

## Creation Week | Celebrating God

## I. What you can discuss:

- **Discuss the Scripture passages you're going to read.** Reading is good, understanding is fantastic, but being able to use what we know and understand is infinitely better. Understanding comes through discussion, and we'll never put the information to good use if we don't understand it. So we have to have conversations!
- **Discuss how Creation is an extension of Mercy.**
  - We deserve nothing. If God were fair, He would never have created us. Once He created us, if He were fair, He would have sent us to Hell. But He doesn't do that without giving us opportunities to know Him and enter into a relationship with Him.
  - Mercy and grace are intrinsically tied so that it's nearly impossible to distinguish them, but it's important for us to focus on the fact that God didn't give us the negative consequences that we deserve.
- **Discuss how Creation points us to the Gospel.**
  - The Season of Mercy is the Season of Desperation. Nearly every major and minor holiday can easily show us our need of a Savior.
  - Even the Creation Week points to this reality. We need God to make us. We need God to sustain us. We need God to empower us. Humans were created for the sole purpose of having a relationship with God.
  - And all of this exemplifies that we need God. We can't do it on our own.
  - Whether the people in our group are already Christians or not, the celebration of God during Creation Week should remind us all of how much we need God each and every day.
- **Discuss how learning about the Creation can help us Anticipate the New Creation.** Not only can Creation Week excite us about the future celebrations of Advent and The Consummation, but — personally — we should get excited about when God re-creates this world.
- **Discuss the main themes in Creation.**
  - God's power and creativity.
  - The Creation Mandate (Genesis 1:28-30)
  - Our identity and purpose.
  - Work (Labor Day)
- **Discuss apologetics.**
  - We need to be prepared as I Peter 3:15 calls us to be "*ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.*"
  - This is called apologetics, and it's a very worthy topic of conversation.
  - So, whether you preach about the Creation on Sunday, teach your class, talk with your kids, or discuss with friends, we won't be able to celebrate God well if we're not taking every opportunity to point the focus back to Him.
  - Otherwise it's like a birthday where everyone talks among themselves and completely ignores the birthday girl. How terrible would that be!
  - We submit that when we live our lives (whether they be holidays or normal days), and we neglect God, it is a travesty most serious.

## II. What you can do.

- **Read or listen to the Genesis account of creation.**
  - You can either read the whole account every day or simply read the applicable passage on the appropriate days.
  - You can also read any and all other creation passages in Scripture. All the ones we used for preparing our hearts and any others you may find can be read as a celebration of God's awesomeness.
  - Please don't forget that the Bible is an absolutely integral and preeminent part of The Celebration of God. Reading it, memorizing it, studying it, meditating on it, and discussing it is one of the best things we can do.
- **Pray**
  - Take time to praise God for the Creation and everything it accomplished.
  - Pray for those who need to know God better. Pray that the general revelation of this world and cosmos would open their eyes to the reality of God.
- **Interact with your Celebration Wall.** Read the verses you've posted, pray the praises, quiz each other in your memorization, add to and/or subtract from the Wall as you work through the week of Creation.
- **Sing and listen to music that features creation.** Though worship is not just singing, singing is one wonderful way to worship.
- **Watch Creation themed videos.**
  - [TheCelebrationOfGod.com](http://TheCelebrationOfGod.com) posted "The Created Cosmos" which was The Creation Museum's premier astronomy presentation for a number of years.
  - I plan to add links to other Creation-themed videos at [CelebrationOfGod.com](http://CelebrationOfGod.com) as well. So, check it out. By the way, a video like The Created Cosmos would be perfect to watch on Wednesday because that's the day the stars and other planets were created.
- **Visit a Creation-themed attraction.**

This is where The Celebration of God can quickly become a Celebration of Self. There are things we need to discuss during Celebration Week if God is going to be glorified in it. We must make sure we talk of God while we're doing whatever we're doing. The zoo is great unless we forget God.

- **Enjoy the actual Creation!**
- **Be creative.**
- **Plan an activity every day that lines up with what was created on that day.**
- **Put on a play or do a reading or conduct a performance highlighting the Creation.**
- **You could find a way to get involved in your community.**
  - Apologetics organizations are always in need of volunteers and what better way to celebrate Creation Week and the mercy God showed us than by being merciful to others by getting involved in a service opportunity.
  - Whether it's serving people in your family and church or reaching out to your community, you can take any number of the ideas we've discussed today and serve those around you.

The key is whatever you do — whether it's from this list of 11 ideas or you come up with your own — focus on God's role in it. Take time to listen to Him, talk to Him, and talk about Him.

God forbid Creation Week come and go and we spend each day feeding our own lusts and worshipping our own puny idols.