



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: "WE" - Created For Community

## GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

*What period or season in your life did you struggle the most with loneliness? What were the circumstances and why?*

*In what way can we be lonely even if we are surrounded by people?*

## QUICK REACTIONS

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

Did you disagree with something said, or what do you think should have been added or expanded on?

## QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

In what way does the first "crisis" in the Bible inform us about the importance of relationships and Christ-centered community?

Agree/Disagree – A symptom of loneliness is not just having too few relationships, but relationships that don't go very deep.

What is the aim of biblical community? Take a moment to re-read Ephesians 4:11-13. How is biblical community different than friendship or a social group?

In what ways can you develop community forming habits?

## EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Genesis 1-2]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.)

**Read Genesis 1:1-2:3 with a focus on God creating Adam and Eve and the nature of God existing as One, in Three Persons.**

How did the author describe the earth at the beginning of creation? (1:1-2)

What important events did the author describe in these verses? (1:1-2:3)

What did God create on days 1-5 of creation (1:3-25)

\*What did God create on the sixth day of creation? (1:24-26)

\*How did God create man? (1:26-27)

\*What instructions did God give the man and woman after he created them? (1:28)

What did God give to man and woman? (1:29-30)

How did God describe what he had created? (1:31)

In what ways is this similar? In what way was it different?  
What did God do on the seventh day of creation? (2:1-3)

**Read Genesis 2:4-7; 15-24 with a focus on God creating Adam apart from Eve**

When and how did God create man? (2:4-7)  
For what purpose did God put man in the Garden of Eden? (2:8, 15)  
What command did God give man? (2:16-17)  
What did God say was not good? (2:18)  
How did God create woman, and what was Adam's response to her? (2:21-23)  
What would be the result of man becoming united with his wife? (2:24)

**QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT**

What does the creation story reveal about God's character?  
What does the creation story tell us about humankind?  
How should the fact that human beings are created by God impact the way we see life?  
What does the fact that God made us in his image tell us about people?  
How does the fact that people are made in God's image affect the way you feel about yourself?  
How does the fact that people are made in God's image affect the way you treat other people?  
What difference does it make that people are created in the image of God?  
What can we learn from God's resting on the seventh day of creation?  
How is it significant that God created man and "breathed into him the breath of life"?  
What does the fact that it was not good for man to be alone tell us about the importance of relationships?  
What is the significance of the fact that Adam felt no shame at being naked?

**APPLY THE PASSAGE**

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?  
What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about as a result of engaging with this passage?  
How can we pray for each other?