

Guide for Growth Group Hosts In the Beginning God...

THINK ABOUT IT

What was your biggest takeaway from the message this week? Share it with the group.

MAIN GROWTH GROUP SCRIPTURE

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- As you read the entire first chapter of the book of Genesis, you will see that creation was done in the proper order. Why is that significant?
- In the book of Genesis, we can see that God had a plan for mankind. God also has a plan and purpose for your life. How does this make you feel knowing that God has a specific plan for you?
- (Read the Verse Below) Sometimes we compare ourselves to others which can make us feel inferior or like we don't measure up. You are one of God's creations and everything He creates is very good. How does this change the way that you view yourself?

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good... Genesis 1:31 (NIV)

- Every human and every race have value and worth. What is one small thing you can do this week to show someone else that they have value?
- (Read the Verse Below) We are made in God's image. Although we don't have time to fully dissect these verses in their entirety, how is our personality (mind, will, emotions) made in God's image?

...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1:26-28 (NIV)

- (Read the Verses on the Next Page) The verse below mentions that God created man and woman. It also mentions that it's not good for man to be alone. After reading these verses, why do you think things such as the Growth Group you are currently attending or serving on a ministry team are so important?

...When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."

Genesis 5:1-2 (NIV)

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." 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.

Genesis 2:18-20 (NIV)

- Our purpose is for God's glory. What do you think this verse means and how does it apply to you?

*...I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them. **Isaiah 43:7 (NLT)***

LIFE APPLICATION

Our lifestyle (on Sunday and during the week) demonstrates that we always live for God. Is there anything about your lifestyle that needs to change based on what you just read? Within the group, discuss how God has transformed your life so that you could fully live for him and give any tools or tips that helped you stay on the right path.

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. **Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)***

DIVE DEEPER

Go deeper during the week!

- A great way to dive deeper and learn more about Jesus is by reading **God's Word** daily. Commit to reading for at least 5 minutes per day to start. Here is a bible reading guide to help you take your next steps in that area: <https://experienceheritage.org/next-steps/read-the-bible>
- Read the **daily devotionals** each day found at www.experienceheritage.org/blog. You can sign up to have them delivered daily to your email inbox by clicking here: <http://experienceheritage.org/Devotionals>.

- During your daily quiet time with God, read this **memory verse** and think about its meaning:

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. **Mark 12:30 (NIV)***

- **Watch the messages** online at www.experienceheritage.org/messages.

PRAYER GUIDANCE

Have the participants in your group share their prayer requests. Have different people pray for the prayer requests that were submitted.