STUDY GUIDE



WEEK 2

WOW BEFORE HOW

Opening Question

What is something ordinary in your life that you've learned to see with new wonder and appreciation? How did that perspective shift happen?

KEY SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 2:4–25 (NIV)

Message Recap

Genesis 2 gives us an up-close, personal look at God's relationship with humanity, revealing not just how we were made but what we were made for. God designed us for intimacy with Himself and each other, purposeful work, and real freedom. In the garden, we see God's intent for life without shame, surrounded by abundance and love. We are given freedom to make choices that shape our futures. When we make choices that harm that design, through Jesus' freedom, we're invited back into life without shame.

Discussion Questions



HEAD CHANGE
(Understanding)

1. What are some differences between the two creation accounts in Genesis 1 and 2? Why do you think it was necessary for us to have two differing accounts?

2. In Genesis 2, God forms Adam from dust and breathes life into him. What does this reveal about humanity's nature and value?



HEART CHANGE
(Belief/Emotional Response)

3. How does seeing that you were created for relationship, with God and others, speak to your personal longing for connection and belonging?

4. Genesis 2:25 describes a world "with no shame." How does God's desire for a relationship without shame challenge the way you think about God's character and how He perceives you?



HABIT CHANGE
(Action/Practice)

5. How are you currently using your freedom? Are there areas where you need to realign your choices to experience more of God's intended life for you?

6. God invited Adam into partnership, working and creating alongside Him. This week, what is one way you can join God in purposeful "work"? Think about opportunites at home, work, church, or in your neighborhood.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Genesis 2 invites us to marvel “WOW!” about God’s purpose, not just “HOW?” about the process.
- Humanity is uniquely formed. Both earthly and divine, with God’s own breath giving us real life.
- Humans alone are made in God’s image and called "very good."
- God provides not just for our needs but for abundance and beauty (the garden, relationships, creative work).
- We are made for community because no one is intended to be alone.
- True freedom always includes the ability to choose, and how we use that freedom shapes our future.

Next Steps

- **Reflect:** Spend ten minutes this week outside in nature, reflecting on what it means to be formed from the earth but filled with the breath of God.
- **Memorize:** Commit Genesis 2:18 (NIV) to memory: “The Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.’”
- **Share:** With a friend, share one way you see God’s “WOW” in the ordinary things around you.
- **Pray:** Ask God to reveal any shame you’re carrying and to give you His perspective. As you do invite His forgiveness, freedom, and true life.
- **Encourage:** Look for someone this week who may feel alone or disconnected and reach out in friendship, reflecting God’s design for community.