



DWELLING IN THE WORD

Adapted for Small Group, Family, & Individual Use

SEPTEMBER 2021



BEGIN IN PRAYER

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



LISTEN

- *Hear the passage read once, then spend a minute or two in silence, letting the Word dwell in your ears and heart.*
- *Hear the passage read again, by another voice or in another translation if possible.*

Genesis 1:26-28, 31a

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.



REFLECT & SHARE

Larger groups should break into pairs or small groups for the first two discussion items and then share insights with the larger group before continuing to discuss the final two questions.

- *What image, word, or phrase in this passage did God use to get your attention? (Share just a word or phrase without commentary or analysis in this first step.)*
- *What excites or inspires you here? What challenges you or makes you uncomfortable?*
- *How does this help you understand our purpose as disciples of Jesus?*
- *(For groups:) What difference will what we have heard make for our work together?*



The Diocese of New Jersey



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OCTOBER 2021



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Psalm 16:7-11

- 7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 8 I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
- 10 For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
- 11 You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.



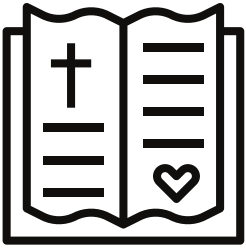
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NOVEMBER 2021



BEGIN IN PRAYER

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Ephesians 4:11-16

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.



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