



# Sermon Questions

January 14, 2024 | Scripture: Gen 1:1-26 (Creation)

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. *Note down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes or points that made an impression in the sermon.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## Core Questions

1. Share and discuss your pre-study notes.
2. Like last week, we see a lot of repetition in the passage. Which phrases are repeated often, and what does this teach us?
3. Many readers note the parallels between days 1-3 (where places are formed) and days 4-6, (where those same places are filled, in the same order). What difference do you notice in the structure of the sixth day? (*Consider the division at 'Then God said,' in v28, and the contrast between God's blessings on animals (v22) and on people (v28ff).*)
4. God repeatedly judges his creation (before the fall) as resoundingly 'good' in this passage. How might this frame our relationship to the physical world around us if we consider it as created as good, rather than something that simply is?

## Inward Grace in Action

5. Look at Question 17 from the Westminster Larger Catechism on the next page. How does this align with how you perceive yourself, and others, to be? Are there areas of tension between your perception and the testimony of scripture?

## Outward Grace in Action

6. 'The story of God's meaningful, beautiful creation under good authority is the true and better story.' How would you begin to articulate why this is true to someone who dismisses the Bible's account of creation?

## WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Genesis 1-2
- Psalm 104
- Isaiah 42:1-9
- 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
- Colossians 1:15-20
- Hebrews 1:1-12

Serve: Our thriving ESOL ministry welcomes people learning English into the life of our church. Could you help? [Click here for more.](#)

Pray: You can always access the Flock Notes through Connect. Click 'Member Login' on the website or [follow this link.](#)

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at [deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org](mailto:deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org)

## Additional resources:

**Article:** Here's a short article outlining [4 Things Creation Teaches Us About God.](#)

**Website:** You may not agree with him on everything, but Oxford mathematician [John Lennox](#) has spent decades helping people see that science and faith are not contradictory.

**Book:** [Thinking Through Creation](#) (Christopher Watkin) is a fascinating, thoughtful, and faithful examination of the implications of the doctrine of creation.

**Deep Nerdery:** Our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), produced [a study report on Creation back in 2000.](#) It lays out positions considered to be in line with orthodoxy, and accepted in our denomination.

**From the Westminster Larger Catechism:**

Q. 17. How did God create man?

A. After God had made all other creatures, he created man male and female;<sup>o</sup> formed the body of the man of the dust of the ground,<sup>p</sup> and the woman of the rib of the man,<sup>q</sup> endued them with living, reasonable, and immortal souls;<sup>r</sup> made them after his own image,<sup>s</sup> in knowledge,<sup>t</sup> righteousness, and holiness;<sup>u</sup> having the law of God written in their hearts,<sup>w</sup> and power to fulfill it,<sup>x</sup> and dominion over the creatures;<sup>y</sup> yet subject to fall.<sup>z</sup>

o. Gen. 1:27  
p. Gen. 2:7.  
q. Gen. 2:22.  
r. Gen. 2:7, Job 35:11,  
Eccl. 12:7, Matt. 10:28,  
Luke 23:43.  
s. Gen. 1:26–27.  
t. Col. 3:10.  
u. Eph. 4:24  
w. Rom. 2:14–15.  
x. Eccl. 7:29.  
y. Gen. 1:28. Ps. 8:6–8.  
z. Gen. 2:16–17