



Week 1: Love's Great Choice

APPETIZER: Three Beautiful Words

God is love.
~ The Apostle John (1 John 4:8 & 16)

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THIS SERIES...

1. Sunday teaching – take notes, ask questions, engage actively
2. Home Church – turn this monologue into dialogue!
3. Home Church Hangout Videos – exclusive content!
4. Blog series at bruxy.com – for the keepers!
5. Send in questions (via blog or text or email or social media) – you've got options!
6. The After Party (live and podcast) – coming soon!

DINE IN: What a Difference a Day Makes

Genesis 1

Does "day" mean 24 hours?

2 Peter 3:8... With God a day = a thousand years

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

(Genesis 2:4)

Also see **Exodus 2:11; Proverbs 25:13**

Satan's "Fall"... **Revelation 12:7-9**

How does this affect the world prior to Adam and Eve?

Jesus the Creator... **John 1:1-3; 8:58; Hebrews 1:2**

Jesus is more than our guru or great moral teacher. He is the Source from which we came, our Sustainer in every moment, and our Home to which we are headed.

In the first three days God *creates* concepts and spaces.
In the last three days God *fills* the places and spaces.

DAY 1: Light	DAY 2: Water/Sky	DAY 3: Land
DAY 4: Lights	DAY 5: Fish/Birds	DAY 6: Mammals/Humans

MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE AND LIKENESS – THE IMPLICATIONS...

1. We are all infinitely _____.
2. We are all created _____.
3. We are all most ourselves when we choose _____.
4. We all have a "Great Commission" to _____
to each other and this planet.

TAKE OUT: Choosing Love

HOMEWORK...

Begin each day this week with one simple prayer.
Pray, pause, imagine, then move into your day.

*Dear God,
Please help me be awake, attentive, and
available to everyone I interact with today.
Amen*

FOR FURTHER STUDY... Track with the Bruxy Blog – www.bruxy.com

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. What word(s) best describe how you feel about this topic? Excited. Frustrated. Intimidated. Bored. Fearful. Hopeful. Overwhelmed. Or something else.
2. What are the primary questions you bring to this topic? Have you heard anything so far that has moved you toward the answers you're looking for?

Watch the home church hangout video.

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read about the sixth and seventh day of creation in **Genesis 1:24-2:4**.
 - a. What stands out to you from this passage or Sunday's message?
 - b. Are there kinds or groups of people (based on age, gender, race, sexual orientation, education level, economic level, beautiful people, ugly people, etc.) that you find it easier (or harder) to see as infinitely valuable image-bearers of God? What are some things you plan to do to cultivate an equal value of all people? How does this sense of human value influence how you communicate with people, online and in person? How does it influence how you talk about people when they are not present and listening? (See pages 119-121 of *The End of Religion* for a longer list of kinds of people.)
 - c. Do you think God's first command to humans – to be fruitful and increase in number – applies to all of us at all times? Should we all get married and have children if we want to live a pleasing life to God? Why or why not?
 - d. Read **Psalms 8:4-6** and **115:16**. Along with **Genesis 1**, some Christians take these kinds of verses to mean that we can do whatever we want with the earth – it is here to serve us. How does the teaching of Jesus counter this idea of "rulership"? (If you're stuck, see **Mark 10:42-45**.)
 - e. What was God's intended diet for Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden? Do you think this principle should apply to how we eat today?
 - f. Notice the seventh day has no "morning and evening" like the other days. We are still living in the seventh day. God's holy sabbath rest is ongoing, and we are invited to enter into it now (see **Hebrews 4**!). How could you explain the irreligious Gospel, the message of grace, the Good News of Jesus, from **Genesis 2:2-3** and/or **Hebrews 4:1-11**?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. When we put aside all of the debate and discussion, is there anything that God might be saying to you through this week's teaching about an area of your life that may need healing, growth, humility, submission, confession?