

Big Idea:

There is one true God and he is the author of all creation. God brings order, function, and beauty out of the dark, watery chaos by creating a magnificent garden and creating humankind in his image.

Thought Exercise:

- What is the purpose of Genesis 1-2?
- How does the creation narrative in Genesis differ from other creation narratives from other cultures or religions?

Items for discussion:

Unique

- What are some character traits that set Yahweh apart from the gods of other world religions?
- The beginning is not a point in time, but an initial period when God "began to create".
- God existed before all else. He is eternal and infinite.

All Powerful

- Explore the relationship between order and chaos.
- Most of our existence tends toward chaos.
- God creates order out of chaos.

Purpose

- Man has a significant role in creation and God's purpose.
- This significance originates from man's relationship to God
- Man is a physical representative of God.
- Man is created to reflect the creativity, goodness, and character of God

God has created and brought to order and function to the earth, the rebellion of humanity against divine authority, and God's plan to restore mankind to his original purpose through grace and faith.