

*Built On a Rock: The Heart of Christianity from Genesis to Revelation*  
Living the Message 2022-2023  
November 2022 Study Guide for Participants and Facilitators

**Original Blessing: *Creation* with Pastor Ruud**

[Click here to watch the video.](#)

**Opening Prayer**

*Dear God, you have created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them, and you have created us to be stewards of your creation. Grant us the wisdom to see how you would have us care for this world and for each other, and give us the courage to do so. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

**Focus Statement**

“Creation” describes all of God’s creative activity to make and sustain the world, activity that God shares with us.

**Questions**

1. Read the two creation stories: [Genesis 1:1–2:4](#) and [Genesis 2:4–3:24](#). What surprised you? What did you notice?
2. When you think of “creation,” what comes to mind? Is it a point in history? Is it something that God does? Is it something that we do? What about the word *creating*? How does moving from a noun (*creation*) to a verb (*creating*) affect how you think about God’s activity?
3. If we extend “creation” to “creating and still sustaining,” then where do you see God at work? And where do you see God using humans—including you—to share in God’s creative activity?

**Deeper Dive with Pastor Lose**

[Luke 10:25-37](#) “The Good Samaritan” is one of Jesus’ most famous parables.

1. How is the Samaritan serving as a steward of God’s creation?
2. The Samaritan extends his care for his neighbor by not only taking the man to the inn but also by paying the innkeeper to keep him for as long as necessary. If we were to make this story contemporary, what other kinds of things might a “good Samaritan” do in this situation to care for a neighbor? What are some of the ways we can be co-creators with God today?

## **Closing Prayer**

*Dear God, thank you for the opportunity to learn the story of Scripture more deeply. Bless us in our understanding of you so that we, in turn, may be a blessing to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## **Next Month:**

Missing the Mark: *Sin*

Pastor Lose presenting

In-person presentation Tuesday, December 6, 6:30-7:30pm at Mpls Campus - Room 207

Video emailed out by end of day Monday, December 5

