

The God Story
Daily Readings

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THE GOD STORY: DAILY READINGS
by Jacob Armstrong

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Week 1: Introduction

O God, thank you for writing me into your story. I find purpose in knowing that I am a part of the greatest story of all. Even if I am faced with uncertainty today help me to see how I am connected to you. I believe you are a God who still speaks, help me to hear your voice today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Genesis 1:1-2, 26-2:4

When God began to create the heavens and the earth—the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters. . . .

Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth."

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God created humanity in God's own image,
in the divine image God created them,
male and female God created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds of the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened. God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

INTRODUCTION

Day 1

We all have a story. You know the chapters and the characters in your story. You know the moments of heart-break and the moments of glory.

How often do you think that your life is not just a haphazard collection of events but that your story is a part of God's story, which means your life has purpose and meaning?

It is easy to get caught up in the day-to-day and not think about the greater purpose for our story.

G.K. Chesterton said, "I had always felt life first as a story: and if there is a story there is a story-teller."¹

David said of God:

You are the one who created my innermost parts;
you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb.

Psalm 139:13

David was recognizing that it was God who created all things in the beginning and who created him in the beginning. If we recognize God as author of our story, how should we live differently?

As we began this study of the God Story, first consider what has already come in your life.

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If you had to divide your life into chapters up to this point, what would you title them?

Chapter 1: _____

Chapter 2: _____

Chapter 3: _____

Chapter 4: _____

What's next?

Chapter 5: _____

As you look back on your story and the possibilities of the future, what do you feel led to give thanks for today?

O God, thank you for writing me into your story. I find purpose in knowing that I am a part of the greatest story of all. Even if I am faced with uncertainty today help me to see how I am connected to you. I believe you are a God who still speaks, help me to hear your voice today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

1. G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy* (Scotts Valley, CA: IAP, 2009), 39.