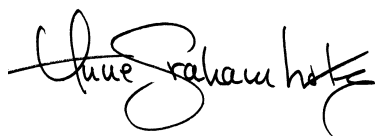
and marketing strategies for the local church, along with a myriad of conferences, seminars, retreats, dramas, and “special events.” None of these things is harmful in itself, but when substituted for the nutrition of daily Bible reading and prayer, the result is increasing spiritual starvation.

For the past twenty years as I have crisscrossed America speaking in arenas, to conventions and churches, I have become convinced of one thing: the average church member is desperately hungry for God’s Word. While we read books about it and hear sermons on it and live by principles from it, we are sadly devoid of it on a daily basis. When our lives begin to unravel due to pressure, problems, or pain, we don’t seem to know how to access its power and truth in a personal, relevant way that makes a difference. As a result, thousands have spirits that are shriveling even while they are sobbing, “Please, just give me Jesus!”

What does your spiritual diet consist of? Although you may be an active church member and a committed Christian, could it be that you are actually starving for the Bread of Life? Are you starving for the Bread, which is Jesus Himself, offered to you and me through God’s Word?

If so, then this workbook is for you! It has been designed to take you directly into God’s Word. There is no middleman. There are no blanks to fill in. There is not even any cross-referencing required. The simple format for meditation has been developed from my own daily personal time in God’s Word as a means of reading a passage in order to hear Him speaking to me personally through it. Day after day, as I use this method in my Bible reading, God has fed me and filled me to overflowing!

As you begin this Bible study, pray this simple prayer: “Dear God, *please, reveal yourself to me!*” Then open your Bible and enjoy the Food!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chae Zaham harte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "Z".

GETTING STARTED

These worksheets are designed to be used as a companion to *God's Story*. Used together, they will provide a format for Bible study that is effective for group discussion (Sunday school classes, women's or men's church groups, home or neighborhood Bible classes, one-on-one discipleship) as well as for your private devotions. Believing that God speaks to us through His Word, we have designed these worksheets to lead you through a series of questions concerning the designated Scripture passage. The exercises enable you to not only discover for yourself the eternal truths revealed by God in the Bible, but also to hear God speaking personally to you through His Word and thus have a fresh encounter with Him.

Getting Started on Your Own

It is suggested that *Getting Started*, *Tips for Success*, *Take One Step at a Time*, and the Sample Chapter be used as an initial lesson in order to familiarize yourself with the format to be used. The worksheets are subsequently divided to correspond with the chapters of the book. If you make your way through this study using one set of worksheets each day, you will complete a chapter a week. The Scripture passage for each worksheet corresponds with the Scripture passage in the divisions of the book chapters. Each set of worksheets will provide a very rich, meaningful pathway for your daily walk with Jesus.

Getting Started in a Group

If you embark on this study through Genesis in a group, you may want to meet once a week to share the insights you've gained. It is suggested that *Getting Started*,

Tips for Success, *Take One Step at a Time*, and the Sample Chapter be used as an initial lesson in order to familiarize yourself with the format to be used. The worksheets are subsequently divided to correspond with the chapters of the book. If you make your way through this study using one set of worksheets each day, you will complete a chapter a week. Ideally, your group will gather each week under the leadership of a facilitator who will lead you through a meaningful discussion of what you've individually discovered. If the group is large (twelve or more), you may need to divide into smaller groups for discussion time, with moderators being chosen to lead each one.

The facilitator may offer a summation at the end of the group study, emphasizing specific applications from Genesis to meet the needs and characteristics of your particular group, depending on age, sex, and interests of the members.

Whether you choose to get started on your own or in a group, I pray that your time spent exploring Genesis will result in a fresh experience of God's love—from the beginning.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

I have taken countless trips in my lifetime—some long, some short, some far, some near. But every single trip involves a certain amount of preparation in order to be successful. And the preparation itself requires a measure of discipline. This Bible study is no exception.

Spiritual discipline is an essential part of an individual's ability to grow in his or her personal relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of His Word. It is my sincere prayer that whether you use these worksheets as a private daily devotion or in a weekly group Bible study, it will provide you with an easy, meaningful format for this growth to occur.

To stay on track and make this study most effective and meaningful to your life, I offer these specific suggestions:

- Set aside a regular *place* for your daily Bible study.
- Set aside a regular *time* for your daily Bible study.
- Pray before beginning each day's study, asking God to speak to you through His Word.
- Write out your answers for each step of the worksheets in sequence. Do not skip a step.
- Make the time to be still and listen, reflecting thoughtfully on your responses, especially in Step 5.

TAKE ONE STEP AT A TIME

Step 1. LOOK IN GOD'S WORD: Begin by reading the designated passage of Scripture. This is printed for you on each day's devotional section. When you have finished reading the passage, move to Step 2.

Step 2. LIST THE FACTS: 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. Take a moment to read the completed example of a worksheet on the following pages. When you have read the passage in Step 1, look over the facts listed in Step 2 so that you understand these instructions more clearly.

Step 3. LEARN THE LESSONS: After looking at the passage and listing the facts, you are ready for Step 3. Go back to the list of facts in Step 2 and look for a lesson to learn from each fact. Ask yourself who is speaking, what the subject is, where the action is taking place, when it happened, and so on. Ask, *What are the people in this passage 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?* Look again at the completed example on the following pages. Note that you may have more than one lesson for each verse.

Step 4. LISTEN TO HIS VOICE: The fourth step is the most meaningful, but you cannot do it until Steps 1, 2, and 3 have been completed. In order to complete Step 4, rephrase the lessons you found in Step 3 and put them in the form of ques-

tions you could ask yourself, your spouse, your child, your friend, your neighbor, or your coworker. As you write out the questions, listen for God to communicate to you personally through His Word.

There are some challenging passages in Genesis. Don't get hung up on what you don't understand. Look for the general principles and lessons that can be learned. Remember, don't rush. It may take you several moments of prayerful meditation to discover meaningful lessons and hear God speak to you. The object of these devotional studies is not to get through the study, but to develop your personal relationship with God in order to satisfy your spiritual hunger and increase your spiritual health.

Step 5. LIVE IT OUT: Read the assigned Scripture passage 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, 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. My prayer is that as you walk daily in this study through Genesis, you will learn to love the Bread of Life.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

I 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."

3:7 Samuel did not know the Lord or His Word.

3:8 For the third time God called Samuel, who went to Eli.

3:9 Eli told Samuel to lie down and, if He calls, say, "Speak, Lord, I'm listening."

3:10 The Lord called Samuel, who said, "Speak, your servant is listening."

3 LEARN THE LESSONS:
What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

3:7 There are some people today in church who do not know the Lord or His Word.

3:8 Sometimes God speaks to us, but we don't recognize His voice.

3:9 We need instructions on how to recognize and listen to God's voice.

3:10 God speaks to us personally, and we need to give Him our attention.

4 LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:
What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

3:7 How well do I really know the Lord and His Word?

3:8 Could God be speaking to me now, but I don't recognize His voice?

3:9 Am I willing to follow these instructions on how to recognize and listen to God's voice?

3:10 As I read my Bible, using this workbook, how expectant am I that God will speak to me?

5 LIVE IT OUT:
Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

I confess I have neither 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, for 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.

CHAPTER 1

I am the God of Creation . . . I Fill Your Emptiness

When have you observed the blazing glory of a tropical sunset
or the soft, silvery shimmer of moonlight on the ocean waves,
or a baby's birth and first lusty cry,
or a bird weaving her nest, hatching and feeding her young,
or an exquisite lady's slipper tucked into a rocky crevice in the forest,
or a hummingbird suspended in air,
or a V-shaped flight of geese migrating north,
or the blinding flash of a jagged bolt of lightning splitting
the darkness . . .

when have you observed these things and wondered, *Who made it?*

When we thoughtfully consider the world around us, we instinctively know our environment is not some haphazard cosmic accident but the handiwork of a Master Designer. The earth did not come about by the snap of some giant fingers but was deliberately planned and prepared in an orderly progression of events. Like planet Earth around us, our lives are not a haphazard cosmos, either. They were deliberately planned to be filled with the beauty of love and joy and peace and purpose—with God Himself.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 1:1–8

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. **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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 1:9–13

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.

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



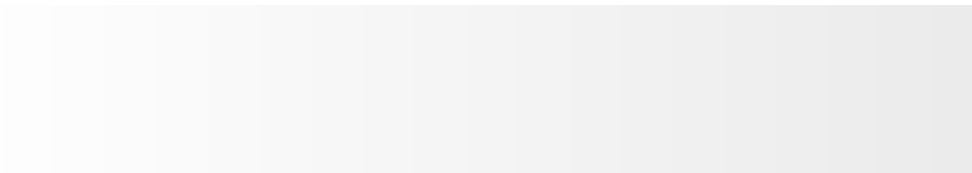
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 1:14–19

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

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



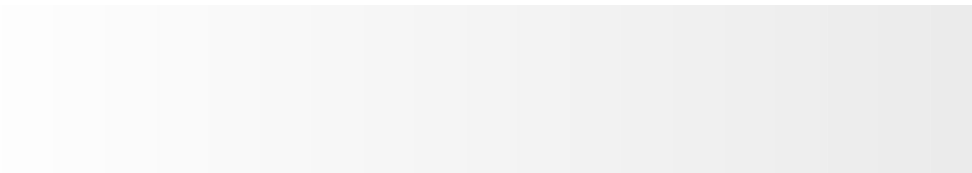
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 1:20–25

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.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



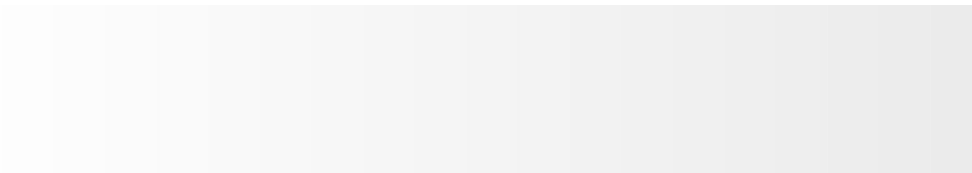
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 1:27–31

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 and the sea and the birds and 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 the birds in 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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



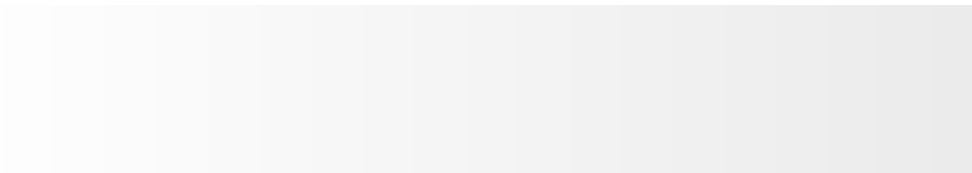
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 1? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 2

I am the God of Creation . . . I Mend Your Brokenness

Many people approach life as though it's so simple they can live it their own way. They sort of guess their way along. It's not until their lives don't work that it occurs to them to look around for directions.

God as our Creator has specific directions for our lives. If we live according to His directions, our lives work—we are blessed, and we experience life the way it was meant to be lived. If we ignore or reject His directions, we do so to our own detriment and experience much less than He intended.

But God did not just create you and me, plop us down on planet Earth, and say, “Happy birthday! Now you can guess your way through life.” Instead, He gave us directions, which form a pattern that—if we follow them—will prevent breakage of our lives and will help to mend the brokenness already present.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

Feel free to underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

Make a verse-by-verse list of the most obvious facts. What does the passage say? Do not paraphrase.

GENESIS 2:1-3

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

2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 2:4–7

4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens— 5 and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, 6 but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground— 7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



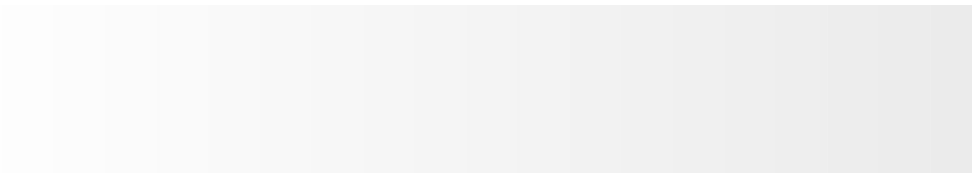
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 2:8–14

8 Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. 9 And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. 11 The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. 12 (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) 13 The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. 14 The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



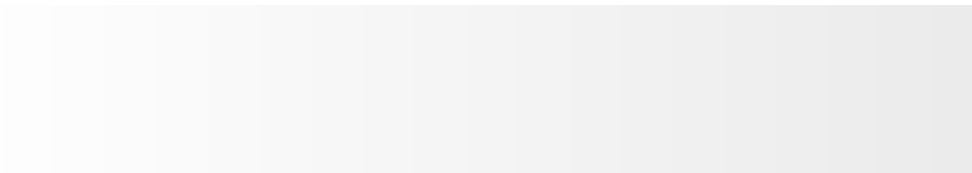
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 2:15–20

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” 18 The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” 19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



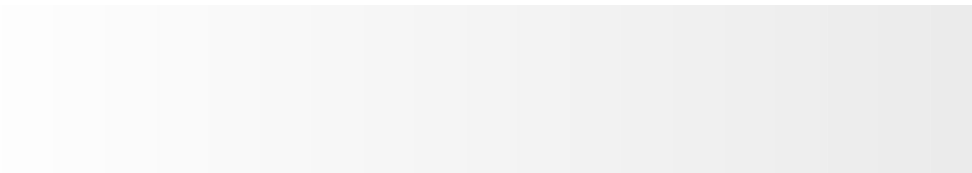
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 2:21–25

21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. **22** Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. **23** The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." **24** For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. **25** The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



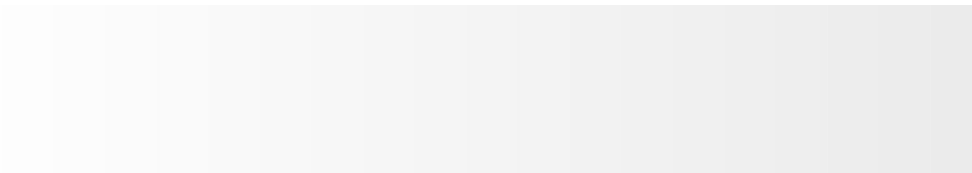
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 2? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 3

I am the God of Compassion . . . I Forgive Your Sinfulness

What is sin? It has been defined as “not just that man is as bad as he could be but that he is not as good as he should be.” The Greek definition of sin is of an archer who launches his arrow but “misses the mark.” Sin is breaking God’s moral law and therefore being unable to meet His standards of perfection.

Where does sin come from? Sin is a spiritual “disease” that has been transmitted to every single person in every single generation from the beginning of the human race. It infects the entire population of the world and is the cause of all the problems of war, greed, hate, prejudice, cruelty, corruption, and other ills that plague us.

While we all are born with a nature that has a strong tendency to sin, our lives bear the “fruit” of sin through the choices we make—which is where sin started in the beginning.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 3:1–6

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.” **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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 3:7–13

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 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 that I commanded you not to eat from?" 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."

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



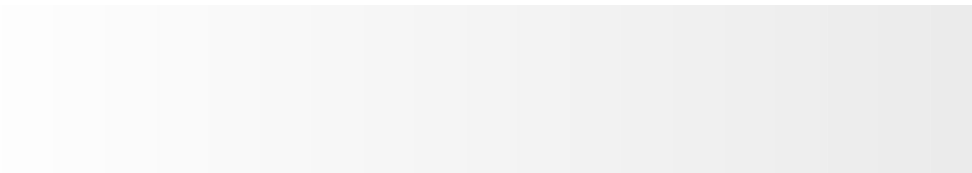
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

2

LIST THE FACTS:

GENESIS 3:14–16

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.”

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



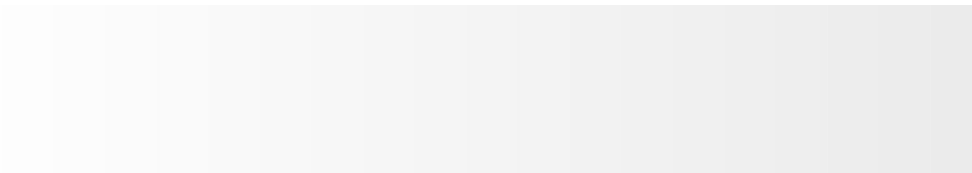
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 3:17–19

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.”

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



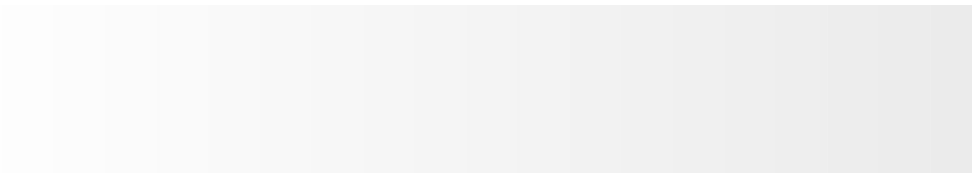
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



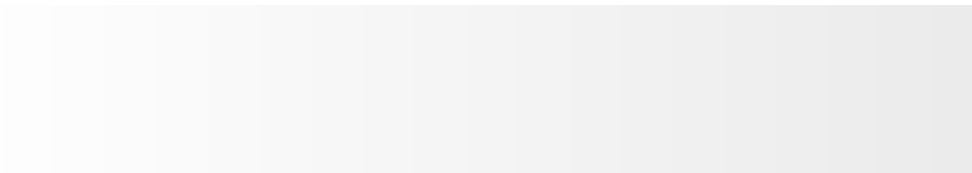
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 3? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 4

I am the God of Compassion . . . I Uproot Your Bitterness

Every descendant of Adam and Eve has been born with his or her “body” infected with the disease of sin, but until it breaks out all over in wrong habits and attitudes and actions and decisions, it can be difficult to diagnose. However, the New Testament tells us that the first spot of sin—

the first worry

or little white lie

or selfish thought

or flash of anger

or proud look

or angry word—

indicates our entire lives are riddled with it.

The disease of sin entered the human race through Adam and Eve’s choice to disobey the Lord God. It was easily diagnosed in Cain, the very first child born to them, when he broke out in bitterness rooted in resentment.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 4:1-5

1 Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." 2 Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. 3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 4:6-8

6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." 8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



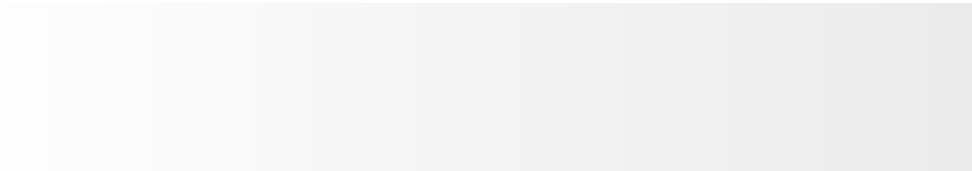
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 4:9-12

9 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" **10** The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. **11** Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

12 When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



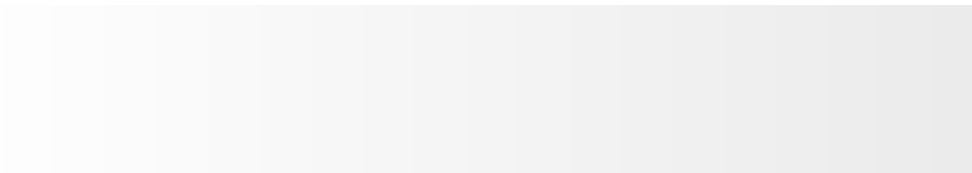
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 4:13–16

13 Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is more than I can bear. **14** Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” **15** But the LORD said to him, “Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. **16** So Cain went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



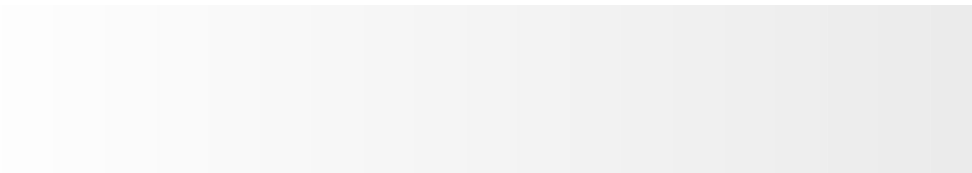
4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

2

LIST THE FACTS:

GENESIS 4:17–24

17 Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch.

18 To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. **19** Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. **20** Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. **21** His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute. **22** Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah. **23** Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. **24** If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times."

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



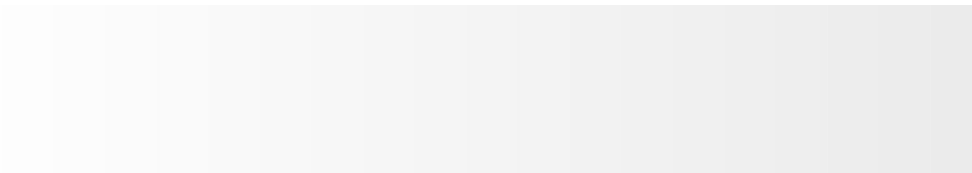
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 4? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 5

I am the God of Compassion . . . I Redeem Your Wastedness

Underneath all the progress and sophistication, our civilization is experiencing a bankruptcy of moral and spiritual values that threatens to erode our very existence. Our society is just as wicked and rebellious against God as Cain's civilization was.

The flashing red-light warning for you and me is to beware getting so caught up in the way everyone around us is living that we get swept away by the current of wickedness and waste our own lives in a meaningless existence. In the midst of spiritual dwarfs, we must strive to be giants by receiving, running with, and relaying the baton of truth that leads to personal faith in God that has been handed down to generation after generation since Creation.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

Feel free to underline, circle, or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

Make a verse-by-verse list of the most obvious facts. What does the passage say? Do not paraphrase.

GENESIS 5:1-2

1 This is the written account of Adam's line. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. 2 He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 5:3-5

3 When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.

4 After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. 5 Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



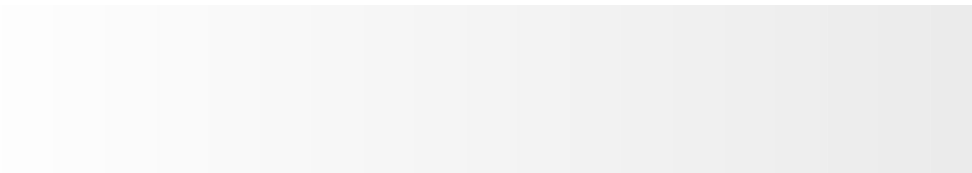
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 5:6–17

6 When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father of Enosh. 7 And after he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years and had other sons and daughters. 8 Altogether, Seth lived 912 years, and then he died. 9 When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of Kenan. 10 And after he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815 years and had other sons and daughters. 11 Altogether, Enosh lived 905 years, and then he died. 12 When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of Mahalalel. 13 And after he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters. 14 Altogether, Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died. 15 When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared. 16 And after he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters. 17 Altogether, Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



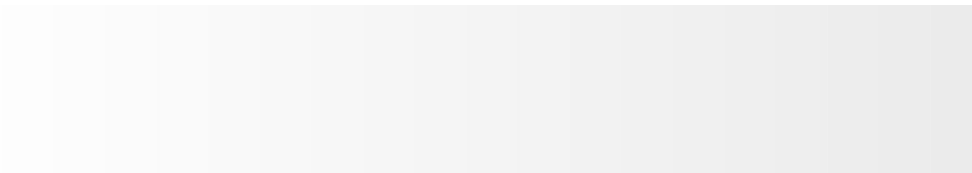
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 5:18–24

18 When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch. **19** And after he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. **20** Altogether, Jared lived 962 years, and then he died. **21** When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. **22** And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. **23** Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. **24** Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



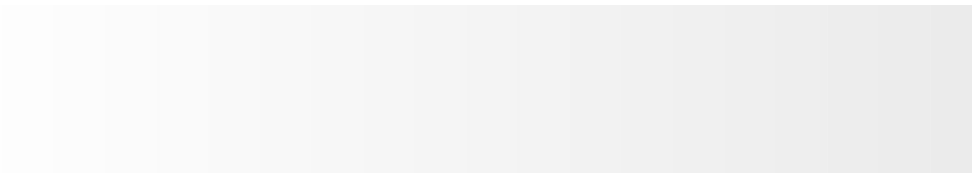
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 5:25–32

25 When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. 26 And after he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. 27 Altogether, Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died. 28 When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. 29 He named him Noah and said, “He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed.” 30 After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. 31 Altogether, Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died. 32 After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



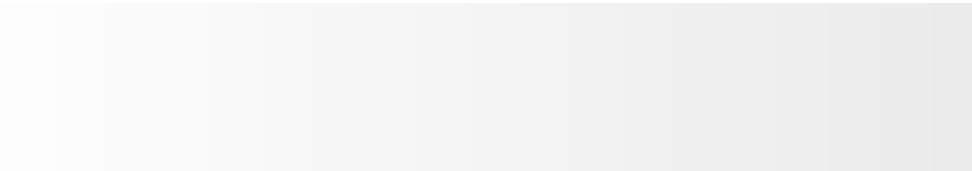
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 5. Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 6

I am the God of Salvation . . . I Share Your Loneliness

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.

There was another man in history who took a lonely stand against the evil and wickedness of his day. His example emphasizes to you and me the power of one. Because if he had not stood against the wickedness of his day, the entire human race would have been totally eradicated by the Flood. His name was Noah, and he lived in the midst of Cain's godless world.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 6:1–6

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 afterward—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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 6:7-8

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." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



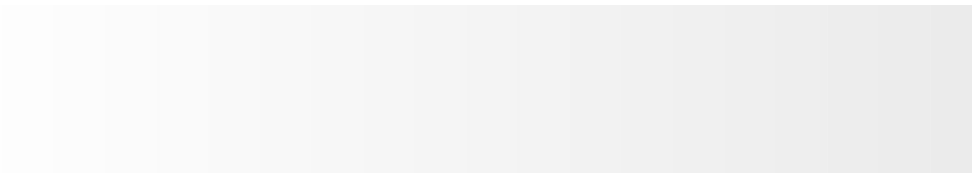
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 6:9-12

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



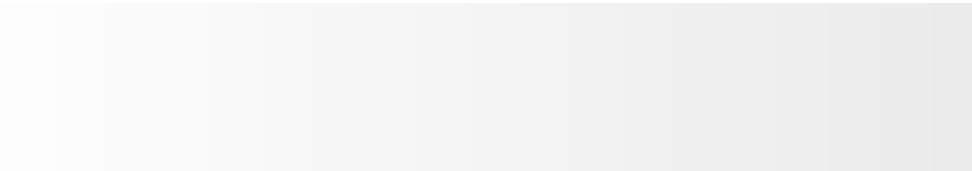
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 6:13–17

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



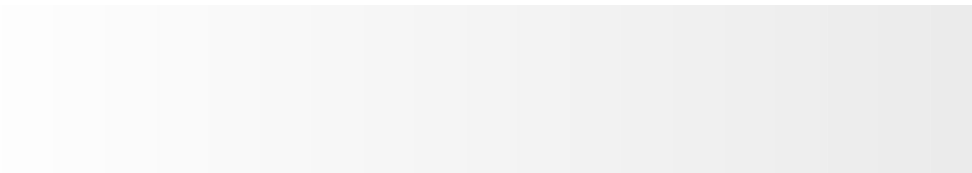
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 6:18–22

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. **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.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



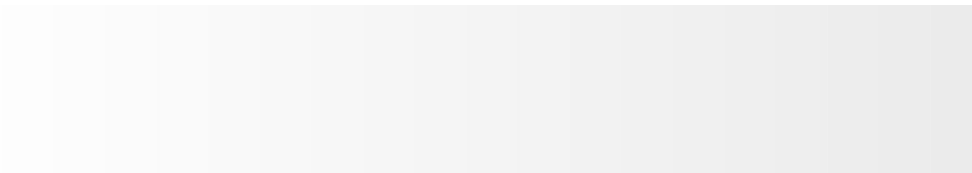
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 6? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 7

I am the God of Salvation . . . I Overcome Your Helplessness

When have you felt totally insecure and utterly helpless?

When your child ran away from home, leaving no trace?

When a spouse walked into the arms of another?

When the doctor diagnosed a fast-spreading, terminal disease?

When your income would not stretch to cover your expenses, and the creditors would not extend another loan?

When you stood watching as flames devoured your home?

When the river overflowed its banks, flooding your community?

When the sea rose up and claimed your property?

When our whole world falls apart, we can overcome our helplessness through God, our Savior.

Noah went through the equivalent of a nuclear holocaust when the entire world of his day was destroyed in a worldwide flood that was the judgment of God on Cain's civilization. Not only did Noah survive this devastation; he overcame triumphantly as he and his family were secure emotionally, mentally, spiritually, and physically throughout the living nightmare. His security and help rested in a moment-by-moment obedience and dependence upon God's Word.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 7:1-5

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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 7:6–10

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



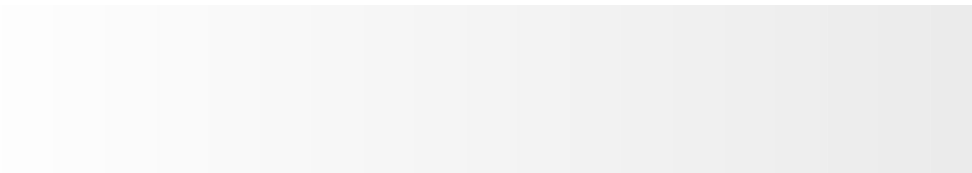
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 7:11–16

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 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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



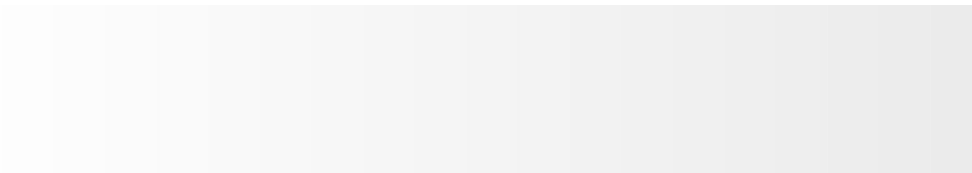
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 7:17-19

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



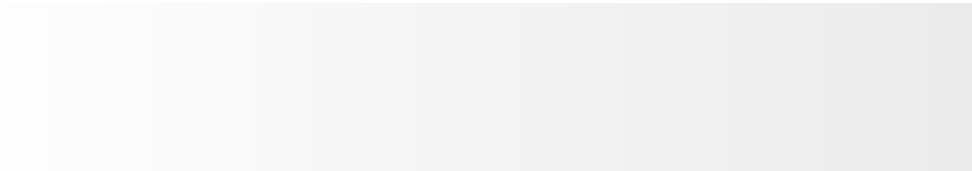
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 7:20–21

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



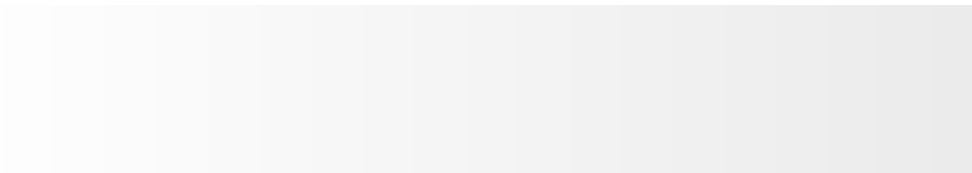
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 7? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 8

I am the God of Salvation . . . I Calm Your Fearfulness

Have you ever been a victim of crime? If statistics are accurate, more than half of the American population will be victimized at some time during their lives. Ann Landers once said that out of the ten thousand letters she got each month, one problem surfaced more than any other, and it was fear.

Fear of the future,
 fear of the unknown,
fear of consequences,
 fear of violence,
fear of exposure,
 fear of poverty,
fear of old age,
 fear of loneliness,
fear of rejection,
 fear of death,
fear of God . . .

And right on the heels of fear is worry. What are you afraid of that has you literally sick with worry? Medical studies have proven that worry attacks the central nervous system, the circulatory system, and the digestive system of our bodies. Charles Mayo, of the Mayo Clinic, said, “You can worry yourself to death, but you cannot worry yourself to a longer life.” The word *worry* comes from a root word in Old English that means to “choke or to strangle,” and it can strangle our good health as well as choke our emotions until we are not able to adequately function.

Surely Noah knew the paralysis of fear and the total paranoia of worry. But he also knew by experience that the God of the storm is also the God of all comfort, able to calm his fears as he kept his faith in God and his focus on God.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 8:1-5

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. **2** Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. **3** The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, **4** and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. **5** The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 8:6–12

6 After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark 7 and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. 9 But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. 10 He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. 11 When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. 12 He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



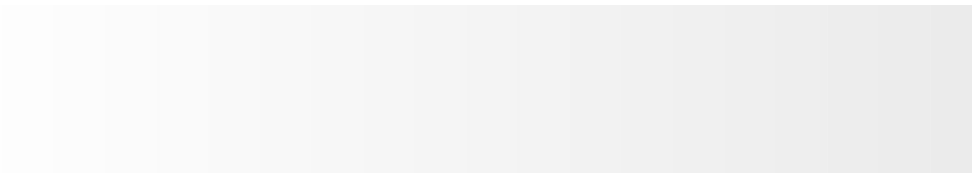
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 8:13–14

13 By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. **14** By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



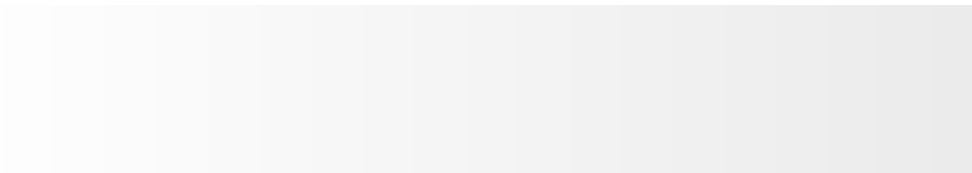
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 8:15–19

15 Then God said to Noah, **16** “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. **17** Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it.” **18** So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. **19** All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



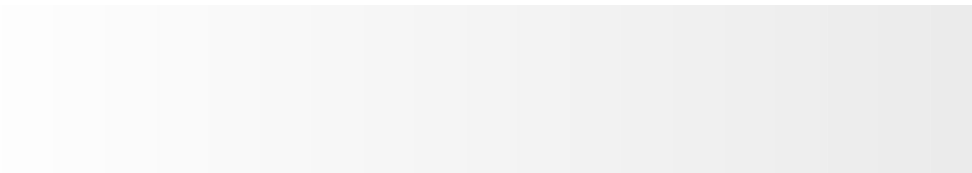
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 8:20–22

20 Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. **21** The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. **22** As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



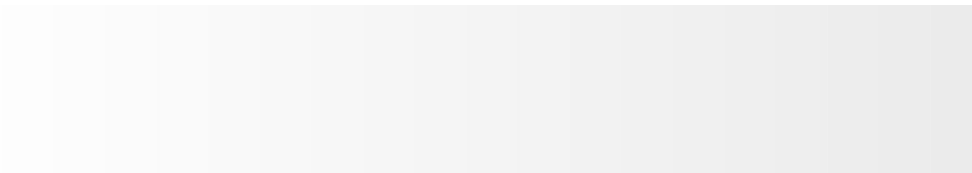
4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 8? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 9

I am the God of Salvation . . . I Understand Your Weakness

There is not a more outstanding man of God in all of the Old Testament Scriptures than Noah. Because he was righteous before God and blameless before men, he had found such favor in God's eyes that God had used him to save the entire world of his day. As he stepped off the ark, he stepped into a brand-new life. And the human race, represented by Noah and his family, could begin all over again.

How thrilling to experience a brand-new beginning! But the Flood that had washed away the wickedness of Cain's civilization had not washed away the sinfulness in the human heart. It lurked like a dark shadow in the brilliant sunshine of the new day.

But God understands our weakness and has made provision for it. We experience His provision first when we heed His principles.

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 9:1–4

1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.
2 The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands. **3** Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. **4** But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.”

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 9:5-7

5 "And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. 6 Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man. 7 As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it."

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



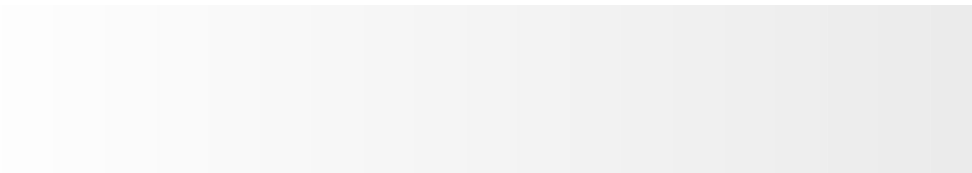
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 9:8–11

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: 9 “I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you 10 and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. 11 I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



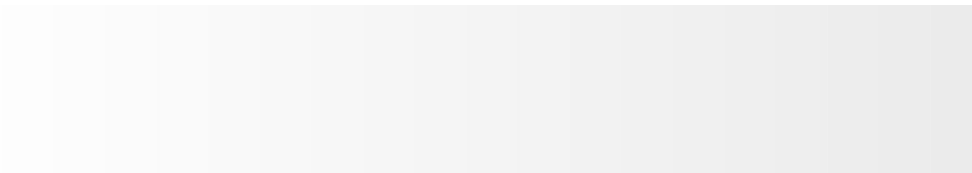
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 9:12-13

12 And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: 13 I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



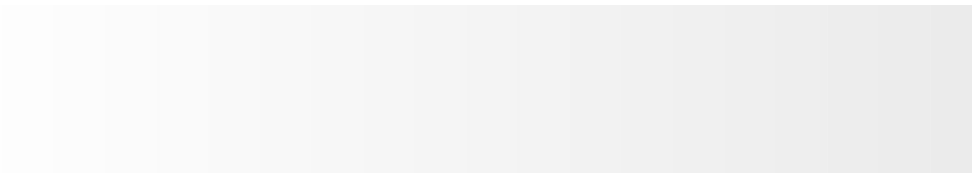
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 9:14–17

14 “Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. 16 Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”

17 So God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.”

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



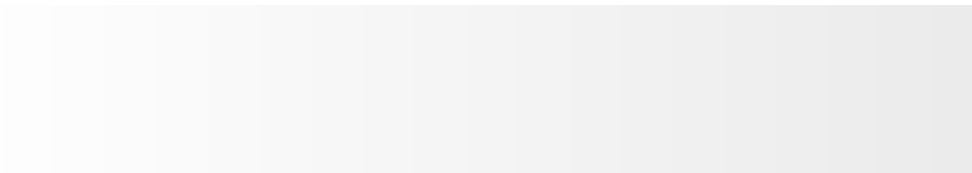
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 9? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 10

I am the God of Redemption . . . I Reject Your Religiousness

A professor of religion at one of the most prestigious and intellectual universities in our country told me that although she considered herself to be a Christian, she was confused by all the other religions in the world. She had recently written an article for the university newspaper, describing a trip she had taken to India. She related that when she arrived in Calcutta, she was deeply impressed with how good the Hindu people seemed to be. And she remembered that her godly grandmother had prayed for their salvation for years—prayers that to this professor seemed to be totally unnecessary. Why did the Hindus need to be “saved” when they were so “nice”?

Why do we pray for the salvation of people in other countries, cultures, and religions? Why does the Christian church send out missionaries? Why can’t you believe what you want and I believe what I want and everyone in the world believe whatever they want as long as we don’t hurt each other?

The answers are to be found in Genesis, where we see that the root of every religion in our world today outside of Judaism and Christianity can be traced back to the Tower of Babel.

1 **LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:**
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 **LIST THE FACTS:**
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 11:1-2

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



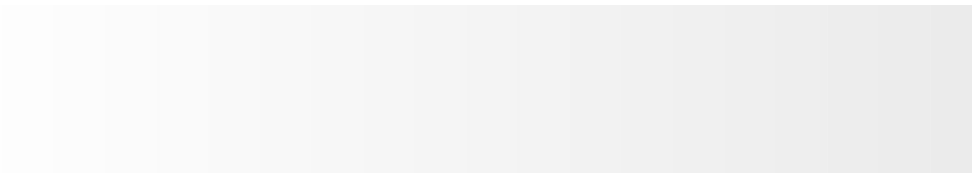
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 11:3-4

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."

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



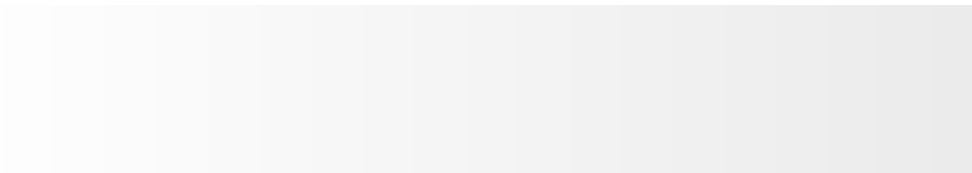
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 11:5-7

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."

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



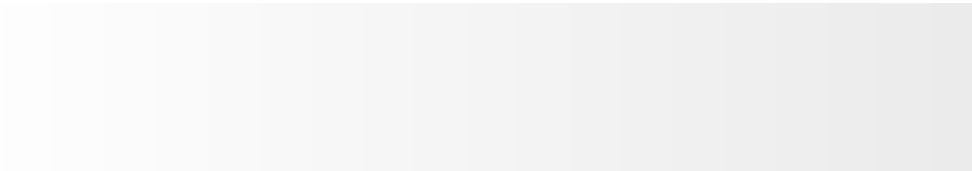
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

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.

2

LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



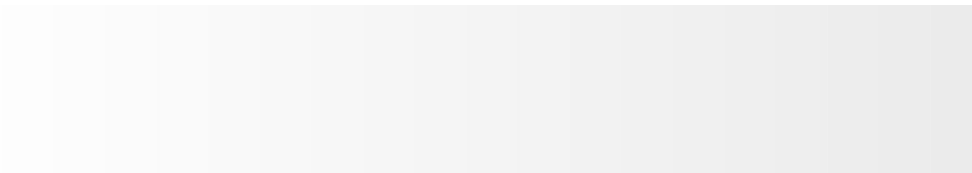
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 10? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!

CHAPTER 11

I am the God of Redemption . . . I Banish Your Hopelessness

Following the rebellion at the Tower of Babel, the human race, which was separated from God, was scattered all over the world in absolute, utter, total, complete, endless, eternal hopelessness.

There was no chance in a lifetime that the people could ever . . .

fulfill their potential

or experience lasting satisfaction

or enjoy deep peace

or find real joy

or be unconditionally loved

or live forever!

They would never know the Creator for whom they were created. They would never know the very reason for their existence. They were utterly hopeless in themselves. And their descendants who fill our world today are still utterly, absolutely, completely, finally hopeless! Yet there is hope in God!

1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:
Feel free to underline, circle,
or otherwise mark text if it
will aid your study.

2 LIST THE FACTS:
Make a verse-by-verse list of
the most obvious facts. What
does the passage say? Do not
paraphrase.

GENESIS 11:10–18

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. **12** When Arphaxad had lived 35 years, he became the father of Shelah. **13** And after he became the father of Shelah, Arphaxad lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters. **14** When Shelah had lived 30 years, he became the father of Eber. **15** And after he became the father of Eber, Shelah lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters. **16** When Eber had lived 34 years, he became the father of Peleg. **17** And after he became the father of Peleg, Eber lived 430 years and had other sons and daughters. **18** When Peleg had lived 30 years, he became the father of Reu.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:

What lessons can be learned from these facts? What do the facts mean? Is there an example to follow? Warning to heed? Promise to claim? Command to obey?

4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from Step 3 in the form of a question to ask yourself or another.

5

LIVE IT OUT:

Pinpoint what God is saying to you from the passage. How will you respond? Write down today's date and what you will do now to live it out.

1

LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

2

LIST THE FACTS:

GENESIS 11:29–32

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. **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.

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



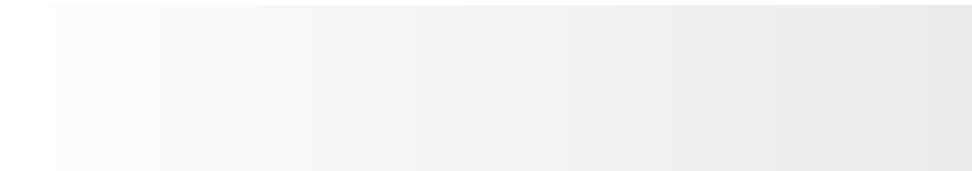
4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

GENESIS 12:1-4

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; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



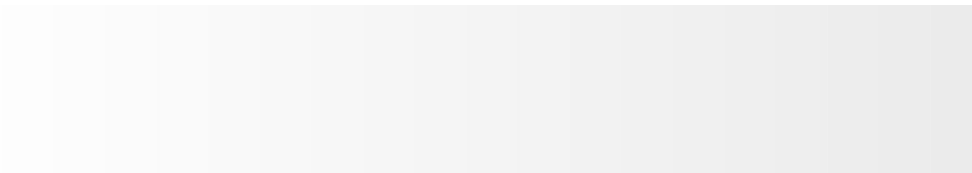
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

MATTHEW 1:1–2; 15–17

1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: **2** Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers . . .

15 Eliud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, **16** and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. **17** Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



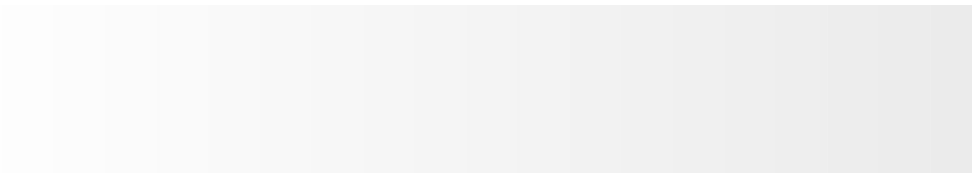
4

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



1 LOOK IN GOD'S WORD:

MATTHEW 1:18–25

18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. **19** Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. **20** But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: **23** “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.” **24** When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. **25** But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

2 LIST THE FACTS:

3

LEARN THE LESSONS:



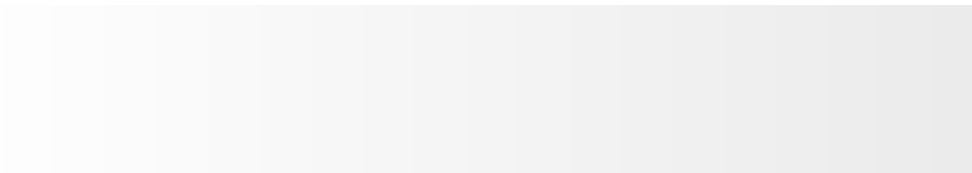
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LISTEN TO HIS VOICE:



5

LIVE IT OUT:



COMMITMENT:

What was the most meaningful lesson to you from each day's study this week?

Study #1

Study #2

Study #3

Study #4

Study #5

As you reflect on all the lessons, what one thing has God seemed to say to you from Genesis 11:10–12:4; Matthew 1? Take a moment now to write out what He has said.

What has been your response?

Is there anything else you need to do in order to follow through completely?

Date your answer—then do it. Be committed!