



WEEK 1: Let Their Be Light - Creation

S.O.A.P. METHOD

Open your life group time with prayer. This is only a guide - select the points you want to discuss. Read as a group and follow up with the scripture reading. Talk it over as a group. If it's helpful use the S.O.A.P. method.

- What **Scripture**? Which Scripture is speaking to me, challenging me, moving me?
 - What **Observation**? What am I seeing now that I wasn't seeing before? What new learning?
 - What **Application**? What is God leading me to live out and put into practice?
 - What **Prayer**? What will I pray? What new prayer will I embrace? Who will I pray for?
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CURRICULUM

God brings the light into the chaos and darkness

Light is amazing! Yet it is one of those daily gifts that we take for granted, at least until our power goes off and we find ourselves groping in darkness, looking for our

flashlights and lanterns. Light travels in a straight line and can also be bent and change directions. Light can cut through hard objects and can be used to examine the eyes of a baby. Some lights give off heat, while others are stone cold. Without light, we are unable to see without some type of technological device, and light is necessary for life to exist as we know it today. We can go back to the beginning of recorded Biblical history to see how much God valued light for His creation. In the very first chapter of **Genesis**, we find the introduction of light into a world immersed in darkness and chaos, without shape or purpose. God began the process of creation and new life with light, the beginning of transformation.

In **Genesis 1:1**, God is seen as the Creator of the universe. In **verse 2**, Moses, the writer of **Genesis** brings us down to earth. ! *The earth was without form and void...*” There was no order on earth, it was empty and chaotic, uninhabitable and uninhabited – the very opposite of what it would be after the six days of creation. Like a potter, God is getting ready to take the raw material of the earth and mold it into something beautiful. Moses is not only giving us information about the state of the earth before the first command in **verse 3**. He" s also telling us something about God. We may wonder how the God of light could be present in darkness, but the psalmist says that ! even the darkness is not dark to God” and that ! darkness is as light with you” (**Psalms 139:12**). Darkness is opaque to us, but transparent to God. While the “darkness in the deep” is yet another way that Moses describes the primeval wasteland of the earth, it is also suggesting that the hidden presence of God is there in the wasteland, waiting to reveal Himself. "

Scripture Reading:

- **Genesis 1**
- **John 1:1-2**
- **Psalms 139:12**

Discussion Questions

1. What connections or similarities do you find between Genesis 1 and John 1 regarding light and Jesus.
2. How has Jesus been light in your life?

God is the source of all that is good

We all need sources in our lives that we can depend on. A source is a supplier of something that we cannot produce on our own. For example, in your house, if you want to be warm during the winter, you need a source of energy. That gas line coming into your house is one of your sources, same with electricity. Then there's financial

sources, food sources, and government sources. Sources make our lives easier, enjoyable, and productive. These sources are subject to shortages and interruptions and can be in short supply, but not so with God who is our source and supply.

God is your Source—the perfect and on-time Source for everything you could ever need or want, but you have to receive Him as your one and only Source by faith. The Word of God will renew your mind, feed your faith, and get you where you need to be to receive the supply God has for you. If you allow it, God will be your Source for everything you need. Jeremiah states what the result looks like when one places their confidence in God as their source. (***Jeremiah 17:7-8 ESV***)

Most people think they have to be their own source. When life happens, they've been taught to pick themselves up, dust themselves off, and move on through their own efforts. That sounds fine until we get to the self-effort part. We all have human limitations, but in God we find that "He will supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory." (***Philippians 4:19 ESV***). We need to learn to put our trust and security in something that cannot be taken from us: God.

Scripture Reading:

- ***Revelation 21:22-24***
- ***Jeremiah 17:7-8***
- ***Romans 11:36***

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to you for God to be your source and supply?
2. How does putting your trust in God's wealth affect the way you handle your finances, family, etc?