



Look Up

- Each person lives within a story. Maybe the story begins with a parent who was absent or angry. Maybe an addiction to alcohol, or poverty, or divorce is a big part of the story. Or maybe it's mostly happy. The story might be all about deep-seeded need to achieve and gain the approval of others. How we see ourselves in our stories says a lot about what we think about God, ourselves, and the world around us. This week, we're going to look at how each of our stories begins. We'll start with the 6th day of creation.
- Read Genesis 1:24-31, and 2:15-25

What especially caught your attention from these two passages? What did you like? What is challenging or difficult to understand?

- If you were to summarize your personal story in a few sentences or a paragraph, what would you say?
- At the close of each day of creation, God said, "It is good." When God created mankind in his own image, he said, "It is very good!" Why the change in wording? Do you think of your story as being very good? What people or events in your life have communicated to you that your story is less than very good?

- What is the significance of the concluding words of chapter 2 - that Adam and Eve were naked and felt no shame? Has shame played a role in your life? What would it be like for your whole self to be totally bare before God and others, but without shame?

What does this passage say about God? What does it say about us?

- What can we learn about God, his nature and his character, from these two chapters in Genesis?
- What do we learn about ourselves from God's statement: "It is not good for man to be alone"? Do you agree - we were created for community?

Look Ahead

- Take a few minutes to reflect quietly on what you have discussed.
- If Genesis 1 & 2 are true, how would knowing and believing this part of God's story change your life?
- Is there anything you feel God is asking you to change as a result of this passage and your discussion?
- Who can you share this passage with this week?
- Take a few minutes to pray for one another.