

Week of May 12, 2019

Family

DEVOTIONAL SHEET



Lesson
18

Stewards of God's Creation

Lesson Summary

Last lesson we saw how the Bible gives us the approximate age of the earth. By adding up the dates given in the genealogies of Genesis 5 and 11, we can determine that the earth is about 6,000 years old.

This lesson we discussed God's care for His creation and man's responsibility to care for it. God created Adam and Eve and then gave them dominion—responsibility or rule—over the earth. They were to take care of the garden and all the animals God put there. This dominion was given as a privilege and responsibility. They were to take care of God's creation, use it for their good, and manage it well. The dominion or responsibility that God gave to Adam has been passed down to us. It is a very big responsibility that we all should take seriously.

Although caring for the earth and climate change are talked about a lot these days, and the temperature on earth may have gone up and down over the past centuries,

we know that God has promised to keep earth as He wants it. And God is faithful to keep His promises.

We all need to work at taking care of the earth according to God's Word in order to honor and glorify Him. However, we must never be so consumed with the earth that we forget our Creator God or the gospel. These are the things our minds need to be set on—even as we do our part to take care of our temporary home—planet earth.

Monday — Read *Genesis* 1:26-28, 2:15

1. What does it mean that God has given man “dominion” over the earth?
2. What was Adam to do?
3. What might all be involved with what Adam was told to do?

Tuesday — Read *Genesis* 8:22

1. What does God promise Noah in this verse?
2. Does this verse give you hope for the future of the earth?

Wednesday — Read Psalm 74:16-17

1. Who owns the day and the night?
2. Who makes summer and winter?
3. What does this tell us about God's control of the earth?

Thursday — Read 2 Peter 3:1-13

1. In what form did God's judgement come when the world perished (v. 6)?
2. How will the world be destroyed in the future judgement?
3. How should that affect how we live our lives?
4. What do we have to look forward to?

Friday — Read Romans 8:18-25

1. What has felt the effects of a fallen world?
2. Even though we try to do our part in caring for everything God created, will we ever be able to make it like He intended for it to be?
3. What are the dangers in becoming too involved as a church in environmental issues?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family each night.

Psalm 8:5-6 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet.

Prayer - Thank God that He is in control of this earth—the weather, the sunrise and sunset, the moon and stars—everything! Thank Him for the promise we have of a new heavens and new earth. Ask Him to help us be wise stewards of His good gifts but to reserve all of our worship for Him alone.

Family Prayer Requests: