

Small Group Bible Study Questions

Scripture: Genesis 1:18–26; Genesis 2:15

Opening

- What comes to mind when you hear the word *stewardship*? How does it relate (or not) to your everyday life?

Observing the Text

1. Read Genesis 1:18–26. What stands out to you about the role of humans in God’s creation?
2. Read Genesis 2:15. How does this verse deepen or nuance our understanding of humanity’s vocation in creation?

Digging into the Hebrew Words

3. **Radah (“rule, have dominion”)** – In what ways can ruling be exercised as care rather than exploitation? How does God’s own rule serve as a model?
4. **Kabash (“subdue”)** – This word can sound harsh. How might it point more toward bringing order, flourishing, and harmony than domination? What does this mean for how we treat creation?
5. **Shamar (“keep, guard, protect”)** – What does it mean to *guard* creation? Where in your life do you see the need for protective stewardship (e.g., land, animals, water, community resources)?
6. **Abad (“serve, cultivate, work”)** – How does the idea of serving or working for the land reshape our relationship with creation? How might this influence everyday practices like food, energy, or waste?

Connecting to Life Today

7. How do these four words together give a balanced picture of humanity’s vocation? What happens if we emphasize one and neglect the others?
8. In what ways have we (as individuals, communities, or societies) failed to live up to this calling?
9. Where do you see examples of faithful stewardship of creation today — either locally or globally?
10. What small, practical step can you take this week to live out your vocation as a steward of God’s creation?

Closing Reflection & Prayer

- If you imagine creation as a gift placed in your care, what one word (rule, subdue, keep, serve) do you most need to grow in right now?
- End by thanking God for entrusting us with creation and asking for wisdom to live as faithful stewards.