



# Welcome to the 3-Day Devotional Sampler

Thank you for taking the time to open this sampler. My prayer is that these short devotions help you pause, breathe, and rediscover the God who still speaks through His Word. Each of the following pages comes from one of my three devotional books— *That You May Know God* (Genesis), *That You May Believe* (John), and *That You May Be Sent* (Acts). Together they form a simple yet powerful journey of faith: *to know God, to believe in Christ, and to live sent by His Spirit.*

These books were written to make Bible study accessible to everyone, believers and seekers alike. You don't need a theology degree or hours of free time. Each chapter invites you to read one portion of Scripture, reflect on a short background, and spend a few quiet moments applying God's truth to your own life. Whether you have ten minutes in the morning or half an hour before bed, you can grow closer to God one passage at a time.

If you've ever felt intimidated by daily devotionals or long study plans, you'll find these resources refreshingly simple to use. Each day includes a Key Verse, a Bible Background for context, a Devotional Thought that speaks to real life, and a few Reflection Questions to help you respond personally. There's even a closing prayer to guide your conversation with God. You set the pace; God provides the growth.

Every devotional in this series is available now on Amazon, at [InteractiveBibleStudies.net](https://InteractiveBibleStudies.net), and for print and digital editions, study packs, and more. Beginning in November 2025, matching workbooks will also be released to accompany each title, giving individuals and small groups space to journal, apply Scripture, and discuss together. I truly

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believe these books can deepen your walk with Christ, renew your confidence in Scripture, and remind you that God's Word is both powerful and personal. My hope is that these few pages stir something in your heart a desire to know Him more, to believe His promises fully, and to live your faith boldly wherever He leads. Thank you again for

letting me share this time with you. May God bless you richly as you open His Word today. – Charles Bridges  
Founder, *Interactive Bible Studies*



# Genesis 1: In the Beginning

*Read Genesis chapter one in your favorite translation of the Bible.*

Key Verse: *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* (Genesis 1:1)

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## Bible Background

Genesis opens with a declaration that shapes our understanding of everything else in Scripture: *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”* This verse is not simply a starting point; it is the cornerstone of our faith. Before time, matter, or life itself, God existed, eternal and uncreated. Unlike the pagan myths of the ancient Near East, which portrayed the world as the result of cosmic battles or the whims of competing gods, Genesis presents a God who is sovereign, purposeful, and personal. He speaks creation into existence with unmatched authority.

This chapter unfolds in a carefully structured sequence over six days. On the first three days, God forms light and darkness, sky and waters, land and vegetation. Over the next three days, He fills these environments with the sun, moon, and stars in the heavens, birds and fish in the sky and sea, land animals, and last but not least, humanity in His image. This literary symmetry shows God’s design and order, demonstrating that He is not a God of chaos but of intention and beauty. Creation is not random but purposeful, reflecting God’s wisdom.

At the pinnacle of His creative work, God makes humanity in His image and likeness. Genesis 1:26–27 reveals that men and women are unique and distinct from the rest of creation. While animals and plants were called into being according to their kinds, humans are fashioned to bear God’s image. This truth forms the foundation of human dignity, value, and responsibility. To bear His image means to reflect His character, exercise stewardship over the earth, and live in relationship with Him. Being created in the image of God sets us apart and anchors our identity not in ourselves but in God.



The seventh day concludes the narrative with God resting. This rest does not mean God was weary, for the Creator of all things never grows tired. Instead, it marks the completion of a perfect work. God blesses and sanctifies the seventh day as a pattern for His people. Work and rest are both part of the created order, teaching us that our lives are meant to be lived in balance and in rhythm with God's design. From the opening chapter of Scripture, we see a God who is powerful, orderly, relational, and purposeful, inviting us to know Him as the One who made us and sustains us.

### Devotional Thought

When we read the opening line of Genesis, we are immediately confronted with the reality that God is the beginning of all things. Life does not begin with human effort, nature's forces, or blind chance. Life begins with God Himself. He is eternal, existing before anything else came to be, and He is the source of life, beauty, and order. The words "*In the beginning God*" remind us that every story, including ours, finds its origin in Him. To ignore God as Creator is to miss the foundation of our identity and purpose.

God's method of creation is also deeply significant. He creates by speaking. Over and over the chapter says, "*And God said...*" With nothing but His word, the universe takes shape. Stars ignite, oceans separate, mountains rise, and living creatures fill the earth. This shows us the power of God's word, both then and now. Just as His word brought order out of chaos in the beginning, His word can bring light into our darkness, peace into our confusion, and life into the dead places of our hearts.

At the height of creation, God made humanity in His image. This truth is both humbling and uplifting. It means we are not accidents or afterthoughts but intentional reflections of God's glory. Being made in His image means we are called to reflect His character, His love, His creativity, His justice, and His goodness. It also means that every human life has inherent value, regardless of ability, status, or



background. When you look at yourself in the mirror, you are looking at someone designed to mirror the Creator of the universe. This truth should shape the way we see ourselves and the way we treat others.

Finally, God rests on the seventh day. His rest is not about exhaustion but about completion and satisfaction in a work well done. This teaches us that rest is not laziness but an act of trust. When we pause from our labor to rest and worship, we acknowledge that God is in control and that the world does not depend on our constant activity. It is easy to live as though everything depends on us, but Genesis 1 reminds us that our role is to live in rhythm with the God who sustains all things. Knowing God begins with acknowledging Him as Creator, receiving our identity as His image-bearers, and learning to trust Him enough to rest in His care.

### Reflection Questions

1. What does Genesis 1:1 teach you about God's nature and power?
2. Why do you think God chose to create by speaking rather than through other means?
3. How does being made in God's image shape the way you see yourself and others?
4. In what ways can you practice the rhythm of work and rest that God modeled in creation?

### Closing Prayer

Creator God, thank You for speaking life into existence and for making me in Your image. Help me to live each day aware of Your power and presence. Teach me to honor the rhythm of work and rest that You designed. May my life reflect Your glory and point others back to You. Amen.



## John 1: The Word Became Flesh

### Reading:

Read John Chapter One in your favorite translation of the Bible.

### Key Verse:

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

—John 1:14 (NIV)

### Bible Background:

John's Gospel opens differently from the others. Instead of beginning with Jesus' birth, John reaches back into eternity. He declares that Jesus is the eternal Word (Logos) who was with God and was God (John 1:1). Through Him, all things were made (John 1:3). The chapter highlights both Jesus' divine origin and His entrance into human history. John the Baptist serves as a witness, identifying Jesus as the "Lamb of God" (John 1:29) and pointing others to Him. The chapter closes with Jesus calling His first followers, including Andrew, Peter, Philip, and Nathanael.

### Devotional Thought:

John 1:1–3 tells us something incredible: Jesus is not just a man, He is the eternal God. He was there before anything existed. He is the Creator of all



things, but He didn't stay distant. Verse 14 gives us the heart of the Gospel: "The Word became flesh." God wrapped Himself in humanity and came to live among us.

That word "dwelling" in verse 14 means He "tabernacled" or "pitched His tent" among us. It evokes the memory of the tabernacle in the wilderness, where God's presence dwelt among His people. In Jesus, that presence isn't behind a curtain. That presence walks our streets.

We see His glory not in lightning bolts or thrones but in compassion, healing, truth, and grace (John 1:14, 17). We see it when He calls fishermen (John 1:42), speaks truth to skeptics (John 1:47–50), and invites the forgotten to follow Him.

This chapter reminds us that God is always near.

### Reflection Questions:

1. What does John 1:1–3 teach you about who Jesus truly is?
2. Why is it significant that Jesus "made His dwelling among us" (John 1:14)?
3. How does the image of Jesus as the "Lamb of God" (John 1:29) shape your understanding of His mission?
4. In what ways can you reflect Christ's grace and truth (John 1:14, 17)?

That You May Believe



Closing Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for being the eternal Word and yet choosing to dwell with us. Help me grasp the depth of Your love and the power of Your truth. Let me live each day aware of Your presence and committed to showing Your grace to others. Amen.

# Chapter 1: Power and Promise



## Reading:

Read Acts chapter one in your favorite translation of the Bible.

## Key Verse:

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* —Acts 1:8 (NIV)

## Bible Background:

The Book of Acts, written by Luke, begins with the resurrected Jesus spending forty days with His disciples, teaching them about the kingdom of God. During this time, Jesus commands them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit, a promise from the Father. The disciples still expect Jesus to establish a political kingdom, but He redirects their vision toward a global mission: they will receive power from the Holy Spirit and become His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Jesus then ascends into heaven, and two angels assure the disciples that He will one day return in the same way. The disciples return to Jerusalem, where they gather in prayer along with the women, Mary, the mother of Jesus, and His brothers. In preparation for the days ahead, they chose Matthias to replace Judas, restoring the number of apostles to twelve. This chapter sets the tone for a church that will be fueled by prayer, led by the Spirit, and driven by mission.

## Devotional Thought:

Jesus didn't leave His followers with a blueprint, but He left them with a promise. They wanted a kingdom, but He promised power. They looked for

restoration, but He sent a mission. Acts 1 reminds us that waiting seasons are never wasted when we're praying, obeying, and expecting God to move. Jesus didn't rush the Holy Spirit's arrival. He told them to wait together, because what was coming couldn't be earned or forced; the Holy Spirit has to be received. The arrival of the Holy Spirit wouldn't just be for comfort; the power of the Holy Spirit would empower the witnesses to change the world. God still calls us to that same posture: humble expectancy, bold obedience, and unwavering trust. The Holy Spirit isn't just for spiritual moments, it's for daily mission. Wherever God places you, you're not alone. You're a witness, equipped by His Spirit to carry His story. So wait, if He says wait. Go when He says go and trust that what He promised, He will fulfill.

### Reflection Questions:

1. What are you currently waiting for from God, and how are you using this time to your advantage?
2. How does Acts 1:8 shape your understanding of the Holy Spirit's role in your life?
3. What fears or distractions might keep you from being a bold witness?
4. Are there any areas where God is calling you to wait or to act in obedience?

### Closing Prayer:

Lord, thank You for Your promises and the filling of the Holy Spirit. Teach me to wait well, pray faithfully, and walk boldly in Your power. Use me to be a witness, not by my strength, but by Your Spirit. Help me live each day with the hope of Your return and the urgency of Your mission. Amen.