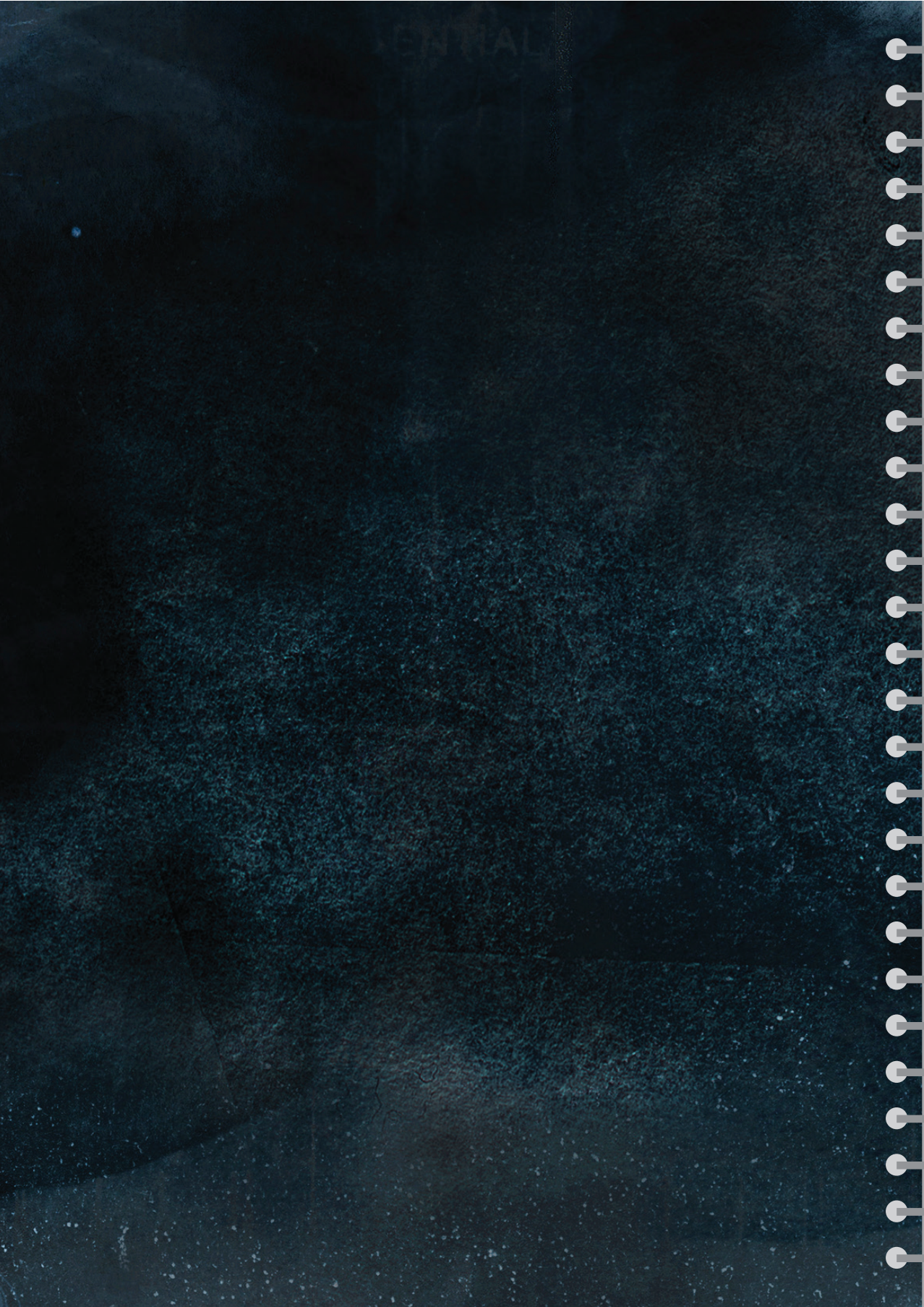


The image shows the cover of a spiral-bound notebook. The background is a dark, textured charcoal or black color. On the left side, there is a silver spiral binding. The central focus is a glowing blue, translucent hand skeleton, with the fingers spread. The word "WORD" is written in large, bold, blue, serif capital letters across the middle of the cover. The letters are semi-transparent, allowing the hand skeleton and some decorative flourishes to be seen through them. The word "WORD" is positioned above the hand. In the bottom right corner, there is white text that reads "Old Testament Highlights: Genesis-Ruth".

# WORD

Old Testament  
Highlights:  
Genesis-Ruth







God's words are alive. He reveals Himself through them, and they transform us as we put our faith and confidence in Him and what He has said. These words are our lifeline; they sustain us and point us to Jesus. God says that if we align our thinking and lives with His Word, we'll be transformed from the inside out.

This personal study guide is produced as part of a companion study series to the WORD Bible magazine, which is available from Hillsong Resource.

### **Writing and Editorial Team**

Phil Barnard  
Christa Barnard  
Ian Walker  
Deborah Timi Oyeleke

### **Design & Production**

Neil Penney  
Caris Lim  
Rosie Isbell

### **Photography**

Drew Horley – p. 26, 38  
Colourbox.com – p. 13, 23  
Matthew Muzerie – p. 30-31  
Phil Barnard – p. 6, 47  
R. Corradi (Isaac Newton Group of Telescopes, Spain) and Z. Tsvetanov (NASA) – p. 12

We gratefully acknowledge the work of numerous authors, whose resources have proved invaluable at various stages of this project. These include:

Paul. D Gardner, Zondervan Publishing, UK  
Paul Kent, Barbour Publishing, Ohio, USA  
Timothy Keller, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York, USA  
John MacArthur, Grace Community Church, California, USA  
Chuck Missler, Koinonia House, Idaho, USA

[www.hillsong.co.uk](http://www.hillsong.co.uk)

Contact us: [teaching@hillsong.co.uk](mailto:teaching@hillsong.co.uk)

WORD Bible Old Testament Highlights: Genesis to Ruth

Reprinted with modification 2015

© Hillsong Church London 2013

All Rights Reserved

Word personal study guide

ISSN 2053-6615

Printed by Vizability

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in form or by any means without the prior written permission of Hillsong Church London.

All Scripture for this study guide is taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright ©1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.lockman.org](http://www.lockman.org)).

Permission of The Lockman Foundation is required for reproduction of the New American Standard Bible. Hillsong Church London, PO Box 29971, London, SW6 2WX  
Hillsong Church London is a Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company No. 5487537 | Registered Charity No. 1120355

# Congratulations

on taking part in one of our

# Local Bible Studies

We're glad that you have taken this step to increase your Biblical knowledge, understanding and confidence. We want to help you to develop your skills in reading God's Word, understand it in context, and apply your lives to it wholeheartedly.

This series will be on Old Testament Highlights, from Genesis to Ruth, and will take six sessions. During it, you see the highlights of the Old Testament, including key themes, people and events. You will also see the Person and Work of Jesus all throughout the Old Testament. Don't worry, absolutely no prior knowledge is assumed – your attitude is far more important than your aptitude!

**The topics for each week will be:**

Week	Subject	Reference
One	Reading the Bible / Creation	Genesis 1
Two	Creation and Fall of Man	Genesis 1-3
Three	The Pre-Flood Period	Genesis 4-11
Four	The Patriarchs	Genesis 12-50
Five	The Birth of a Nation	Exodus/Leviticus/Numbers/ Deuteronomy
Six	Entering the Land	Joshua/Judges/Ruth

Have fun and all the best on your journey!



Phil and Christa Barnard  
Teaching Pastors  
Hillsong Church London



# Using this personal study guide:

This Personal Study Guide has been created for use within your Local Bible Study. It will help direct your study, highlight key things for you to think about and allow room for your thoughts and notes. Feel free to make it yours! Let us share with you what to expect along the way.

## **What to expect from this Personal Study Guide**

These Bible studies are designed to be largely inductive. By this, we mean that by their very nature they will be explorative, fairly open-ended and very discussion-led. We want you to actively engage with God's living Word, rather than sit there and be told to write down a bunch of things that you're likely to forget by the end of the night...

To help this, our learning philosophy is built around four key questions. Knowing this will help you get the best out of your Bible Study.

### **1. What do we already know?**

You – yes, even you – know something about the Bible (it might be as little as that it is a big, dusty book on Grandma's shelf). But you know something. Bring what you know to the table. Start on a win.

### **2. What would you like to know?**

You might want to know about a particular person or event – like when God rescued the Israelites from Egypt (what was all that about?). Or you might have a situation in your life that you'd like advice on, so you want to know what God says about it. All of us have something that we want to know, so don't be afraid to ask.

### **3. What does God want you to know?**

What's your blind-spot? What is it that you don't even know that you don't know? While it's good to go looking for specific answers to specific questions, the power of God's Word often lies in the element of surprise – the way it manages to teach you something that you didn't realise you still needed to learn, but God did.

### **4. What is going to change now?**

We expect your life to change. The strength of today's reading is seen in tomorrow's actions. Make a decision to look for (and pray about) areas of your life that need to grow or die. The Word of God is alive and it can mess you up in so many good ways if you're prepared to let it change the way you think, speak and act.

## **What you will find in your Personal Study Guide**

Your Personal Study Guide has been crafted to help you along your journey. The Old Testament is massive, and we could not hope to cover every single piece of interesting information. So we'll help you with the general story line, and then focus in on bits that are particularly interesting.

Use these headings to help you:

### **The story...**

Here we'll try to let you know the general story of what's been happening along the way. It's not exhaustive, but it will help you keep track of the action.

### **Focus in...**

This is where we focus in on something that is particularly good for you to know. It might be a specific person or event, or any other highlight that you just have to know about.

### **Read...**

Read the scripture. It's not rocket-science.

### **Respond...**

Jot down the ideas and thoughts that are by now probably flooding into your head.

### **Discuss...**

Here's the chance to get into it. Chat. Share. Discuss. Maybe even argue (nicely). Just make sure it's ultimately encouraging.

### **Reflect...**

Take a moment to reflect on what this means to you. You can get as deep and philosophical as you like.

# Prelude to Old Testament Highlights: Genesis to Ruth

## **Getting to know the Old Testament**

Studying the Bible can seem like a daunting task. It contains 66 books, written by around 40 authors, over the space of 1500 years, and was penned across 3 continents! Some of the language and phrases can seem distant, both in terminology and in content. But do not despair, the Word of God is living and active (Hebrews 4:12), and is still as relevant today as it was thousands of years ago. With a few helpful hints and tools, and the personal work of God in our lives, we can embark on the wonderful journey that unfolds in the Bible.

They say that the best way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time, and that's probably a good approach to learning the Old Testament as well. Let's take a few moments to place the Old Testament into small, bite-size pieces that will help you:

## **The Narrative of Scripture**

The Bible is best understood as a narrative. It is the story of God and His interaction and purposes for His creation. Every verse, quote, idea, instruction, rebuke or prophecy is simply a piece of this narrative puzzle. It's not a complicated narrative, though. In fact, the entire story of the 66 books of the Bible can be captured in just 5 words. Ready?

Creation → Fall → Redemption → Restoration → Consummation

There it is, the narrative of the Bible in just five words! God made everything, including humans (Creation). We chose to rebel and do our own thing (Fall), and in doing so got stuck. God made a plan to save us (Redemption). Now piece by piece, He is carefully placing the broken pieces of creation back in order (Restoration), and one day, He will restore everything back to its original design (Consummation).

That's the whole story of the Bible, and every verse you read will somehow reflect a part of this story. Admit it – your life just changed for the better.



## **The Books of the Old Testament**

The Old Testament contains 39 books. Of course, this refers to the Protestant Old Testament that we use: you should know that the Tanakh (the Jewish Bible) has 24 books (it has very similar content, but some of their books are combined) and the Catholic Old Testament contains 46 books (they use a few books which, for various reasons, are not included in the Protestant Old Testament). Not super important, but good to know anyhow.

The books included in the Old Testament follow certain themes.

A good way to remember them is like this:

- The Pentateuch (or the 5 books of Moses): *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*
- The History Books (books that detail the history of the nation of Israel): *Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1st and 2nd Samuel, 1st and 2nd Kings, 1st and 2nd Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther*
- The Wisdom Books (books that are included because of their good advice): *Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon*
- The Major Prophets (longer books that are written by prophets to Israel): *Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel*
- The Minor Prophets (shorter books that are also written by prophets) *Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi*

This will probably make more sense as we work our way through them all. In this study, we will be looking at the books from Genesis to Ruth.

## **The People of the Old Testament**

If the entire Bible is the narrative of God and His interaction with humanity, then the Old Testament is largely the historical documents of the Israelite people – the people through whom God chose to reveal Himself to all of the rest of us. The Israelites began as a group of nomadic wanderers in the Middle East fifteen hundred years before the birth of Christ. Throughout history Israel has remained among the most influential nations on Earth (quite a feat, considering that numerically, they're actually pretty tiny).

The Old Testament scriptures cover hundreds of individual people across over a thousand years, which means it can be easy to get lost. But don't despair, there are 5 people in the Old Testament who were hugely influential because of either a) what they did, b) what they didn't do, or c) what they did which made way for someone later to do, and when you know them you basically know the story of the Old Testament (not really, but you get the idea).

These five people are: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and David.

**Adam:** His name literally means 'man', which is appropriate for the very first human created (Genesis 2:7). He had the very breath of God in his lungs, but decided to do things his own way. Because Adam was the head of all of humanity, his choices affected all of us. All the problems we see in humanity stem from the decision that Adam and his wife, Eve, made on that fateful day in the garden.

**Noah:** Ten generations after Adam, little Noah was born (Genesis 5:28-30). During Noah's life, humanity had reached such a point of corruption that God decided to wipe us all out and start again. Noah found favour though, and was assigned to build the ark that would keep him, his family and a floating zoo alive during the downpour. Noah, with a name meaning 'rest', was the first of an intended restored line of humanity.



**Abraham:** Abraham is perhaps the most revered man in the eyes of the Israelites. Beginning life as a wandering farmer by the name of Abram, life changed dramatically when he was chosen by God to become the father of the nation of Israel (Genesis 17). He received the promise that his ancestors would be as innumerable as the stars and that through him all the nations of the earth would one day be blessed. To fit his promise, he received a new name: Abraham means ‘father of multitudes.’

**Moses:** Abraham’s ancestors did multiply as promised, and they soon became known as the ‘Israelites’ (or, ‘Children of Israel’. Israel was Abraham’s grandson, but he was first known as Jacob. Confused yet?). Though, their growth ticked off the neighbours and the Israelites eventually became slaves of the Egyptians. A redeemer was necessary, and Moses was God’s man. Despite (or perhaps, because of) a profound lack of confidence, it was Moses who God used to bring the Israelites out of captivity and establish an orderly nation living under His law and enjoying His blessing. Moses’ name means ‘drawn’, which is appropriate for someone who drew an entire nation out of bondage.

**David:** David was perhaps the greatest king that the Israelite nation had ever seen (1 Samuel 16:12-13). Coming around 400 years after Israel’s liberation, he was a fierce warrior, a heroic military commander, a keen musician and a (mostly) righteous king. It was through David’s ‘house’ (ancestors), that God promised a coming Messiah and king that would rule eternally. David’s reign would become somewhat symbolic of the coming King of kings, Jesus.

\* \* \*

These five people are the Old Testament’s game-changers. When they arrived on the scene, the history of this people would undergo a significant and irreversible change (what those changes were, we’ll leave you to find out...). But keep these men in your mind, as when they arrive it’s like the baton of history is being handed from one special person to another. One chapter closes, another one begins.

# Week One

## Topic: How to read the Bible

### My Preparation

#### The story begins

The Bible is an ancient book. No, seriously, it's really old. The first parts of it were written over 3500 years ago and the last parts were written almost 2000 years ago, making its earliest pages older than Homer's Iliad, Aesop's Fables and Plato's Republic. To embark on a study of the Bible is to embark on a journey with a text that preceded the invention of the magnetic compass, gunpowder, coins, spiral staircases, wheelbarrows and fishing reels.

What do we hope to gain from studying such an ancient text? Some people study the Bible as source of interesting history, while others read it for its intriguing prophecies. For some people, the Bible is a profound literary work of huge influence on our society, while for others its a text that seemed to be important to parents and grandparents. Others scour the Bible in a search for its practical wisdom for relationships, finance, parenting and marriage, while still more dive into its pages looking for the answers to life's greatest questions: why am I here? What is the purpose of life? What is important? What happens when I die?

Though we will be studying the Old Testament, we are going to begin with some words from the New Testament's most prolific author, Paul. His advice to his protégé, Timothy, is sound advice for us as well. Paul encourages Timothy to continue his devotion for learning the Scriptures (which, in this context, actually is the Old Testament). Paul tells Timothy that it is the Scriptures that give him 'the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Jesus Christ' and, furthermore, enables him to be 'adequate, equipped for every good work.'

Our goal as we study the Scriptures is to increase our faith in Christ, understand the nature of our salvation, and release us to do good work in our homes and communities.

### Read

2 Timothy 3:14-17

### Respond

In what ways are the Scriptures profitable 'i.e. helpful' for us? Paul hints at four ways – what do you think they are?



1. Teaching: 'What is right' (what is true, honest and valuable) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Reproof: 'What is not right' (what is lie, wrong and not valuable) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Correction: 'How to get right' (How God made a way and how we can respond) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Training: 'How to walk right' (How we can walk worthy of our calling) \_\_\_\_\_

'How do Paul's reasons compare to the reason you gave?'

### **Reflect**

Why are you choosing to study the Bible?  
What do you hope to gain? Write it down here:

'I am studying the Bible because... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_'

### **Our Discussion**

#### **The story begins...**

As this is our first session, we should take a moment to prepare ourselves to study such a text. There are two vital areas we need to understand: context and application.

Like any text, each part of the Bible was written for a certain purpose and has certain features. Because of this, we should ask ourselves certain questions that will help us understand the context of the passage we are reading.

Context:

- Who was the author of this piece?
- Who was the recipient?
- Why was the author writing to them?
- What did they want them to know?

Application:

- What can we also learn from this piece? How is it profitable for us?
- What is significant for us, here and now?

**Read...**

Read the very opening passage of the Bible – Genesis 1:1-3.

**Discuss...**

- Using only what you have read in these verses, how would you engage with the questions above? You can refer to commentaries or other sources for context if you need.

**Reflect...**

- What is 'profitable' for us?
- What's the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.

Please feel free to use this page for your notes



# Week Two

## Topic: The Creation and Fall of Humanity

### My Preparation

#### The story continues...

Traditionally attributed to Moses (see Mark 12:26 for a reference from Jesus), the Book of Genesis describes how God created the universe and everything in it, how humanity chose to rebel against God, and how He put into place a plan of redemption. Whilst Moses lived around 1400 BC, the events of Genesis began at the beginning of time. We understand the Garden of Eden to be in the Middle East, but the exact location is disputed.

A strong understanding of Genesis lays the foundation for a fruitful journey through the rest of Scripture. Every action, covenant, sacrifice and promise in the entire Bible has its roots in Genesis. In the Book of Revelation, we see much of what was lost in Genesis will be directly restored in Heaven. It's a wonderful place to start our voyage.

Genesis 1 and 2 reflect on the creation of everything, including humanity.

Genesis 3 shows us the rebellion of humanity, and the immediate consequences.

#### Read...

Genesis 1-3.

#### Respond...

Write down 1 or 2 things that came to mind when you read this passage. Include any questions that arise when you think about it closely.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





*Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.*  
GENESIS 1:3

## Our Discussion

### The story of Creation

#### Focus in...

Genesis 1 makes no attempt to prove the existence of God, rather it assumes the existence of a God. As the Jewish people live surrounded by polytheistic (many-gods) and pantheistic (everything is God) cultures, the writer of Genesis 1 is making one solid point: there is one God and He is above the sun, moon, stars and all else that you might be tempted to worship. He created everything that you see 'ex nihilo', which simply means 'out of nothing'. (c.f. Psalm 33: 6-9)

#### Discuss...

- Look carefully at the order of creation from Day 1 to Day 6. Write down the creation event for each day:

Day 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 4: \_\_\_\_\_

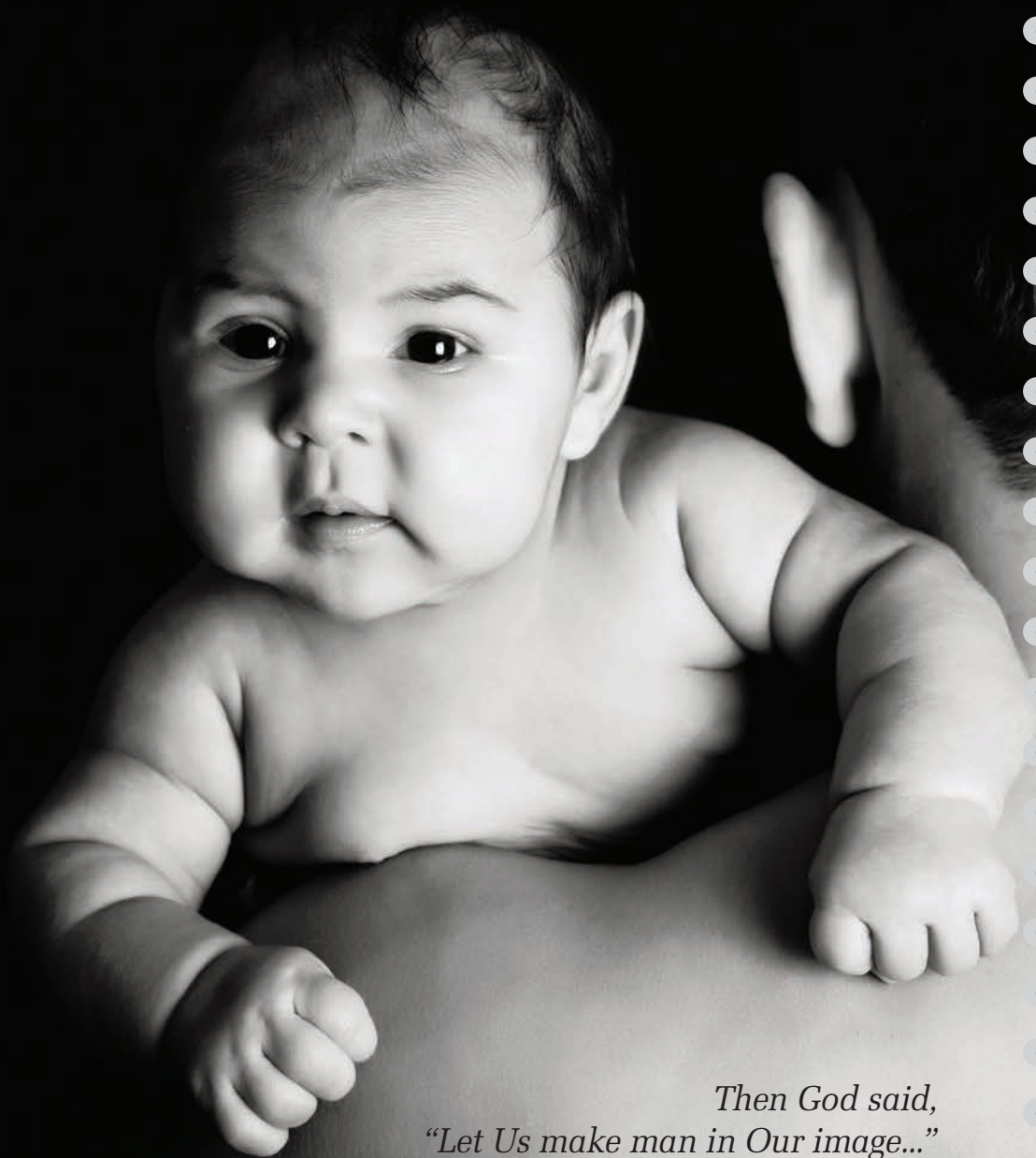
Day 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 6: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you notice? Any patterns?



*Then God said,  
“Let Us make man in Our image...”  
GENESIS 1:26a*

## The story of the first people

### Focus in...

Having created everything, God finished His work by creating one special being who could rule over everything already established – the human. Humans were given a very special treatment. Humanity was made in the very image of God – we were created to reflect Him in a unique way. The Hebrew word for ‘image’ used in Genesis 1:26 is ‘tselem’ and it is often used to describe small figurines made in order to represent an ancient human king. They were miniature replicas of the Sovereign!

### Discuss...

- In what ways were we created to reflect the image of God?

## The story of our rebellion

### Focus in...

Though created perfect, the first humans (Adam and Eve) had the ability to choose their future. The devil (represented in Genesis as a serpent, c.f. Revelation 12:9), is God’s enemy and seeks to destroy the good work of God. Since he cannot make or create anything, he can only bring confusion to what already exists – his only real weapon is to discredit God!

### Discuss...

- What two tools did he use in order to lead Adam and Eve astray?

## The story of our fall

### Focus in...

By believing the first non-truth ever spoken on Earth, Adam and Eve disobeyed the words of God – in essence, choosing to be their own god. Rebellion against a sovereign God will always fail. The image of God in humanity was broken.

### Discuss...

- In humanity’s case, rebellion resulted in two immediate consequences. What were they?



## The story God's response

### Focus in...

Following the Fall, God immediately acts. Humanity tried to cover their shame through their own means (the clothing of vegetation, 3:7). God covered our shame through His work (the clothing of an animal, 3:21). This is the first indication that achieving redemption through our own effort will never suffice; it is through the work of God – and, specifically, through a sacrificial death – that will ultimately bring our salvation.

God curses the devil himself and declares a war. He predicts that there would be perpetual hostility between Satan and the woman (humanity). He also predicts that the Redeemer would come from the woman's seed and not the man's, suggesting the virgin birth. Note that God's first plan is one of redemption, not punishment!

God pronounces that the woman would eventually deliver a combatant of the devil. We see in verse fifteen a prophecy that the devil will attack this future Combatant (but not defeat him), and when the Combatant strikes He will defeat the devil permanently.

### Discuss...

- What language in verse fifteen describes the ongoing battle between the devil and the Redeemer?
- In addition to the hostility between humanity and the (fallen) spiritual world, there are subsequent relational, physical and economical costs to our rebellion. What are they?
- The problems of humanity are largely an extension of these three problems. What evidence of this can you see in your community and in the world at large?

### Reflect...

- What is 'profitable' for us?
- What's the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.



Please feel free to use this page for your notes



*The Lord God made garments of skin for  
Adam and his wife, and clothed them.*

*GENESIS 3:21*



## **Blood and the Bible**

### **Did you know?**

Blood – and particularly the shedding of blood – is one of the most important themes in the Bible. When they sinned, Adam and Eve made clothes of vegetation to cover their nakedness (Genesis 3:7), but God killed an animal and made them ‘garments of skin’ (3:21).

This is not only an indication that our failures will never be fully covered by our own work (only God’s work will suffice), but also a hint of the momentous importance of blood in the Bible. To God, life is contained in the blood. When humanity chose death over life, restoration to life could only be achieved through the substitutionary death of another – and the shedding of their blood. Life for death, death for life. It’s the great exchange.

The Old Testament sacrificial system, where the blood of animals was used to atone for the sins of humanity, was of course a precursor to the ultimate shedding of blood. When God (in Jesus) died on the cross, it made a way for all of humanity to be restored back to life.

Oh, the precious blood of Jesus!



# Week Three

## Topic: The Pre-flood Period

### My Preparation

#### The story continues...

Following Adam and Eve's removal from the Garden of Eden (to prevent them from eating from the Tree of Life and living forever in a fallen state), humanity is thrown into a moral free-fall as the very first child born on Earth murders his brother (Genesis 4:8). As more generations were born, humanity's corruption was intensified, and the very heart of God was aggrieved (6:6). He chose to wipe out humanity, but mercifully spared Noah and his family (6:13-22).

Genesis 4 tells us about Cain and his brother, Abel.

Chapter 5 details Seth and his descendants.

Chapter 6-8 shows us the corruption of humanity, and the Great Flood.

Chapter 9 recalls Noah's life after the Flood.

#### Read...

Genesis 4-9.

#### Respond...

Write down 1 or 2 things that came to mind when you read this passage. Include any questions that arise when you think about it closely.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Our Discussion

### The story of Cain and Abel

#### Focus in...

Eve shows gratitude to the Lord's faithfulness as He provides her with a promised son (4:1). The name 'Cain' means 'acquisition', indicating that Eve may have believed that she had given birth to the promised Seed.

'The course of time' in verse 3 allows for a considerable length of time and possible increase in population. On the basis of God's words in verses 6-7, we can expect that some degree of teaching about God's character had taken place.

Cain brings an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord (4:3); Abel brings the first of his flock and their fat (4:4). The Lord rejects Cain's offering. The Bible does not say explicitly why God rejected Cain's offering, other than that he had not 'done well.' There have been many attempts to explain this, with the best insights indicating that sinful man can only approach God through the blood of a sacrificial offering, as this is the way that God chose to cover the shame of the first two, Adam and Eve. Also, we see that Abel brought his very best to a God who deserves only our very best.

#### Discuss...

- It can be tempting to think that it was Cain's offering that caused him to fail so greatly, but this is not quite accurate. According to 4:7, what was Cain's falling point?
- Sensing Abel's distress, God asks Cain, 'Where is your brother, Abel?' – to which Cain famously responds, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' What is God's response? What does this tell us about our responsibility towards others?

### The story of two unique men

#### The story continues...

The genealogies of Genesis 5 tell us the descendants of Adam to Noah. Amongst the genealogies of Genesis 5, we find two men of considerable interest: Enoch and his son Methuselah. At the age of 65, something transpired in Enoch's life and he began to follow God in such earnest that God eventually took him home supernaturally! Enoch's son, Methuselah, holds the claim to the longest living human in history – the Bible records him as living to 969 years old!

## The story of humanity's corruption

### Focus in...

The earth becomes corrupt. The 'sons of God' marry the 'daughters of men', producing line of people referred to as 'nephilim' ('giants'). Who were these people? One theory suggests that the 'sons' were fallen angels who interbred with humans. This stems from the expression 'sons of God' found in Job 1:6 and 2:1, which does refer to angels who had access to the presence of God. But as far as we know, angels do not reproduce sexually. Another theory is that the 'sons' were the godly descendants of Seth, and the 'daughters' were the ungodly descendants of Cain. The context of chapter 4 could support this. The reality is that we have very little further information than this, which makes it very difficult (and probably unnecessary) to interpret further.

### Discuss...

- The state of humanity invokes God's righteous judgment, and He is sorrowful for creating us. Read 6:11-12. What is it that specifically caused God's intervention?

## The story of the Great Flood

### Focus in...

In the midst of wickedness and violence, Noah found favour in the eyes of God. As one of only two Bible men who are said to have 'walked with God', Noah was 'just' – he walked with integrity and treated others justly. God chose to save him and his family. It was an act of divine sovereignty that was followed by an act of human responsibility (building the ark). Divine sovereignty and human responsibility are not exclusive, but complementary.

The Lord beckons Noah to 'come into the ark' (7:1). This is a gracious gospel invitation to come to the safety of the Lord's care, and it is Him who closes the door and secures us..

### Discuss...

- What does the Ark tell us about our redemption, and the work of Christ?



*Then the Lord said to Noah,  
“Enter the ark, you and all your household,  
for you alone I have seen to be righteous  
before Me in this time.*

*GENESIS 7:1*

## The story of God's promise to Noah

### Focus in...

The Noahic Covenant is the third covenant in Scripture (following the Edenic and Adamic covenants). Here, God promises not to curse the ground again or destroy it with a flood (it will, however, be destroyed with fire c.f. 2 Peter 3). He gives the rainbow as a pledge for this (which we see appears again in Revelation 10).

Man is again instructed to multiply and have dominion on the earth. Eating meat is now permissible (though not meat containing blood) and the value of a life is restated through the introduction of capital punishment.

### Reflect...

- What is 'profitable' for us?
- What's the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.

### Did you know?

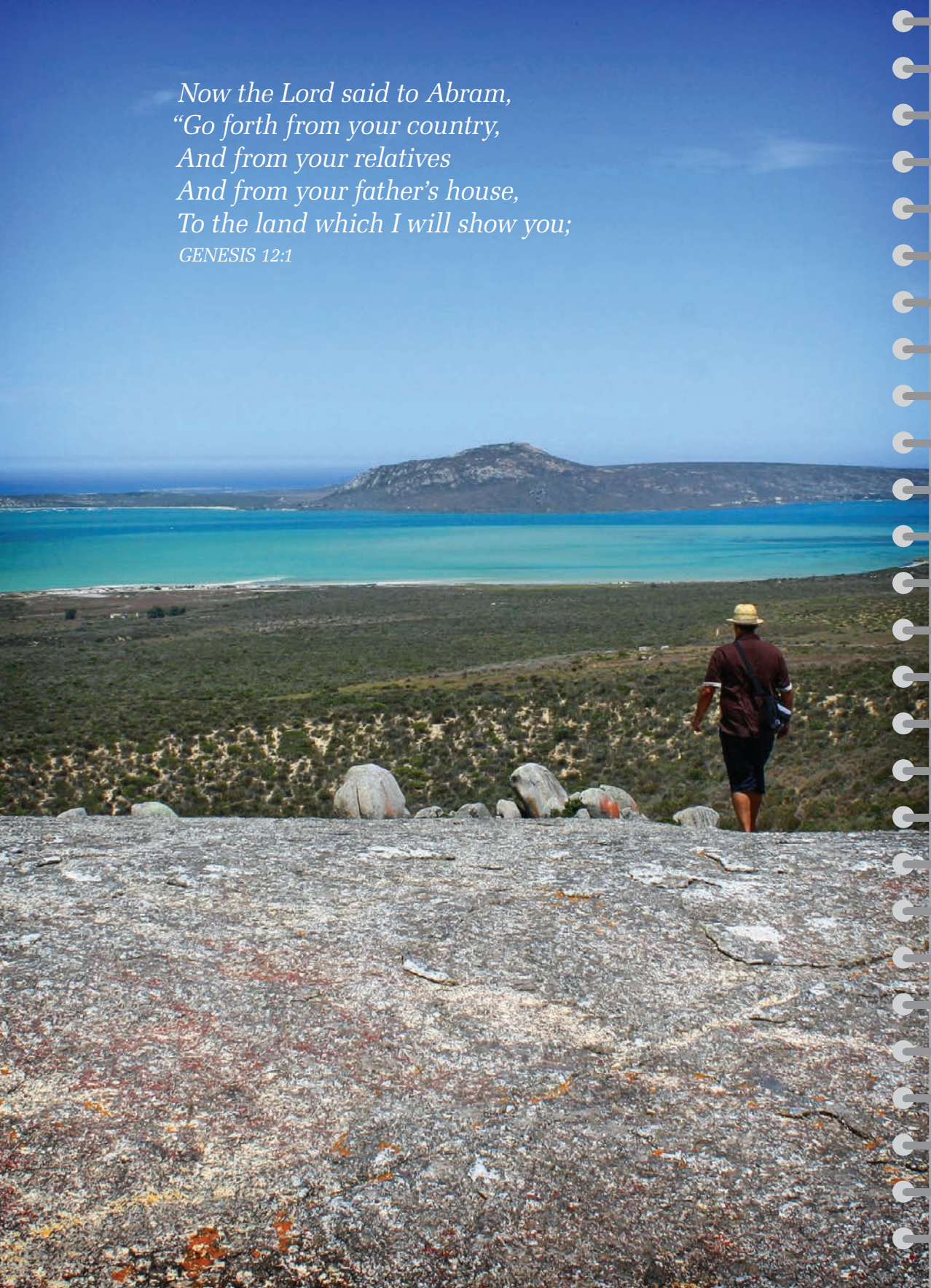
The raven and dove released by Noah are good illustrations of the believer's old and new natures. The unclean raven was prepared to live amongst death and debris, whilst the clean dove found its refuge and relief only in the handiwork of the Lord (the Ark) and amongst His redeemed people (Genesis 8:6-12).



Please feel free to use this page for your notes



*Now the Lord said to Abram,  
“Go forth from your country,  
And from your relatives  
And from your father’s house,  
To the land which I will show you;  
GENESIS 12:1*



# Week Four

## Topic: The Patriarchal Period

### My Preparation

#### The story continues...

Once the floodwaters recede, Noah's sons (Shem, Ham and Japheth) become the fathers of the nations. Ham's grandson, Nimrod (meaning 'rebel') appears as the first 'mighty one' who built a large kingdom, including the city of Babel. Instead of dispersing over the earth as instructed, the people united to build a tower. God's disapproval of their pride caused Him to confuse their language and forcibly scatter them across the land. The word 'babel' means 'confusion', which is the result whenever people look to themselves rather than God.

Shem's descendants include Terah, who fathers Abram. The remainder of the Old Testament is largely the history of Abram's family and the shaping of the forthcoming nation.

Genesis 10-11 show the nations and the Tower of Babel. Genesis 12-50 tells about about the Patriarchs of Israel, namely Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Genesis 37 introduces us to Joseph and 38-50 tell the story of Israel's gradual descent into slavery in Egypt.

#### Read...

Today's readings will cover Genesis 10-50. The key passages to read will be Genesis 12, 21-22 and 37-41.

#### Respond...

Write down 1 or 2 things that came to mind when you read these passages. Include any questions that arise when you think about them closely.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Our Discussion

### The story of God's promise to Abram

#### Focus in...

Abram is called by God to leave his family, house and nation and embark on a life of pilgrimage. God promises to guide him, make him a great nation, bless him, and make his name great so that he could be a blessing to others. He promises to bless those who bless Abram and curse those who curse him. Through him all the families of the earth will be blessed.

#### Discuss...

- This promised blessing is of huge importance to us as Christians – those born outside of the Jewish nation. How does this relate to us? What other scriptures speak of this promise?

### The story of Abram's doubt

#### Focus in...

Abram doubts God's promise to make him a great nation, as he is still yet to father even one son. Though the promise was reinforced in the Abrahamic Covenant, a lack of trust caused Sarai (Abram's wife) to offer him Hagar, her maid as a substitute wife. Hagar gave birth to Ishmael, a wild man who was to be at war with all of those around him.

#### Discuss...

- How does this story relate to the Fall of Adam and Eve, and the tale of humanity in general?

Despite Abram's doubt, we read in Genesis 17 that God reinforces His blessing upon him, changing his name to Abraham and his wife's name to Sarah. He again states that they will bear a child called Isaac.



## The story of the Promised Son

### Focus in...

The promised son arrives at God's appointed time! After a period of time, God tests Abraham by instructing him to take his son and offer him as a burnt offering. Though Isaac is Abraham's only beloved son, he faithfully obeys. However, as he raises the knife to slay his son, the angel of the Lord calls to him to stop. Seeing Abraham's faithfulness in not withholding his treasure, God permits Isaac to live and provides a ram instead. God once again reinforces His promises to Abraham.

### Discuss...

- The story of Isaac is often paralleled with the story of Jesus. List some of the parallels, including verses from both the Old and New Testaments.

## The story of Isaac's descendants

### The story continues...

Abraham lived to be 175 years old and fathered other children after Isaac and Ishmael (25:1-4). Ishmael's descendants are described moving towards the east of Egypt, and living in open hostility towards their relatives (25:18). Isaac's progeny now become the focus of the Genesis narrative. He pleads with the Lord to provide his wife, Rebekah, with a son, and the Lord responds by giving her twins: Esau comes first, Jacob comes second. Though custom would dictate that the first child would enjoy the greater privileges of precedence in the household, God prophesied a peculiarity in this household: the younger Jacob will be served by the older Esau (25:23).

This prophecy comes to pass later in chapter 25, as Esau sells his birthright to Jacob in exchange for a meal. Jacob's craftiness continues throughout his life – he also tricks his father Isaac into giving him the blessing of the firstborn (27:27-29). Esau's descendants, the Edomites, would continually fight with Jacob's descendants, the Israelites.

Jacob himself becomes the victim of trickery, when he realised the day after his wedding that his bride was not his beloved Rachel, but her sister Leah (29:15-25). He vows to marry Rachel, and after seven more years of labour, he is now married to both sisters! After a great deal of family controversy, Rachel gives birth to Joseph (30:25), who is to become the next leading figure of the Genesis narrative.







## The story of Joseph's and the Israelites entering Egypt

### Focus in...

We know from the story of the Exodus that God rescued the Israelites from the grip of Egypt. But how did they get there? The narrative of Joseph describes the plight of this nation from a free people to captivity in a generation.

### Discuss...

- What were the key events that led to Israel moving from freedom in Canaan (Genesis 37:1) to slavery in Egypt (Exodus 1:9-10)?

### Reflect...

- What is 'profitable' for us? What truths are evident?
- What's the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.

### Did you know?

The promise of reward to Abram in Genesis 15:1 has been translated differently in the assorted versions. Whilst some versions (NLT, Message) translate the promise as 'Do not be afraid Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward shall be great', a more literal translation (KJV) would read 'Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.'

Is God the giver of your protection and rewards, or is He your protection and reward? It's a subtle difference in wording, but a significant difference in meaning!



Please feel free to use this page for your notes

# Week Five

## Topic: The Birth of a Nation

### My Preparation

#### The story continues...

With their invitation to settle in Egypt during the famine, the Israelites prosper and grow significantly in numbers and strength. When Joseph dies, however, the new king sees this foreign family as a threat and determines to fiercely rule over them and subdue them as slaves. God hears His people groan under the oppression, remembers His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and determines to release them from slavery into the Promised Land.

The books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy complete the writings attributed to Moses (otherwise known as the Pentateuch). They detail the call of Moses and the Israelites' release from four centuries of captivity, and then give the laws, commands and descriptions of how this newly-freed nation should behave in response to their liberation. The events take place in the mid-1400s BC.

#### Read...

Today's readings will cover Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. The key passages to read will be Exodus 3, Leviticus 17:10-16, Numbers 14:20-24 and Deuteronomy 6. These chapters have been selected as they provide a good representation of the theme of each book.

#### Respond...

Write down 1 or 2 things that came to mind when you read these passages. Include any questions that arise when you think about them closely.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Our Discussion

### The story of the Exodus

#### Focus in...

Moses was the son of Amram (of the tribe of Levi) and Jochebad, and brother of Aaron and Miriam. He was born during the terrible years when the Egyptians had ordered any Israelite baby boy to be killed. His parents hid him at home, and later in a basket among the bull rushes by the Nile. Discovering the baby, the Egyptian princess chose to rescue him and raise him in the house of Pharaoh. As an adult, Moses despised the harsh treatment that the Hebrew people suffered, and in a moment of fury, he killed an Egyptian man. Fearing retribution, he fled to Midian. It is while Moses is tending to a flock that God appeared to him in the form of a burning bush.

#### Discuss...

- Exodus 3:5 is the first appearance in Scripture of the word ‘holy’ (or in the Hebrew, ‘qodesh’). What does this word mean? Why is this word immensely important to our understanding of God?
- God introduces Himself as the God of ‘Abraham, Isaac and Jacob’ (3:6). Why is this significant for Moses? What significance does it have for us?
- What is it that has caused God to act on behalf of the Israelites?
- God requests that Moses goes on His behalf to Pharaoh to seek the release of His people. Yet, Moses protests God’s decisions. What are some of his objections?
- While Moses is coming to terms with his own weakness, God reminds him of His strength. He utters five words that capture a powerful reminder of God’s existence:

“ \_\_\_\_\_ .” (3:14)



## **The story continues...**

The remainder of Exodus gives us some of the greatest and most spectacular highlights in the history of Israel: the defiance of Pharaoh (chapter 4) and the affliction of the ten plagues (chapters 7-11), the killing of Egypt's firstborn and the protection of the homes of Israel (the blood of a sacrificial lamb on their doorposts allowed death to 'passover' them in chapter 12), the Red Sea crossing (chapter 14) and the giving of the Ten Commandments (chapter 20) and Israel's moral laws.

The Ark of the Covenant is also built at this time (see Exodus 25) to contain the testimony (laws) of God. It was a hugely important and valuable article that could only be handled by the priests (or carried by the Kohathites, one of Israel's tribes) and would be housed in the Tabernacle when the Israelites camped.

## **The story of the blood atonement**

### **The story of Leviticus**

At the end of Exodus, we see that Israel has been delivered from Egypt and set apart as God's special possession. In Leviticus we see how they are practically going to separate themselves from sin and uncleanness in order to approach God in the sanctuary. The Book of Leviticus ('about the Levites'), therefore, is essentially a manual for the priests of Israel (the Levites), and describes how the Levite family line will lead the nation in acceptable worship of God.

### **Focus in...**

Theologically, Leviticus is concerned with the holiness of God contrasted with the sinfulness of humanity, resulting in the necessity of sacrifice and the on-going desire for cleanliness. In both the Old Testament and the New Testament, God demands holiness from His people. This causes a problem, as fallen man by nature is inherently sinful. The solution lies in a blood atonement.

### **Discuss...**

- What is 'atonement'? Why does God say that blood is required for atonement to occur?  
For the Israelites, forgiveness and atonement did not come because the penalty of sin was excused, it came because the penalty of sin was transferred.
- How is this a forecast of Christ's achievement on the cross?

## The story of God's call to holiness

### Focus in...

Holiness is the major theme of Leviticus. The refrain 'You shall be holy, as I am holy' is repeated often throughout the book, suggesting that God is encouraging that, 'This is what I require of you because this is what I myself am.'

### Discuss...

- In chapter 19, we see that the holiness demanded is surprisingly practical. What does God consider to be some of the marks of holiness?

It would seem that holiness is not just a description of our being, but also a description of our doing: how we treat each other.

## The story of the wandering Israelites

### The story of Numbers

The Book of Numbers begins with a census of this newly-formed nation (it's not just a clever name). At this point, they number over 600 000 men, not including the Levites, meaning Moses was leading perhaps the largest single "church" in all of history. The mass of people march two hundred miles from Mount Sinai towards the Promised Land, only to be hindered by their own rebellion, complaints and hesitation. The journey takes decades...

### Focus in...

In chapter 13, Moses sends spies into the land of Canaan. They were tasked with surveying the land, its people and its produce, and to report back to Moses. Despite being affirmed by God that this was the land that He was going to give them, the spies overwhelmingly brought back a bad report: the land was filled with giants and would certainly be impenetrable. Only Caleb and Joshua are prepared to take up God's offer to storm the land.



*Then He said,  
"Do not come near here;  
remove your sandals from your feet,  
for the place on which you are  
standing is holy ground."*

*EXODUS 3:5*



### **Discuss...**

- The people had quickly forgotten His mighty hand displayed in Egypt and in the wilderness, and they refused to trust Him. Chapter 14 details God's response to the people's complaints. How would you summarise God's response?
- In what ways is this passage highly significant for our daily Christian walk?

### **The story continues...**

Amidst all the counting, the Book of Numbers is full of interesting stories: the spies visiting Canaan (chapter 13) and Balaam and his donkey (chapter 22) are very well known.

### **The story of God's promises**

#### **The story of Deuteronomy**

The Book of Deuteronomy, literally the 'second law', is Moses' final words as the Israelites prepare to enter the Promised Land (a journey he himself would not make). The generation that experienced the original reception of the Law has largely passed away, so Moses reminds the new Israelites of their national history, God's goodness towards them, and His commands for their society.

#### **Focus in...**

Chapter 6 contains a very familiar passage for the Jewish people. Verses 4-9 are known as the 'Shema' (Hebrew for 'hear') and were recited daily as a creed by devout Jews.

Write verse 4 here.

---

---

---

In the light of the New Testament revelation, the wording of verse 4 is poignant. The 'Lord' ('Jehovah') indicates God's singularity and His oneness. 'God' ('Elohim') is a plural – it represents more than one! This is a mysterious hint of the nature of the Trinity: one but many; plurality in singularity.



### **Discuss...**

- According to chapter 6, what do the ‘testimonies and statutes and judgments’ mean? Why was it important for the Israelites to obey God?
- How does this approach translate for the Christian?

### **The story continues...**

The Book of Deuteronomy concludes with the death of one of Israel’s great sons. Moses rose from a slave baby found floating in a river to become a prince in the Egyptian palace. He was a murderer and a vagrant before God called him to secure the greatest release of a nation in ancient history. Though he himself led a people out of captivity and to the threshold of the Promised Land, he was only permitted to view it from a distant mountain – and not to step a foot on it. He leaves the mantle of national leadership to Joshua, dying still a wanderer, and is buried by God Himself.

### **Reflect...**

- What is ‘profitable’ for us?
- What’s the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.

We should consider Deuteronomy not only Moses’ parting gift to the children of Israel, but a gift to us as well. No other Old Testament book is quoted by Jesus or referenced in the Epistles as often as this outstanding piece, and surely few books shaped the early church’s understanding of God and His people more. Even by itself, Deuteronomy can hold its own among the greatest of history’s religious writings.



Please feel free to use this page for your notes



# Week Six

## Topic: Entering the Land

### My Preparation

#### The story of Joshua

Moses is dead. A generation of disobedient, whining and generally ungrateful Israelites are dead. Maybe it's time for God to finally bring His people to their 'Promised Land'. Joshua is one of our few major Biblical characters who seemed to do everything right. He was a resilient leader, completely devoted to God, and the Bible makes no record of any sin or disobedience (giving him a better track record than Abraham, Moses, Noah, David, Peter, Paul...). His only fault seemed to be – compassion? We'll find out more on that soon.

The books of Joshua, Judges and Ruth are the Bible's first non-Mosaic writings and cover events during the period from around 1375-1100BC (exact dating is somewhat disputed). The authors of all three books are actually anonymous. However, despite any internal reference, Joshua is typically attributed to Joshua himself (the final chapters detailing his death and legacy have been added later), the writer of Judges is often believed to be Samuel and Jewish tradition would say that the Book of Ruth is also from the hand of Samuel. Together, they provide a critical nexus between the events of the Exodus and the later history of Israel.

#### Read...

Today's readings will cover Joshua, Judges and Ruth. Key readings for you will be Joshua 1:1-9, Judges 1 and Ruth (all).

#### Think...

Write down 1 or 2 things that came to mind when you read these passages. Include any questions that arise when you think about them closely.

---

---

---

---

---







*Every place on which  
the sole of your foot treads,  
I have given it to you,  
just as I spoke to Moses.*

*JOSHUA 1:3*



## The story of Israel crossing the Jordan River

### The story continues...

Joshua marshals the Israelites and moves towards the Promised Land. A prostitute named Rahab (who is later described as a 'justified' woman in James 2:25), shelters the Israelite scouts as they spy upon Jericho. However, they still must cross the Jordan River, which despite being neither large nor particularly impressive, does present a problem for such a large group. In a scene reminiscent of the Red Sea, God instructs His Ark to be carried into the water by the priests first. As their feet touch the water, the flow is cut off and the water separates, leaving the people to walk across on dry ground (Joshua 3).

The Lord instructed Joshua and his leaders to take memorial stones from the middle of the river (the dry ground part) back to their lodging. This was to be a sign for future generations of God's continuing providence and deliverance.

### Discuss...

- What sign do you have of God's providence in your life? How can it become a reminder and encouragement for the next generation?
- As Joshua prepared to attack Jericho, he lifted his eyes and saw a man with His sword drawn in His hand (5:13-15). Who was this 'man'? What evidence can you find to support this?

### The story continues...

After his meeting with the Captain of the Lord's Armies, Joshua and the Israelites begin a campaign of conquest. Beginning with Jericho, they systematically attacked and defeated (with some setbacks) all the kings of the land until Joshua had conquered and obtained each part of the land that God had promised. At this point, the land finally 'had rest from war' (11:23). Chapters 12-22 give details as to how the land would be divided between the tribes and chapters 23-24 give Joshua's final review and address. At the age of 110 years old, Joshua died, leaving a testimony to a nation that had 'served the Lord' for all of his days (24:31).

## The story of Israel's failure to take the land

### The story of Judges

The narrative of Judges is one that should sadden all our hearts. Following the death of Joshua, Israel again slides back into disobedience. Though they successfully gained more ground, they failed to completely clear it of its previous inhabitants. The Israelite culture – which was supposed to be pure and holy before God – was infiltrated by pagan religions and idol-worship, with God pronouncing that these foreigners would become ‘thorns in your sides... and a snare unto you’ (2:2-3). The writing is a witness to our human frailty: though God’s providence is always immeasurable, how often do we fail Him? Despite this, the book shows frequent signs of His divine compassion towards us, as He repeatedly raises the weak, the ill-equipped and the unconventional as His champions and deliverers. The ‘judges’ were military leaders rather than legal specialists. Twelve judges were raised up in order to execute God’s judgment, overthrow oppressors or restore peace.

### Discuss...

- To the human eye, many of those used should have been considered weak and unsuitable for such a role. What were the weaknesses of the following people?
  - Ehud (3:12-30) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Shamgar (3:31) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Deborah (4:1-5:31) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Barak (4:10-13) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jael (4:21) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Gideon (7:1-8, 13-19) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Samson (15:15) \_\_\_\_\_

## Know

If we follow the text through the Book of Judges, we see a consistent pattern in the national life of the Israelites:



## Discuss...

- In what ways does this resemble our daily walk as Christians?
- What can we do about it?
- Where does Jesus fit into this scheme?

## The story continues

Despite this cycle being repeated in an almost clockwork-like fashion, it seemed the lesson was not fully learnt by the Israelites. The valiant efforts of the judges did not see the desired long-term change in moral conduct, and our narrative finishes as it opens, with a solemn reminder of the feebleness and fickleness of the human spirit: 'In those days there was no king in Israel, and everyone did what was right in his own eyes' (Judges 21:25).

## The story of Ruth

### The story of Ruth

The Book of Ruth is also set in the days of the judges, but draws attention to a more personal, graceful story in an otherwise dark chapter of Israel's history. It contains a mere 85 verses, but tells a story of such substance and beauty that it has significantly shaped our understanding of grace, redemption and Christ's desire for intimacy with His bride, the church.

In the opening passage, we are introduced to a Jewish family from Bethlehem who have fled to Moab because of famine (unsurprising, considering Israel's moral fall). Elimelech and his wife, Naomi, continued their disobedience by fleeing the Promised Land and settling with the Moabites. Upon Elimelech's death, his sons married: Mahlon to Ruth and Chilion to Orpah (both Gentile women – it seems this family just didn't want to follow instructions...). Ten years later, both husbands died, leaving Naomi with two foreign daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth. Facing a destitute life as a widow in a foreign land, Naomi decides to move back to Judah, encouraging the girls to part with her and return to their respective family residences. It is at this point that we read one of the noblest utterances by a Gentile in the whole of the Old Testament:

“Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the Lord do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me” (Ruth 1:16-17).

### Focus in...

In the times of Ruth, a widow would find herself in a very precarious position: the loss of her male-protector meant that she was vulnerable to strangers, attackers and thieves; the loss of her male-provider meant that she would face difficulty in providing food and shelter for herself.

Furthermore, if she had not yet borne a son there would be no one to continue the family line and the inheritance could be lost from the household. The Deuteronical laws made provision for this occurrence, and required that a close relative marry the widow in order to perpetuate the family line and maintain the family land (Deuteronomy 25:5-10).

Enter the courtship of Ruth and Boaz, her 'kinsman redeemer'.



Blessing was now returning to the land, and Ruth showed her commitment to Naomi by making her way into the fields in order to reap some of the harvest (how is it that a Gentile woman could reap from a field that she did not own? See Leviticus 19:9). By divine arrangement, she finds herself in the field owned by Boaz.

### **Discuss...**

- Who is Boaz? How do we know?
- How does the Bible describe him?

### **Focus in...**

The marriage of Ruth to Boaz has major theological implications for us as Christians. As a Moabitess, it was very unlikely that a Jew would have ever considered her to be worthy of joining his family (in Deuteronomy 7:1-3, the Israelites were forbidden from marrying citizens of the nations they were defeating – though the Moabites were not specifically mentioned...). However, through the grace of Boaz, a way was made for a foreigner to enter the family.

### **Discuss...**

In what ways does the marriage of Ruth to Boaz reflect the message and work of Jesus?

### **The story continues...**

The Book of Ruth finishes somewhat antithetically to the Book of Judges. Instead of despair, there is joy. Instead of a lament for an absent king, there was the promise of a coming king. Boaz and Ruth bore a child, and they called him Obed. Obed would become the father of Jesse, and Jesse would become the father of David, the greatest earthly king Israel would know – and the ancestor of Jesus, the greatest King of kings humanity would know.

### **Reflect...**

- What is 'profitable' for us?
- What's the take-home message, the game-changer, or the thought that changes EVERYTHING? Write it in 10 words or less.

Please feel free to use this page for your notes

## **Wrapping it up**

This is an apt place for our first journey into the Old Testament Highlights to come to a close. We opened as God created life and existence with the breath of His Word. We have seen how the first humans – those created to reflect His very image – rebelled and were inevitably cast out of Paradise. But God didn't despair, He cursed the enemy and committed to raising our Redeemer: first through a new humanity, then through a new nation, then through a new family. Throughout all, His grace and providence has continually succeeded where we have failed, and been strong when we have been weak.

This narrative of this new, royal family line is launched in the Book of Samuel and winds its way through the history of Israel until the promised King is born – 1000 years later.

Old Testament Highlights II: Samuel to Malachi will follow this often continually intriguing, sometimes disturbing, but always powerful literary chronicle.

# My appendix:

## In ten words or less...

Describe these people. Include a Bible reference for where you can find them.

Adam: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Cain: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Noah: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Abraham: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Moses: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Joshua: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Anyone else from your reading who caught your eye:

---

---

---

**In ten words or less...**

Describe these events or items of interest. Remember to include a Bible reference for where you can find them.

Creation of Humanity: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fall of Humanity: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Great Flood: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Abraham (almost) sacrificing Isaac: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Joseph serving in Egypt: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Ark of the Covenant: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Anything else from your reading that caught your eye:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**In ten words or less...**

Describe these books (in your own words). Write in full a verse from the book that you think captures the essence of the writing.

**Genesis:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Exodus:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Leviticus:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Numbers:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Deuteronomy:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Joshua:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Judges:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ruth:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

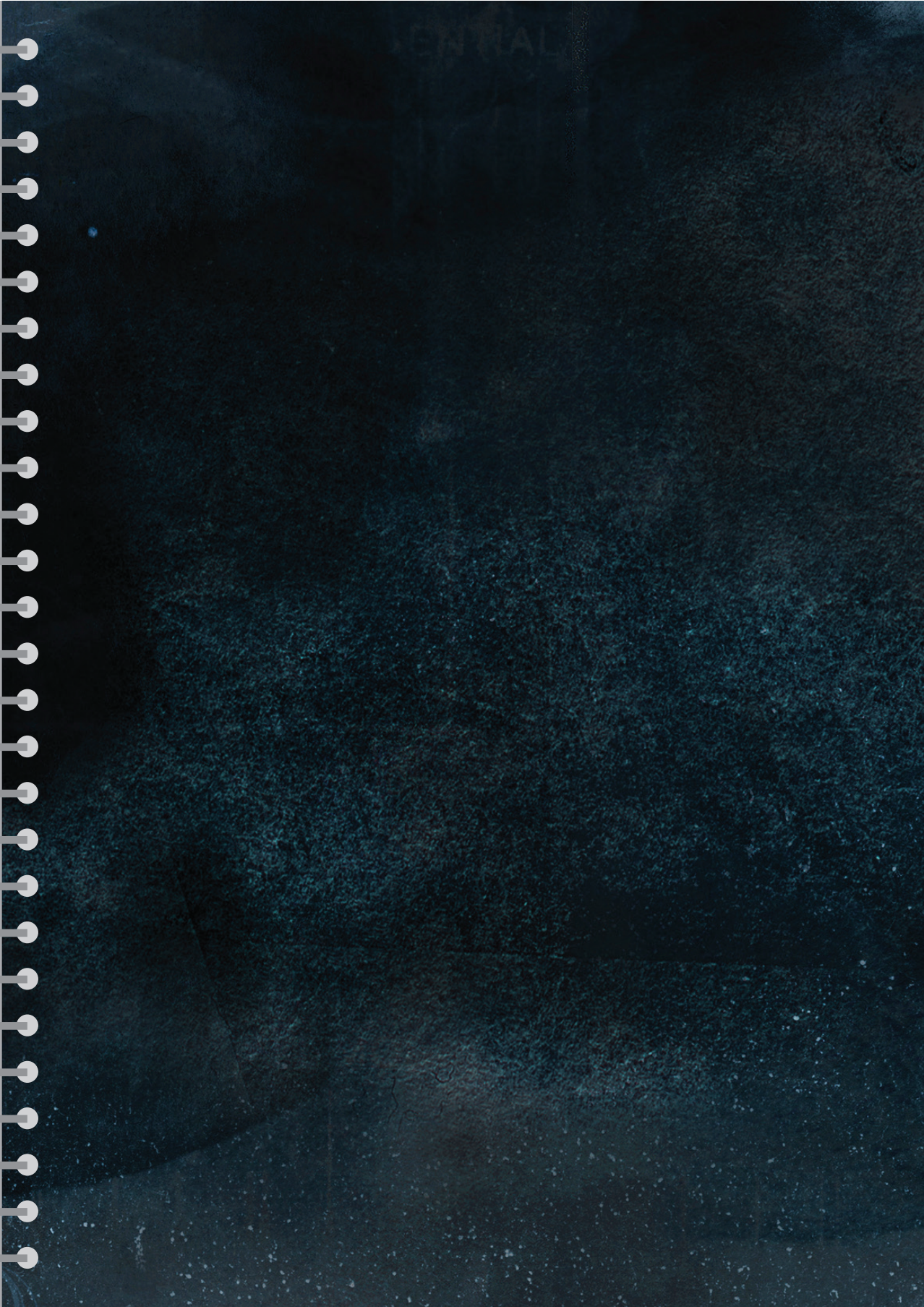
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_







30

He said:

It is finished:

b ch.  
17.

2053661500004



2 053661 500004