



## Genesis 1:26-31; 2:8-15

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

<sup>29</sup> Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

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<sup>8</sup> Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup> And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup> A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. <sup>12</sup> (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) <sup>13</sup> The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. <sup>14</sup> The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

## **LIFE Community Leader's Guide**

### **Sunday, January 7**

**Big Idea:** Work is Good for the World.

**Key Verse:** <sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

**Opening Question:** How would you answer the question, “How does your work affect the world”?

#### **Study/Discussion Questions:**

- Read Genesis 1:26-31; 2:8-15
- List all of the work responsibilities that Adam and Eve had during their time in the garden before the Fall. Does this surprise you?
- Man's work in the world is primarily an “expansion” work (i.e. taking what God created and multiplying it through our God-given abilities and efforts) In what ways is man's work patterned after God's work in creation?
- Was the nature of work different before sin entered the world than it was afterward? How so? (some speculation is okay here)
- In his message, Bryan talked about work in three primary categories: knowledge based work, skill based work, and relational based work. In your work are you leveraging knowledge, skill, or relationships?
- Have you ever thought of your work being connected to God's commands to Adam in Chapter 1:28-30? What connections can you make to the work you do every Monday morning? What good are you promoting in your part of the ‘garden’?
- What responsibilities are implicit in God's charge to Adam and Eve in verses 1:28-30?
- What about your work right now makes it difficult to see your work as an extension of God's work in the world?
- Did anyone attend any of the Workplace forums on Sunday where people gathered with others in their similar field? Any insights from this experience?
- How would tomorrow morning (or Monday morning) look different if we approached our work day as an opportunity to expand upon God's work in creation?