

The Beginning of Life as We Know It

The Story Ch. 1 p.p. 1-12

VIDEO:

Go to <http://vimeo.com/album/1514042/video/19003018>.

If it asks you for a password enter: **TheStory** (case sensitive)

Watch the video for Chapter 1

Summary:

God's creation is beautiful from the start, but sin causes everything to turn dark. God brings judgment on the earth and uses a man named Noah to begin his work again.

Think about:

What is the most beautiful thing you've ever seen in God's creation?

What's the most unusual thing you've ever seen?

What speaks most clearly about God's ability to be totally unique every time he creates?

What does it mean to you that you were created in God's image?

How should that affect your life and your faith walk? (See Ephesians 4:22-24)

How should this affect the way you view those around you?

Think of three difficult individuals. Make it a habit to pray for them daily.

God's Story started even before creation. It will continue long after this world ends. As God introduced Adam and Eve into his Story, they disobeyed and pursued a story of their own. This led to them believe the lie of Satan and to fall from God.

What does Scripture say about Satan? (See Ephesians 6:10-12)

What is he doing today? (See 1 Peter 5:8-9)

What are some of the schemes of the devil that you need to be alert for today?

How can we be ready when Satan tries to trick us? (See Ephesians 6:13-18)

It's hard to imagine things being so bad that God would choose to wipe everything out and start over again. Or is it? We live in a world that is full of darkness. Yet, the darker the setting is, the more brilliant the light. (See Matthew 5:14-16) What are some practical ways you could let your light shine?

Genesis 6:8 (*The Story*, page 8) says, "Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD." What would it take to live in such a way that you found favor in the eyes of the Lord? How would it look for you to live in a way that put a smile on God's face?

Take away:

God's beautiful creation is marred by the result of our sin. Yet, because of Jesus and the grace given to us by his death and resurrection we can live in such a way that puts a smile on God's face.

Prayer:

Father, thank you for the incredible way you created all things. Thank you for the plan you have, The Story you have written. Help me to live out my role in your Story and to do so in a way that brings honor to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.