MINISTÈRE DU PASTEUR CLÉMENT SALOMON · BIBLE STUDY #16

In the Beginning: You Were Made on Purpose

Before anyone called you anything, God called His work "very good."

"*Ou se yon aksidan.*" You were an accident.

Daphnée was sixteen when a cousin said it at a family party in Brooklyn — half joking, half not. Everybody laughed. Daphnée did not. She already knew her mother had not planned her. Now she knew everybody else knew too.

For three weeks she barely talked. She stopped singing in the youth choir. At night she lay awake thinking, *If nobody meant for me to be here, why am I here?*

Her grandmother, Grann Mèsilia, was visiting from Jacmel. One night she took Daphnée up to the roof of the building. The city glowed orange. Not one star was visible.

"In Jacmel," Grann said, "the sky at night is so full of stars you could cry. They are here too, *pitit*. You just can't see them because of the lights. They never left." Then she opened her old Bible on her knees, found the very first page by the light of her phone, and put her finger on one line.

What did that line say? And why did it change everything for Daphnée? Keep reading. It is the first page of the Bible — and it is about you.

Before anything else: God

The Bible does not open with a debate. It does not open with an argument. It opens with a Person.

> *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."*

> **Genesis 1:1 (KJV)**

Before there was a sun, a sea, a mountain or a person, there was God. Not chance. Not nothing. **God.** And everything else began because He decided it should.

How did He do it? Genesis tells us again and again: *"And God said..."* — and it was so. The psalmist sings it: *"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made... For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast"* (Psalm 33:6, 9). The book of Hebrews adds: *"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God"* (Hebrews 11:3).

Think about that. The same voice that said "Let there be light" is the voice that speaks to you in His Word today. When God speaks, things that were not, begin to be.

The sky is preaching

Grann Mèsilia was right about the stars. Even when we cannot see them, they are still there — and they are still talking.

> *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."*
> **Psalm 19:1 (KJV)**

Every sunrise over the mountains, every wave at the beach, every tiny ant carrying a crumb ten times its size — it is a sermon without words. Paul says that God's *"eternal power and Godhead"* are *"clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made"* (Romans 1:20).

So creation is not only a story about the past. It is a window. When you look at what God made, you can learn something about who God is: powerful, wise, generous, full of beauty and order. He did not have to make a world full of colors and flavors and music. He did it because that is what He is like.

Made in His image — on purpose

Then came day six. And here the Bible slows down, as if God Himself were leaning in.

> *"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness... So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he*

> *them."*
>
> **Genesis 1:26-27 (KJV)**

Notice: *"Let us make."* No other creature in Genesis is introduced like that. Human beings were not an afterthought or a side effect. They were planned, discussed, and made with care. Genesis 2 shows it up close: *"the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul"* (Genesis 2:7). Formed by His hands. Filled with His breath.

That is the line Grann Mèsilia put her finger on: **"in the image of God created he him."** Then she looked at her granddaughter and said, "Your mother did not plan you. But heaven was not surprised. God was not surprised."

David knew this feeling. He wrote: *"Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made"* (Psalm 139:13-14).

Here is what this means for you: **your worth does not come from how you were born, what you own, what papers you carry, or what anyone ever called you.** It comes from whose image you carry. And because every person carries that same image, no one is worth more than you — and you are worth no more than anyone else. God *"hath made of one blood all nations of men"* (Acts 17:26).

"Very good" — and then a day to rest

At the end of day six, God stepped back and looked at everything.

> *"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."*
>
> **Genesis 1:31 (KJV)**

Not "good enough." Not "almost." **Very good.** No sickness, no death, no hatred, no tears. That is the world God wanted — and, as we will see, the world He still plans to give back.

And then God did something surprising. He stopped.

> *"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it."*
>
> **Genesis 2:1-3 (KJV)**

God was not tired. He rested to enjoy what He had made and to share that joy with the people He had just created. Their very first full day was not a day of work — it was a day with Him. Years later, when God wrote the Ten Commandments with His own finger, He pointed back to this week:

> *"For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."*
>
> **Exodus 20:11 (KJV)**

That is why the Sabbath is like the weekly birthday of the world. Every seventh day God says: *Remember who made you. Remember that you are more than your work. Come and rest with Me.* Jesus said it simply: *"The sabbath was made for man"* (Mark 2:27) — for every human being, not only for one nation. (For more, see our study *"God's Gift of Rest — the Sabbath."*)

The Creator has a name

Here is the part many people have never heard. Who exactly was speaking on that first page? The Gospel of John answers by starting with the same three words as Genesis:

> *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."*
>
> **John 1:1-3 (KJV)**

A few verses later John tells us who the Word is: the One who *"was made flesh, and dwelt among us"* (John 1:14). **Jesus.** Paul says the same thing:

> *"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible... all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist."*
>
> **Colossians 1:16-17 (KJV)**

Read that again slowly. The hands that shaped Adam from the dust are the hands that were nailed to the cross. The Creator did not stay far away from His broken creation. He came into it. He walked our roads, ate our food, cried our tears — and died to buy us back.

And *"by him all things consist"* — that means "hold together." Right now, today, the same Jesus is holding the stars in place and holding your next heartbeat. You are not forgotten in a corner of a big universe. You are held.

What went wrong — and the One who makes all things new

If God made everything "very good," why is the world full of pain? The Bible is honest: sin came in through the first human beings' choice to distrust God, *"and death by sin"* (Romans 5:12). God did not create death. It is an intruder.

But the Creator has not given up on His creation — or on you. The One who made you once can make you new:

> *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."*
>
> **2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)**

And at the very end of the Bible, the same Creator sits on the throne and says: *"Behold, I make all things new"* (Revelation 21:5). The story that began in a perfect garden ends in a perfect home.

That is why God's last message to the world, in Revelation, calls every nation back to the first page:

> *"Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."*
>
> **Revelation 14:7 (KJV)**

Worship the One who made you. Not money. Not fear. Not the opinions of people. Him.

Daphnée went back to the youth choir the next Sabbath. She wrote Genesis 1:27 on a card and taped it to her mirror, right where she would see it every morning before school. Under it, in her own handwriting, she added four words: *"Not an accident. Chosen."*

Whatever anyone has called you — you were made on purpose. Made in His image. Made by Jesus. And He is not finished with you yet.

Before you close this — one question

Has someone made you feel like a mistake? Have you ever wondered if your life really matters? Or have you never heard that the Creator of the stars knows your name?

He does. We would be honored to pray with you, open the Bible with you, and help you find a church family near you where you can rest and belong.

Would you like to know more about Jesus, study the Bible, or go deeper on this topic? Reach us today:

📞 **903-748-9353** · ✉ **jils19802012@gmail.com**
Or leave a comment, send us a direct message, and **subscribe + follow** on YouTube and Facebook.

Don't miss what's next. The Creator did not stay in the sky — one night He came down and was laid in a manger. Our next devotional: *"Emmanuel: The Night God Moved Into Our Neighborhood."* Subscribe now so it reaches you the moment it's out. If you wait, you'll have to come find it. 🔔

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Viewer Handout

In the Beginning: You Were Made on Purpose — pocket version

5 truths to remember

1. The Bible begins with God, not chance: He spoke, and the world came to be (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6, 9; Hebrews 11:3).
2. Creation preaches every day about God's power and goodness (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20).
3. Every human being is made in God's image, on purpose — so every person has worth no one can take away (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; Psalm 139:13-14; Acts 17:26).
4. God called His finished work "very good" and blessed the seventh day as a weekly memorial of Creation (Genesis 1:31; 2:1-3; Exodus 20:11; Mark 2:27).
5. The Creator is Jesus — the One who made us came to redeem us, holds all things together, and will make all things new (John 1:1-3, 14; Colossians 1:16-17; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Revelation 21:5; 14:7).

Memory verse

> *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."*
>
> **Genesis 1:27 (KJV)**

Think & pray about it

- What words have people spoken over me that God's first page says are not true?
- If every person carries God's image, how should that change the way I treat the person I find hardest to love?
- This coming Sabbath, how can I stop, look at what God has made, and thank Jesus as my Creator and Redeemer?

FOR TEACHERS & SMALL GROUPS

Presenter Bullet Sheet

- **Open with the story** (an illustrative story: Daphnée, "ou se yon aksidan", the roof in Brooklyn with no stars) — ask: "Has anyone ever made you feel like a mistake?"
- **Point 1 — God first:** Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6, 9; Hebrews 11:3. The Bible opens with a Person; He speaks and it is so.
- **Point 2 — Creation preaches:** Psalm 19:1 (Psalm 19:2 in Louis Segond / Kreyòl); Romans 1:20. Nature as a window on God's character.
- **Point 3 — Made in His image:** Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; Psalm 139:13-14; Acts 17:26. "Let us make"; formed by His hands, filled with His breath; worth and equality of every person.
- **Point 4 — "Very good" and the seventh day:** Genesis 1:31; 2:1-3; Exodus 20:11; Mark 2:27. Six days, then a blessed day of rest — the weekly memorial of Creation, made for all people.
- **Point 5 — The Creator is Jesus:** John 1:1-3, 14; Colossians 1:16-17. The hands that formed Adam were nailed to the cross; He holds all things together now.
- **Point 6 — Broken, but not abandoned:** Romans 5:12 (death is an intruder); 2 Corinthians 5:17; Revelation 21:5.
- **Christ-centered close:** Revelation 14:7 — worship Him that made heaven and earth; the Creator is also the Redeemer.
- **Appeal:** invite each person to accept that they were made on purpose and to give their life to the Creator who died for them; invite them to keep the next Sabbath with Him (see "God's Gift of Rest — the Sabbath").
- **Close:** memory verse (Genesis 1:27) + tease the next devotional ("Emmanuel: The Night God Moved Into Our Neighborhood").

EVIDENCE-BASED · FACT-CHECKED

10 Myths vs. Facts

Myth	Fact (with Bible)
1. If my parents did not plan me, I am an accident.	"Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb... I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:13-14). Every person is made "in the image of God" (Genesis 1:27); "we are his workmanship" (Ephesians 2:10).
2. Genesis is only an old legend with no meaning for real life.	Jesus quoted Genesis as the foundation of marriage: "he which made them at the beginning made them male and female" (Matthew 19:4-5). God grounded the fourth commandment in the Creation week (Exodus 20:11).
3. The "days" of Genesis 1 cannot mean real days.	Each day is marked "the evening and the morning" (Genesis 1:5, 31), and God ties our seven-day week to them: "in six days the LORD made heaven and earth... and rested the seventh day" (Exodus 20:11). The Adventist Church believes in six literal days that formed a week like ours.
4. Jesus came later; He had nothing to do with Creation.	"All things were made by him" (John 1:3); "by him were all things created" (Colossians 1:16); "by whom also he made the worlds" (Hebrews 1:2).
5. Some people, races or nations are worth more than others.	God "hath made of one blood all nations of men" (Acts 17:26); all are made in His image (Genesis 1:27), which is why James says we must not curse people "made after the similitude of God" (James 3:9).
6. God created death and suffering as part of His "very good" world.	The finished world was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Death entered "by sin" (Romans 5:12), and God promises "there shall be no more death" (Revelation 21:4).
7. The seventh-day rest was only given to the Jews.	God blessed and sanctified the seventh day at Creation (Genesis 2:2-3), long before Israel existed. Jesus said "the sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27).
8. "Dominion" means people may use and abuse the earth as they like.	God put Adam in the garden "to dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15). "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness

	thereof" (Psalm 24:1) — we are caretakers, not owners.
9. Believing in a Creator means you must stop thinking or studying nature.	"The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein" (Psalm 111:2). God's power is "understood by the things that are made" (Romans 1:20). Faith invites curiosity.
10. My life is too broken; God cannot start over with me.	"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17); "a new heart also will I give you" (Ezekiel 36:26); "Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5).

Where this comes from (Sources)

This study is built on the Bible and reflects the published beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Verify everything for yourself:

- The Bible — passages on Creation: Genesis 1:1, 5, 26-31; Genesis 2:1-3, 7, 15; Exodus 20:11; Psalm 19:1; Psalm 24:1; Psalm 33:6, 9; Psalm 111:2; Psalm 139:13-14; Ezekiel 36:26; Matthew 19:4-5; Mark 2:27; John 1:1-3, 14; Acts 17:26; Romans 1:20; Romans 5:12; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:2; Hebrews 11:3; James 3:9; Revelation 14:7; Revelation 21:4-5 (King James Version, public domain). Note: Psalm 19:1 in the KJV is Psalm 19:2 in French and Haitian Creole Bibles.
- Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Belief #6, "Creation" (see also #7 "The Nature of Humanity" and #20 "The Sabbath") — official beliefs: https://adventist.org/beliefs
- 28 Fundamental Beliefs (2020 edition, PDF): https://adventist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/ADV-28Beliefs2020.pdf
- General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: https://gc.adventist.org/
- Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* (ch. 2 "The Creation"), public domain: https://whiteestate.org/ / https://m.egwwritings.org/
- Related studies in this library: *"God's Gift of Rest — the Sabbath"*, *"Who Is Jesus, Really?"* and *"Heaven and the New Earth"* — https://pasteurclementsalomon.org/resources.html · Questions? https://pasteurclementsalomon.org/faq.html · Faith Journey: https://pasteurclementsalomon.org/journey.html

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