

Overview of Genesis

1. If you haven't done so already, read through the book of Genesis. What did you notice as you read? What did you find interesting, surprising, or confusing?
2. In no more than two short sentences, write what you think the book of Genesis is about. At the end of our study, we will come back to this question, and see how our impressions of the book have changed.
3. Watch these two short videos by The Bible Project which give an excellent overview of Genesis 1-11: [youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I) and Genesis 12-50: [youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo).
4. Flip through the book of Genesis in your Bible and read the headings (the uninspired part!) that summarize each section of the book.
5. Create an outline of the book of Genesis. No outline is perfect, so don't worry if yours is right. But think about where the major sections of the book may be, how each section may be divided up, and how those sub-sections may be divided up.

6. What do you think the phrase in 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1, 9; and 37:2 means? What might this repetition tell us about the book's purpose? How might this phrase relate to the many genealogies in Genesis?

7. Who wrote the book of Genesis? What does the Old Testament say about this? What does Jesus say about this? During what time period was the book written? How might knowing this help us understand the book better?

8. Does the book of Genesis record actual historical events? How do you know? Does any account of history record every detail of what happened? How do you think the author of Genesis chose which details to include and which to leave out?

9. Was the book of Genesis written to answer modern scientific questions? Does the Bible claim the world was created in six days (Exodus 20:11; Mark 10:6)? Does the Bible tell us exactly how old the earth is?

