



**INVESTIGATING
GOD'S WORD**

VOLUME 1
Genesis, Job

**AT
HOME**

A 14 Volume
Study through
All of Scripture
for Families



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PCA Committee on Discipleship Ministries
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 102 Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043
Bookstore: 678.825.1100 | www.pcabookstore.com

ISBN: 978-1-944964-19-1

Printed in the United States of America

Dedicated to my children:

*Victoria, Alexandra, Emmalyne, Olivia,
Katherine, John Charles, Nathanael, Andrew*

USING THIS TEACHING GUIDE

This series of volumes was created to help parents teach the Bible to their children at home. It's a highly interactive study which seeks to promote thought, discussion, and application as you read through the Bible together. By the time you finish all fourteen volumes, your family will investigate the entirety of God's Word. **Each lesson is divided into five sections:**



OPENING

The *Opening* gets the lesson moving with either introductory thought questions, or a reading from the Psalms or Proverbs. This section serves as a "Call to Study."



DRILL TIME

The *Drill Time* section is an opportunity for you to quiz your children to assess their Bible knowledge. Sometimes the questions will be a review of the previous lesson. Other times the questions will cover essential Bible knowledge that all of our children should learn. Still other times the questions will be from another portion of Scripture which connects to the lesson to be studied.



W.O.W!

The *Word of the Week (W.O.W!)* is designed to build the Christian vocabularies of children. Each lesson includes a *W.O.W!* that is either a word found in the Bible text or a theological word that is dealt with in the passage. Often times, the *W.O.W!* is found repeatedly in the text, serving as a lesson theme. The *W.O.W!* is defined and explained in this section in order for your children to gain understanding. They will be asked to listen for it in the Bible Investigation time.



BIBLE INVESTIGATION

The *Bible Investigation* time is the heart and soul of the lesson. Each passage of Scripture is read to your children a portion at a time, breaking it down for interactive discussion. The discussion sections include questions for your children to answer as well as other commentary on what has just been read. Application sections also appear throughout the *Bible Investigation* in order to put to work what is being studied.

The *Bible Investigation* time is also intended to teach your children how to do methodical Bible study. You will be helping them to observe, interpret, think through, and apply the Scripture.

All sections of Scripture in these volumes are from the *English Standard Version (ESV)*.



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

At the end of each lesson, a Scripture Memory text is given that either comes from the lesson or connects to it in some way. Encourage your children to memorize Scripture each week to commit God's Word to their hearts.

Enjoy studying God's Word together as a family!

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OPENING

Say: *I have a question for you. Who made you? **Allow answers.** That's right, God made you! What else did God make? **Allow your children to name several things that God has made.** God has made everything, hasn't He?*

I am so glad that God made all things, including you and me. We are going to read today about exactly how He created all things. Are you ready to learn?



DRILL TIME

Now, let's move on to DRILL TIME—our opportunity to review what we have learned in the past. Are you ready?

Show the children your Bible. *Who can tell me what this is? **Allow answers.** Yes, this is my Bible. Do you have a Bible? The Bible is the most important book ever written in the history of the world.*

*Who wrote the Bible? **Allow answers.** Yes, God wrote the Bible—that's why we also call the Bible "God's Word."*

But did you know that God used men to write down the words of His Bible? Yes, God moved on the hearts and minds of men who lived long ago to write these words down. Isn't that amazing?

Have your children stand up. *How would you like to stand up forever? I wouldn't! Guess what? God says that the Bible, His Word, stands forever. Listen to Isaiah 40:8.*

Isaiah 40:8 (ESV)

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.



W.O.W!

Have the children sit down.

Say: *Each time we study the Bible together, we will learn a new vocabulary word. Do you like learning new words? I do! God has given us the ability to speak and use wonderful words to learn more about Him.*

*Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) this week is **BIBLE**.*

You all know what a BIBLE is—I showed you my BIBLE earlier. But I bet you don't know what the word BIBLE really means. It actually comes from an old word which means "BOOKS."

Show your Bible again. *So, the BIBLE is not just one BOOK, it is a collection of many BOOKS. That's how it got its name!*

*So how many individual BOOKS make up the BIBLE? **Allow answers.** There are actually sixty-six different books in the Bible. Isn't that amazing? And all of them have been given to us by God so that we can learn more about Him.*



BIBLE INVESTIGATION

Introduction: *We begin in the Book of Genesis—the very first book of all of the sixty-six books of the Bible. What do you think the first Book of the Bible is about? Well, the word “Genesis” means BEGINNINGS. So this book will tell us all about our BEGINNINGS!*

Read Genesis 1:1.

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Discussion: *Who created the heavens and the earth? [God.] When did He create them? [In the beginning.] God is our Creator. He created all things from the very beginning.*

*Let’s continue reading. **Read verses 2-5.***

² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God 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.

Discussion: *What was here before God created all things? [Nothing.] Who was hovering over the waters? [The Holy Spirit.] What did God create on this first day? [Light.] How did God create light? [He just spoke, and it came to be.]*

Application: *Can you just speak and create something? Let’s try it. I want to create an elephant. ELEPHANT! Did I make an elephant? No. We cannot create anything just by saying a word. But God can! He is the true CREATOR.*

*Let’s go on to the next day of Creation. **Read verses 6-8.***

⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.”

⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Discussion: *What did God create on the second day? [The expanse.] Yes, He created expanse which separated the “waters from the waters.” We now have waters under the expanse (or sky), and waters above the sky.*

*Let’s see what God created next. **Read verses 9-13.***

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Discussion: *Wow! God created several things on Day Three. What were they? [Land, seas, vegetation, trees.] Now we have land to live on with plants growing on the land. Is God done creating now? No! There is still much more to be made.*

*Let’s continue. **Read verses 14-19.***

¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser

light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Discussion: *What did God create on the Fourth Day? [The sun, moon and stars.] God had already created light, since He is the light of the world. Now, He put the sun and the moon and the stars in their places.*

Application: *Who here has ever tried to count the stars in the night sky? It's impossible, isn't it? God is so amazing that only He can create those millions of stars in the sky. And, they are so beautiful, aren't they?*

Let's continue. Read verses 20-23.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Discussion: *What happened on the Fifth Day? [God created fish and birds.] Aren't you glad God created all of the different kinds of birds and all the different kinds of fish that live in the seas! Can you create a fish or a bird? No! Only God can.*

Let's read on. Read verses 24-25.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was

so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Discussion: *Now what did God create? [Land animals, livestock, wild animals.] What's your favorite animal? **Allow answers.** Aren't you glad God created animals? But Day Six is not over yet. What else does God need to create?*

Read verses 26-31.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Discussion: *What was the most important thing God created? [Human beings.] Yes, humans are the crown of God's creation. You and I were created in God's image. That means we were created to be a reflection of who God is. Humans are the only creatures that are made in God's image.*

Let's read just a few more things that happened "in the Beginning."

Read Genesis 2:1-3.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

Discussion: *So God created all things in six days. What did God do on the seventh day? [He rested.] Did He rest because He was tired? [No!] God rested because He was finished with His work of creation. Was God happy with His creation? [Yes!] He saw that it was all very good. Notice also that God blessed the seventh day as a day of rest. This is why we also rest one day in seven—and go to church to worship our Creator.*

*Let's finish our reading for today. **Read verses 4-7.***

⁴ These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens ⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—⁷ then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Conclusion: *Wow, did you hear that! The LORD God made man, but he was still not alive. What did God do? [He breathed the breath of life into him.] God is Creator and He is also Life Giver.*

Have your children stand up. *Look at each other. Are you all alive? Can you all breathe? Why? Because God has made you and given you life. You and I might be able to make a doll or a robot, but we can't make it come to life. Only God gives life. We should all praise Him right now for giving us life!*

Have the children sit back down.



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Genesis 1:1

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.