



“This is the Story...”

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Song lyrics and music by Jonathan Reuel.

Week 1: God Made Matter

Genesis 1-2

Intro Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1Hiplkdy8I&list=PLiSfKtmhnBYNdDKZqJJ2xS8wuUH7JJH3&index=3&t=0s>

Review the big story: This is the very first story we read in the Bible. With the foundation of this story, we start to understand all other stories in the people of God.

- **Key verses:** Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:7

Tell the story: These stories tell us that our beginnings are in God. They tell us that God created the earth and God created us, all to live in harmony with each other.

- Read Genesis 1-2
- Read pages 10-15 in the *Shine On* story Bible.

Prime the Pump: As you read these stories, here are some things to think about.

- **Things to notice:**
 - Notice how peacefully and intimately God works in creation. How does reading about this peaceful work feel to you when you look around at creation now? When you look at what is happening around the world?
 - To understand why this story was so radical in the ancient world, read this story (<http://www.gly.uga.edu/railsback/CS/CSMarduk.html>), which tells the Babylonian creation myth.
 - Notice that the Bible tells the story of creation twice! These stories show us different perspectives on the same story. Why do you think they are both included in our Bible?
 - Notice all the times that God blesses what God creates. Say those blessings out loud. Let them be blessings for you and for the world around you.
 - Notice what the humans do on their first full day of life (hint, day 7). Why do you think their lives start this way? Can this be instructive for us?
- **Background information:**
 - The Hebrew word for “earth” is *adamah*, and the word we translate as “man” is *adam*. We are so connected to the earth. Throughout the passage, notice the relationship we are created to have with all creation.
 - The “wind from God” is the same word (*ruach*) we translate as “spirit,” and it’s a feminine noun. Right off the bat, we learn that God is not just one particular gender.
- **Conversation starters:**
 - Genesis 1:27 is a poem, and it makes a big difference in how we understand ourselves. What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
 - What images of God are in this story?
 - What wonderings do these stories inspire in you?

Microsong: “God Made Matter” (Listen: https://youtu.be/M_f7rIDnQU0)

This is the story of how it all began. God made matter, and chaos shattered.

Sing the Big Song (Listen: <https://youtu.be/Doa8gnTzmPg>)

This is the story of how it all began. God made matter, and chaos shattered.

God loves every one of us, it's true, and God loves the universe.

Go do your household project!

Overview of Stories Included:

Date	Week	Church Year	Part	Focus
6/7	1		Part 1: Primeval History	Creation
6/14	2			Adam and Eve
6/21	3			Cain and Abel, Flood, Babel
6/28	4		Part 2: Family of God	Call of Abram and Sarai
7/5	5			Jacob and Esau - Quarrel and Reconciliation
7/12	6			Joseph Saga
7/19	7		Part 3: People of God	Moses - Baby to Burning Bush
7/26	8			Passover Deliverance - Plagues to Red Sea
8/2	9			God's Provisions - Ten Commandments, Manna and Quail
8/9	10			Learning to be a people: Daughters of Zelophehad
8/16	11			Law of Love: Shemah
8/23	12		Part 4: A New Land	The Jordan and Jericho
8/30	13			The Judges Cycle - Deborah
9/6	14			Ordinary People - Ruth and Naomi
9/13	15			Call of Samuel
9/20	16		Part 5: Kings and Prophets	David's Songs (Psalms)
9/27	17			Solomon Builds a Temple
10/4	18			Jeroboam and Rehoboam
10/11	19			Elijah and the widow of Zarephath
10/18	20			King Josiah
10/25	22			Prophetic vision: Jeremiah's shorts
11/1	22		Part 6: People in Exile	Exile Prophet: Ezekiel and the dry bones
11/8	23			Exile Story: Esther
11/15	24			What do we do without the temple? Synagogue, psalms and scribes
11/22	25			Ezra - rebuilding of the temple
11/29	26	Advent	Part 7: Advent	Isaiah and the prophets
12/6	27			Genealogy of Jesus
12/13	28			Mary's story

12/20	29			Travel to Bethlehem
12/27	30		Part 8: The Messiah is Born	Jesus' birth
1/3	31			Simeon and Anna
1/10	32			Magi
1/17	33		Part 9: Jesus' Beginnings	Escape to Egypt
1/24	34			Jesus at the temple
1/31	35			John the Baptist and Jesus' baptism
2/7	36			Jesus calls the disciples
2/14	37	Ash 2/17	Part 10: Life and Teachings of Jesus	Sermon on the Mount
2/21	38	Lent		Jesus calms the storm
2/28	39			Feeding of the Multitude
3/7	40			Mary and Martha
3/14	41			Jesus Blesses the Children
3/21	42			The Greatest Commandment and the Parable of the Good Samaritan
3/28	43			Part 11: Jesus' death and resurrection
4/4	44	Easter		Easter Week (packet)
4/11	45		Part 12: Disciples to all the Nations	Pentecost story
4/18	46			Sharing in Community
4/25	47			Stephen's story
5/2	48		Part 13: The Early Church	Peter's dream
5/9	49			Saul's Story
5/16	50			Lydia - and Philipians
5/23	51	Pentecost	Part 14: The Story Continues	New Heaven and New Earth
5/30	52			Zechariah's Song