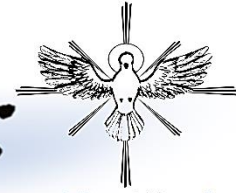




## SESSION 4

# GENESIS



Creation through Water and the Word

### OPENING DISCUSSION

- 1 Last week we briefly discussed what Genesis 1 means in the way that it spells out that each "day" of the creation week had "evening and morning." Let's remind ourselves of why it is logical and preferable to understand the word "day" as literal not figurative?

➤ **Understanding different terminology:**

- Young Earth Creation –
- Progressive Creation (Old Earth Creation) –
- The Gap Theory –
- Theistic Evolution –

- 2 What is the best argument for understanding Genesis 1 in a more literal way:

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### *Read Genesis 1: 6-8*

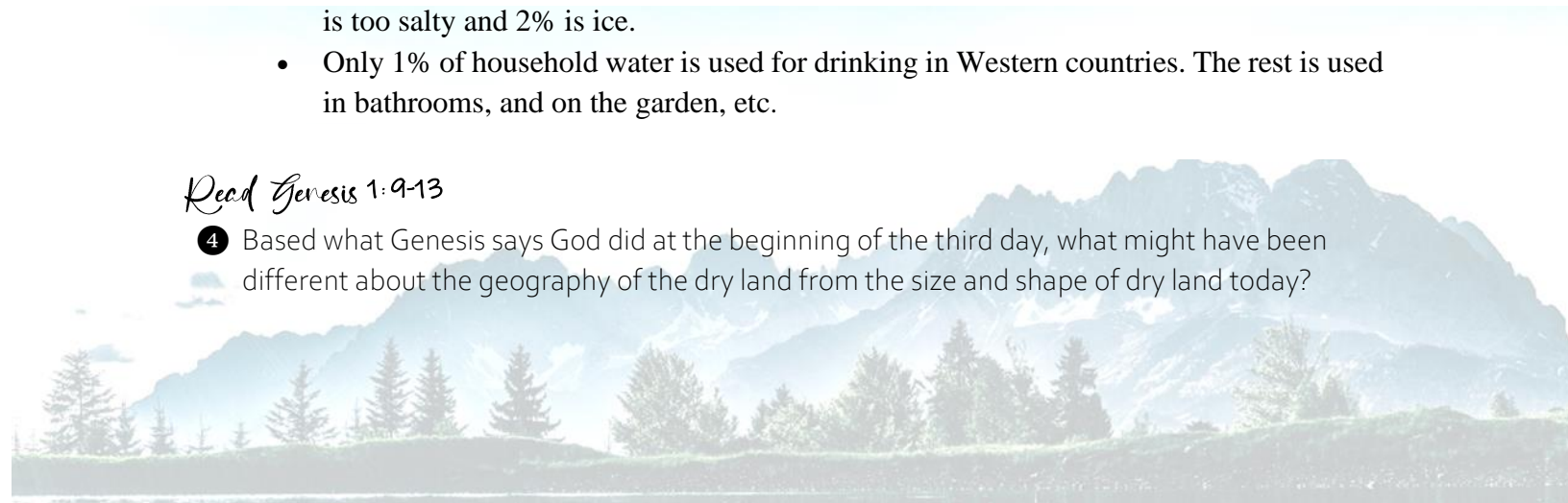
- 3 What exactly is created on day 2? Why so much water?

➤ **Some facts about water**

- The earth is the only place in the universe known to have massive amounts of liquid water.
- The earth is 70% covered by water.
- The human body is composed of about 55-65% water.
- Only about 1% of the world's water is ready to drink (but this is enough). About 97% is too salty and 2% is ice.
- Only 1% of household water is used for drinking in Western countries. The rest is used in bathrooms, and on the garden, etc.

### *Read Genesis 1: 9-13*

- 4 Based what Genesis says God did at the beginning of the third day, what might have been different about the geography of the dry land from the size and shape of dry land today?



- 5 Notice how God creates plants and trees not seeds and sprouts. The text implies fully formed, mature plants capable of bearing seed (e.g., most oak trees don't produce acorns until they are 20 or 30 years old). How could this "illusion of age" also explain other signs of age in other various aspects of creation (e.g., rocks and mountains)?

*Read Genesis 1:14-19*

- 6 On Day 4, God created the great lights that that we know of as Sun and Moon. But Why doesn't Genesis mention these heavenly bodies by name?
- 7 Note the use of "day" in verse 16. What does this add to our understanding of a six-day creation?
- 8 Genesis only tells us what God has done; it doesn't tell us much about "how" He did it. We are told he fills the expanse with stars. But we might wonder, given the size of the universe, how long it took for the light of the newly created stars to be seen in the night sky? Last week we learned that it takes four years for light to travel from Proxima Centauri, our nearest star, to the earth? Was the night sky mostly empty for decades or more before the first light from distant stars began to appear? How would these lights have served their purpose as "signs and for seasons and for days and for years" if they weren't readily apparent? Furthermore, some light that astronomers now see through telescopes comes from stars and galaxies that are said to be millions of light years away, how could this light be visible if the universe is very young?