



ORIGINS & MEANING

Session 2: Origins & Meaning

Small Group Guide

Warm up (activity to connect with the theme)

Do you know your own family history? Share anything interesting you know of your lineage. For example, does anyone have a link to someone famous from the past?

Why is tracing ancestry and family history so popular today?

Where do you think people you know find a sense of meaning in their lives today?

Message (summary video)

Watch the video by Andrew Ollerton that summarises the big story of the Bible and its relevance to our lives.

Scripture readings (for the group to read together)

Genesis 1.26–2.8, 3.1–7.

Discussion time

- How would you respond to the objection that we can't take Genesis seriously because it contradicts modern science?
- Based on the world we experience around us, what can we deduce about what God is like?
- Read Genesis 1.26–8. What might it mean to be 'made in the image of God'? How should this affect the way we see ourselves and treat others?
- Read Genesis 3.1–7. How does the story of Adam and Eve's temptation by the serpent still resonate with our experience today?
- What are your initial reactions to the film?
- Read the promise in Genesis 3.15 and consider the flood story and the rainbow. How do these point forwards and declare hope over our broken world?
- Overall, how has the origins story in Genesis helped you make sense of life today?

Response time (a reflection to lead into prayer time)

How can we take time to enjoy God and his creation this week?

Maybe we need to slow down in order to enjoy some of the beautiful gifts we've been given.

Daily content

Continue the journey this week by reading the daily chapters of content and Scriptures in the series book by Andrew Ollerton, *The Bible: A Story That Makes Sense of Life* (Hodder).



ORIGINS
& MEANING



EXODUS
& FREEDOM



EXILE
& PEACE



MESSIAH
& LOVE



SPIRIT
& COMMUNITY



HOPE
& HOME