

Homework Lesson 1

Day 1: The discipline of Scripture Reading

Read through Genesis 1 + 2 using our color coding system. Before you begin, ask God to teach you and transform you through the reading of His word.

Blue: What is God like? How does He work? What is His character?

Green: What does God promise?

Orange: What does God ask of us?

Pink: What is worthy of prayer and pursuit in your own life?

Day 2: The discipline of Scripture Meditation – Who are we and what are we doing here?

Using the passages from yesterday to answer the following questions:

What does Genesis 1:27 tell us about who we are?

What is the command in Genesis 1:28 and Genesis 2:15? What are we to do?

 (selem) : image

God first created Adam and Even in His image. Image is the Hebrew word “selem.” Selem is also the Hebrew word for shadow. Being made in God’s image means that we are literally small replicas of Him. We are His shadow. We are commissioned to be physical representations of what and who He is.

God then placed Adam and Eve in a specific place, Eden. God gives them commands like rule, subdue, cultivate and keep. Verbs like “subdue” and “rule” mean there is going

to be work and an order that needs to be maintained. God created shalom out of chaos. His desire was for His people to reflect Him and partner with Him not only to multiply things and cause things to be fruitful, He also wanted them to maintain the shalom and rule in order to keep the chaos at bay.

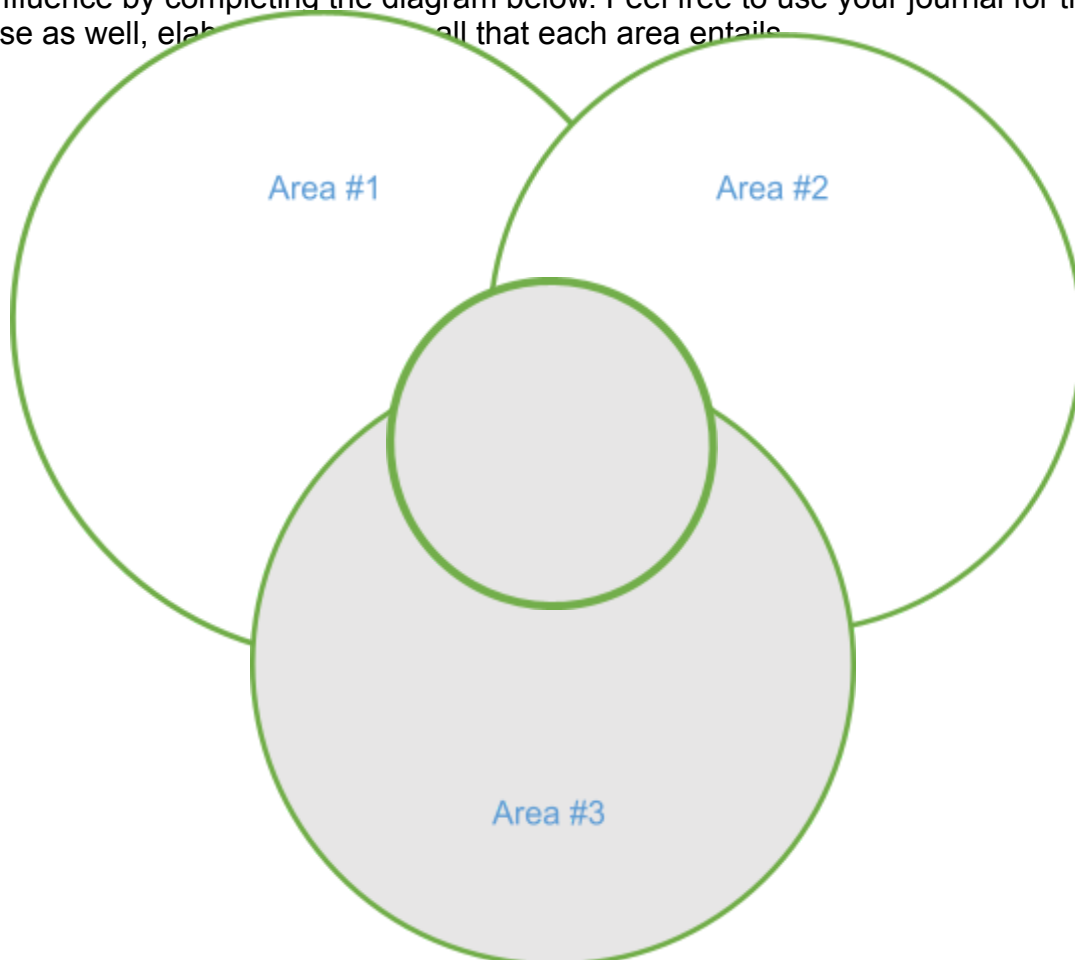
What does Acts 17:26 say about where you live right now?

Let that sink in. God has placed you in a specific place for a specific time. You are on mission to reflect Him and bring Tikkun Olam to your corner of the world!

Day 3: Journaling, Reflection and Thanksgiving

In this lesson, we learned that God called Abraham to the center of the ancient world in order to fulfill the mission God had for him. Just as God had a very intentional place where He called specifically Abraham to be on mission, God has also uniquely gifted you, uniquely placed you and uniquely called you to be His partner and His witness in that place. For many of us, this is a new thought and a new perspective. God has determined what is within our sphere of influence and He has given us passions and gifts in order to put Him on display.

Spend some intentional time considering three main areas that God has placed within your influence by completing the diagram below. Feel free to use your journal for this exercise as well, elaborate on all that each area entails.



One of the first steps to being effective in our partnership with God is to recognize what He has given us. For some of us the areas above are generally happy and fulfilling things (lovely children, a great job, amazing friends, etc.). But for some of us, some of these areas are difficult (aging parents, wayward children, a lonely job, difficult relationships, etc.).

Look up Psalm 16:5-6. What does the Psalmist say about his inheritance and what gives him his strength?

Conclude today by looking at your diagram and considering all God has placed within your boundaries. Spend some time praying through Psalm 16:5-6. Ask God to be your portion and your strength. Can you say, regardless of happy or difficult assignments, that your boundary lines have fallen in pleasant places?

Day 4 + 5: Prayer

As the week comes to an end, take the opportunity to live into the spiritual discipline of prayer.

Begin by praying Scripture and focusing on God and who he is. Create space to ponder some of the things He might be asking of you. Here are some prompts that may help:

- Thank God for His character (maybe the things you underlined in blue). Thank Him for the ways in which He works in our lives.
- What did you underline in orange? Is there anything you saw that He is asking of you? How are you doing with those things?
- Recall His promises and pray them back to Him (Did you underline anything from this passage in green?). Ask Him to bring His kingdom for you and your community in keeping with all He has promised.
- Pray over the things He has revealed to you (the things you underlined in pink). Ask for His help in all He has ordained for you.

Conclude by praying for the requests of your small group or other people you love that God brings to mind.