



# COVENANTS

EXPERIENCING THE UNFOLDING STORY OF GOD'S LOVE

## GROUP MEMBERS:

- Before the Sunday message, read through (and complete) that week's content in the Study Guide.
- Bring your Study Guide on Sunday and take any notes that might help you better understand the passage.
- Use the passage, the Sermon Notes (provided online, or at the church on Sundays), or this Study Guide as a daily devotional.
- Some weeks the Study Guide will help emphasize the sermon's specific points, and some weeks it might focus on areas of the topic that the sermon can't address.
- Continue to ask God to bless our congregation as we study the covenants, and pray for the members of your Small Group, our church community, and our local community.

## GROUP LEADERS:

- Consider how to integrate the Sermon Notes (and those questions) with the Study Guide.
- You may choose to open your group time with a brief discussion about the thrust of this week's sermon, and ask your group what kind of connections they were able to make (to the passage, the sermon, etc.).
- Don't feel pressured to discuss every page of the Study Guide.
- Make the goal of each study to identify:
  1. The main point of the covenant.
  2. How we understand Jesus in light of the covenant.
  3. How we live our lives (today) in light of number 1 and 2.
- Always follow the Spirit's leading, and be sensitive to His direction during any group meeting.

## A SAMPLE SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Opening prayer.
- Ask the group if they had any questions about the covenant.
- Ask the group how they would summarize the passage (what's the main point?). Remember; don't get bogged down with details, only to then miss the actual point of the covenant.
- Ask the group what made an impact with them (either because they discovered the original meaning of a passage, or because of a breakthrough in their own lives through personal application).
- Go through the "Reflection Questions" from Section 4 of each week's Study Guide, and discuss any impact, conviction, or challenge they've had in applying these truths to their lives.
- Ask the group for prayer requests.
- Have the group pray for their requests.

# THE STUDY GUIDE FORMAT

This Study Guide is broken down into four main parts. Each part has a specific purpose in telling the story of the covenant, how it fits together with the other covenants, how we see Jesus in the covenant, and how we can apply that covenant to our lives.

## **1 DEFINE the Covenant—The Original Context of the Covenant**

The DEFINE section explains the original context of the covenant. In this section, you will learn the background of that particular covenant, where it is found in the Bible, and how it applied to God's people (in that context).

## **2 DEMONSTRATE the Covenant—The Biblical-Theological Context of the Covenant**

The DEMONSTRATE section connects that covenant with the rest of the covenants that came before it. This shows how that particular story connects to the ways that God is building His Kingdom through covenants, and how He's demonstrating His special love to His people.

## **3 DISCOVER the Covenant—Christ and the Covenant**

The DISCOVER section is all about Jesus—it's Christocentric (Christ-centered). This shows how everything in the Old Testament points to and anticipates Jesus, and how Jesus is the perfect version of the original covenant.

This is because the whole Bible is about Jesus, everything from Genesis 1—Malachi 4 (see Luke 24:27-49 and John 5:39). Therefore, when we go through this study, we will make sure that the point of each week finds its fulfillment in Jesus. And so, when we read such iconic and familiar stories, don't try to be like Abraham or Moses or David—be like Jesus, who is the perfect and better version of Abraham, Moses, and David!

## **4 DIGEST the Covenant—The Christian and the Covenant**

The DIGEST section is about modern application. Based on the previous three sections, what is the way that Christians (today) can apply this particular covenant to our lives?

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

For Sections 1–3, the point of the Reflection Questions is to make sure that the reader understands the main point of that section. If you notice, our writers are asking very specific questions here. These questions will help us better understand the covenant, but probably won't serve as the best Small Group discussion questions.

In Section 4 (the application section), the questions are more open-ended. These are meant to help the reader contemplate how to apply the covenant to their life. These questions will probably work better as Small Group discussion questions.



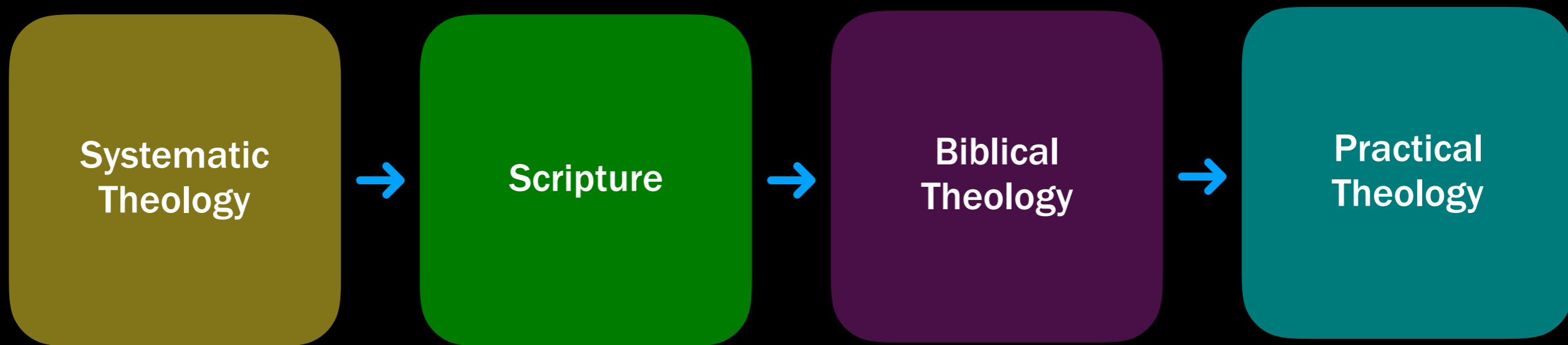
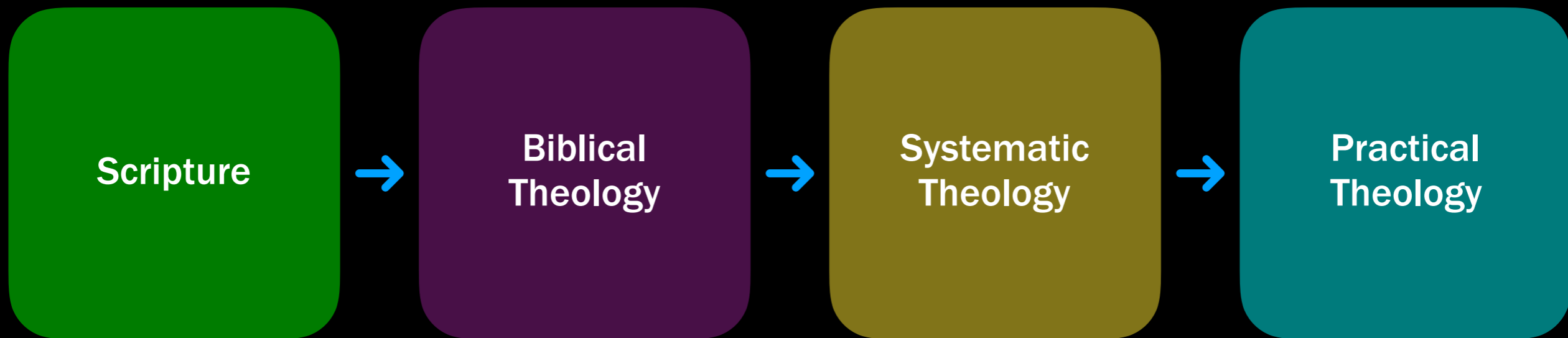
# COVENANTS

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## RESOURCES

[TheologyClass.org/covenants19](https://TheologyClass.org/covenants19)



# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

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## A. Orthodox

1. Literally "right belief"
2. Positions that are sound and affirmed by the historic church

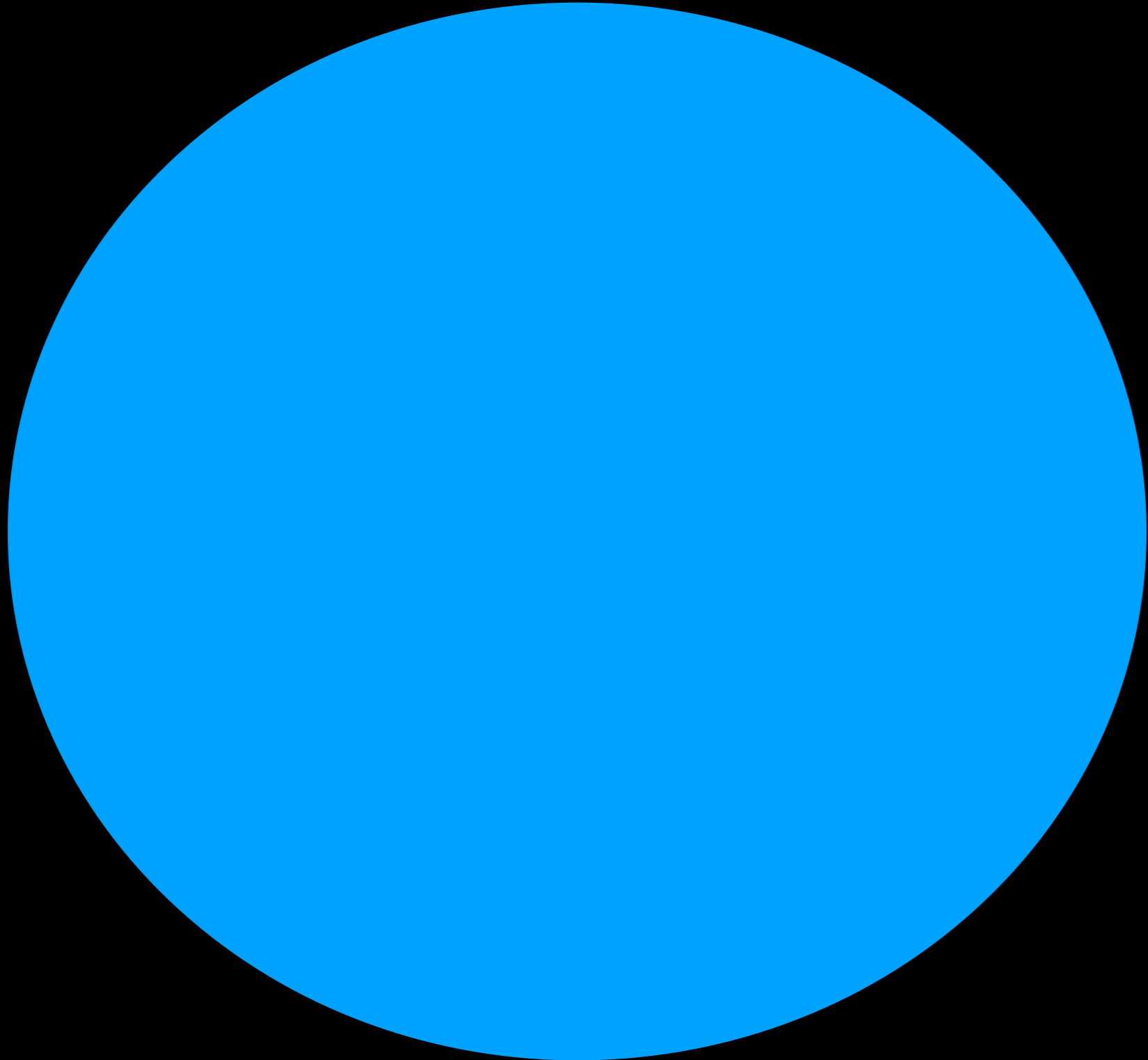
## B. Heterodox

1. Not sound, but not outside of Christianity
2. Something is heterodox depending on perspective
  - a. Luther/Calvin



# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

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# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

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## C. Harmful

1. Evangelistic methods; eschatological positions; foreknowledge positions

## D. Heresy

1. A teaching rejected by the Christian community (contrary to scripture)
2. Technically the teaching of an unorthodox perspective (not merely a view that's held)

# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

## WHAT'S ESSENTIAL? AND AFFIRMED BY THE CHURCH THROUGH HISTORY):

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### 1. Monotheism

- a. Humanity/deity of Christ
- b. The Trinity
  - i. Personhood of the Spirit

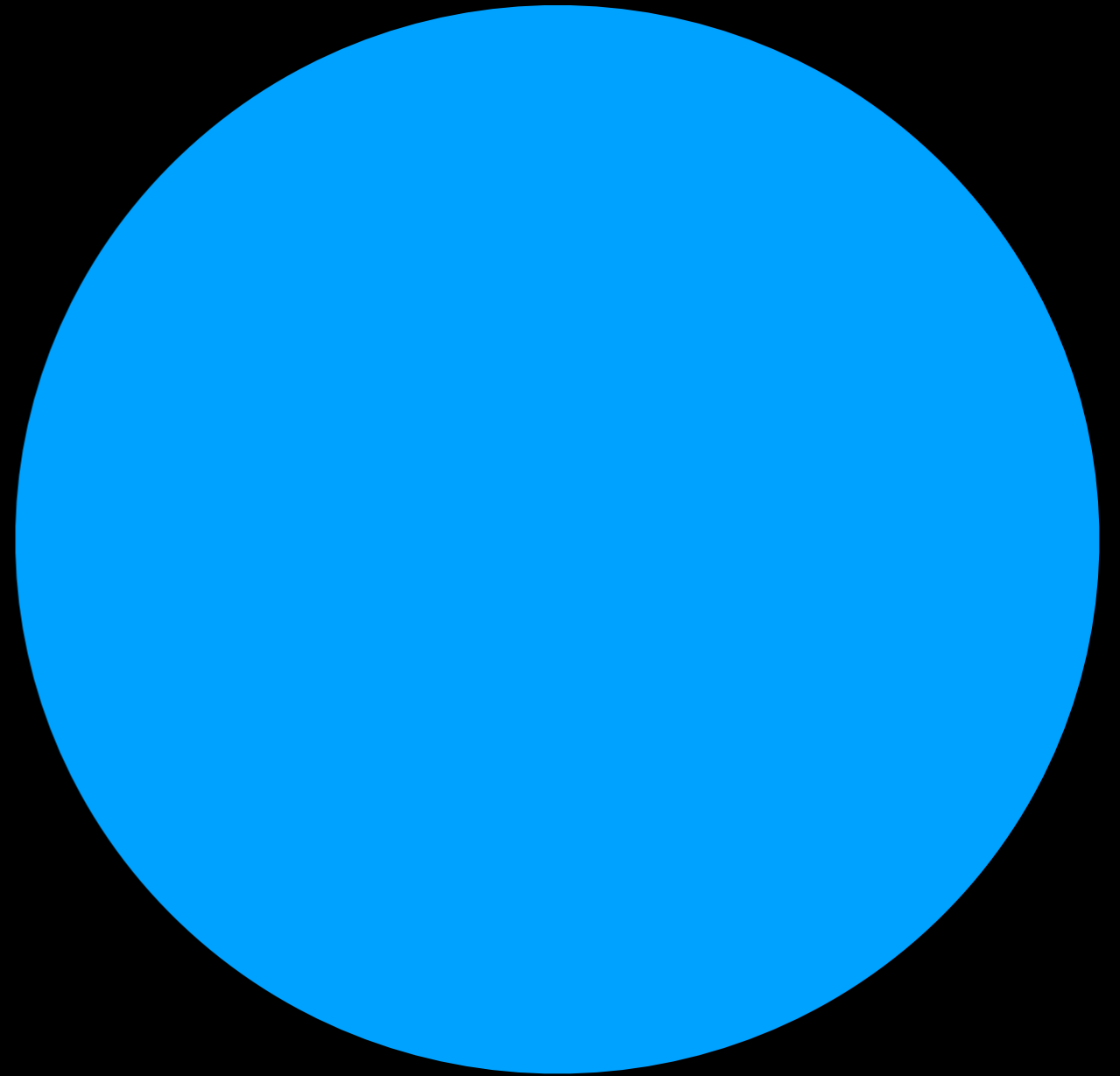
### 2. Jesus

- a. His deity
- b. His incarnation
- c. His resurrection

### 3. The Gospel

### 4. Salvation by Grace

- a. Through Christ alone



# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

## WHAT'S SECONDARY? (IMPORTANT DOCTRINES THAT MIGHT DIFFER AMONGST CHRISTIANS):

1. Even though these are secondary, not all secondary positions are valid
  - a. Need to evaluate each position to determine validity
    - i. Sometimes this takes a lot of work
2. Creation
  - a. 24-hour days
  - b. Day-age
  - c. Theistic-evolution

# THE ORTHODOX CIRCLE

## B. WHAT'S SECONDARY? (IMPORTANT DOCTRINES THAT MIGHT DIFFER AMONGST CHRISTIANS):

### 3. Eschatology

- a. Millennium
- b. Heaven/Hell/Death
  - i. Eternal Hell/Annihilationist

### 4. The Church

- a. The Ordinances/Sacraments
  - i. Baptism/Communion
- b. Spiritual Gifts
- c. Elders/Pastors/Deacons
  - i. Female ordination
- d. Denominations

### 5. Foreknowledge

- a. Election/  
predestination
- b. TULIP/  
Calvinism/etc.

### 6. Etc.



01

# WEEK ONE

EXPERIENCING THE UNFOLDING  
STORY OF GOD'S LOVE

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW WE FIND ANSWERS (P. 3)

- The reason we turn to the Bible is to grow in our understanding of the Scriptures
  - which helps us better know God/the world

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW WE FIND ANSWERS (P. 3)

- The better we learn to read the Bible, the better we will understand the biblical story in general (what God has done to redeem creation).
- The better we understand how God is redeeming His creation, the better we will understand the world around us



# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW WE FIND ANSWERS (P. 3)

- The Bible, the entire Bible (OT/NT), teaches us about how Jesus is the climax of the covenants.
- When we learn how to read the entire Bible in light of Him, we can learn how to best make sense of the world and see our place in it.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## WHY WE STUDY REDEMPTIVE-HISTORY (P5)

- Studying the covenants will also help us read the Bible to see the unfolding redemptive story.
- We will marvel at how God has worked in human history to accomplish His purposes in an ongoing, greater, and fuller way.

# REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

## 1. **Creation**

a. Genesis 1—2

## 2. **Fall**

a. Genesis 3—Malachi 4

## 3. **Redemption**

a. Matthew—John

## 4. **Recreation/Restoration**

a. Acts—Revelation



01

WEEK ONE

EXPERIENCING THE UNFOLDING  
STORY OF GOD'S LOVE

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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As Small Group Leaders, one role we have is to facilitate good discussions. We use many different types of questions to do this.

Share at your table some of different kinds of questions you've used in your group and why some are more effective than others.

What is the ultimate purpose of questions?



01

WEEK ONE

EXPERIENCING THE UNFOLDING  
STORY OF GOD'S LOVE

**NEVER TIE YOUR  
SHOES IN PARIS**



**Covenant:** A chosen relationship in which two parties make binding promises to each other.

—Thomas R. Schreiner



# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## 3. UNDERSTANDING COVENANTS (P. 7)

- 1. A covenant is a relationship
  - Covenants aren't contracts (impersonal & nonrelational)
- 2. A covenant is a chosen relationship
  - Rather, a covenant is a relationship that two parties voluntarily enter into (like parents, not siblings)
- 3. Covenants are mutual
  - Two parties that exchange promises & binding obligations
  - Blessings & curses

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

## 3. UNDERSTANDING COVENANTS (GKTGK P.52. 53)

Contract	Covenant
Date	Speaker introduced
Parties	History of relationship
Transaction	General command
Expected benefit	Desire for relationship
Performance	Loyalty
Scribe	Witness
List of witnesses	Blessings and curses

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## COVENANTS IN THE ANCIENT WORLD (P. 8)

### **Suzerain-Vassal Covenant**

The suzerain is the powerful authority who enters into an agreement with a lesser representative (the vassal). The covenant will have stipulations that result in blessings or curses. These covenants would often occur when a powerful king would promise protection to a vassal so long as it was in the interest of the more powerful king. The demand in return was total loyalty on the part of the vassal.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## COVENANTS IN THE ANCIENT WORLD (P. 8)

### **Royal Grant Covenant**

This kind of covenant involves a gift of some kind that is bestowed upon another. In a royal grant covenant, a king or a powerful ruler will gift something like property, a privileged position in government or society, or perhaps even a religious position with great influence. The main focus of this covenant is that of honor.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

## GOD REVEALS HIMSELF AS YAHWEH (P10)

“the LORD” = God’s personal/covenantal name

“Yahweh” (YHWH)

“Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you’.”

Gen. 12:1 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם לֵךְ-לְךָ  
מֵאֶרֶץ צָרָה וּמִמּוֹלַדְתְּךָ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךָ  
אֶל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲרְאֶה:

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## GOD'S COVENANTAL LOVE—HIS HESED (P11)

- ***hesed*** = The Hebrew word used to describe the kind of affection God has for His people
- In Jewish ethics, *hesed* is the concept of the world as it's supposed to be
- God's *hesed* demands loyalty
- He wants people to know that He is Yahweh, who keeps covenant and shows *hesed* to His people.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

1. Continuity/discontinuity
2. Foreshadowing
3. Typology

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

### Continuity & Discontinuity

- **Continuity:** How some aspects of one covenant are a continuation of some aspects of what preceded it.
  - When different covenants have similar focuses
  - (The Mosaic & the Davidic Covenants have continuity (are continuous), because they are both primarily concerned with the nation of Israel under the Torah)



# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

### Continuity & Discontinuity

- **Discontinuity:** some aspects of a covenant have stopped (i.e., abrogated).
  - Adam's covenant is very different from the rest of the covenants.
  - (Adam was created sinless)

**Helpful Study Tip:** Always look for the continuity and discontinuity in how God is relating to the world

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

- **Foreshadowing:** Scriptural anticipation of something to come later
  - (God promises Abraham that kings would come from you)
  - (God gives Moses the regulations for kings in Exodus. before there were any kings of Israel)
- Foreshadowing helps us anticipate what God will do next
- **Helpful Study Tip:** Always look for something that might foreshadow something to later

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

### **Typology: Type & Antitype**

- Happens when we find a character, place, event, saying, or institution that God specifically designed to predict (or “prefigure”) something that was later to be fulfilled (“antitype”)
- A progression from a lesser to a greater
- Through the OT we will see types (or kinds) of Jesus, which ultimately expand and escalate along the trajectory of Redemptive-History. These types find their ultimate fulfillment in the New Creation (through Jesus).

# COVENANTS: WEEK 1

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## HOW TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT (P12-13)

### **Typology: Type & Antitype**

- Typology is prophetic and predictive
- The goal of a type is to point beyond itself and point to the fulfillment in the biblical story.
  - Romans 5 = Adam is said to be a “type of Christ.”  
Adam is the type, and Jesus is the antitype.
- **Helpful Study Tip:** When we read these covenants, always look for how the character, place, event, saying, or institution might be a “type” of Christ.

- 1 Coming into this study, what are your personal thoughts/understanding/knowledge of the biblical covenants? How do you see them connecting to each other (or have you thought of them as isolated events)?
  
- 2 As Christians, we oftentimes don't study the Old Testament as much as we study the New Testament. What is the role of the Old Testament for the life of the Christian? How much emphasis should Christians place on the Old Testament? What/who is the point of the Old Testament?
  
- 3 As a group (maybe assign a different passage to different people), read through the following passages: Genesis 6:9; Exodus 29:45–46; 1 Kings 6:13; Ezekiel 37:27; Zechariah 2:10–11; John 1:14; Revelation 21:3. Based on this quick survey of Scripture, what seems to be God's purpose for a relationship with His creation?
  
- 4 Share how you personally experience God's "*hesed*" love. If this kind of loving relationship seems foreign to you, what do you think might be happening?



02

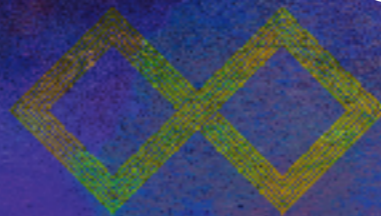
# WEEK TWO

ADAMIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH ADAM

How was your first Small Group?

Share one highlight

Share one challenge



**Covenant:** A chosen relationship in which two parties make binding promises to each other.

—Thomas R. Schreiner



# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

## SIGN OF THE COVENANT?

**Adam (Adamic Covenant):** The first human-made by God, and the representative/mediator of the Adamic Covenant to the world. Adam (and Eve) was to serve as God's representatives (made in His image) to the world and were to bless the world by being fruitful and multiplying. The sign of the Adamic Covenant was the Tree of ~~Life~~ **Knowledge of Good/Evil**

**Tree of ~~Life~~** This was the sign of the covenant between God and Adam. It was a special tree placed in the Garden of Eden, from which Adam and Eve were to NOT eat from. **Knowledge of Good/Evil**

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

What do we think of when we hear the phrase “*image of God*”?

26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

27

So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

**Ancient world**=the image of a god was the representation of that god

The deity would reflect its likeness to the world

The **behavior** of the king reflects the behavior of the god

Adam is a **vice-regent** of God

Represent Him to the world

The good ruler reflects a good God

This carried power, position, and duty

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

Adam served as a priest/king

**King** = ruled over creation

**Priest** = Specially served in God's temple

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

**Rev 1:5-6** To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood 6 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**Rev 21** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

**Rom. 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## IMAGE OF GOD (P.20)

**Rom. 8:24** For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience... 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers



# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## ADAM AS OUR HEAD (P.23)

**Rom 5:12-14** Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come... 17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

**Eph 2** And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**Rom. 3:23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

**Isa. 53:6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way

**Jer. 17:9** “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”

**Gen. 6:5 & 8:21** The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually... from his youth.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## SEED (P. 27)

14 The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,

    cursed are you above all livestock

    and above all beasts of the field;

on your belly you shall go,

    and dust you shall eat

    all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman,

    and between your offspring and her offspring;

he shall bruise your head,

    and you shall bruise his heel.”

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”...7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.”

7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith...14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith...

16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. 17 This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise...27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## GOSPEL (P. 29)



- 1 What is the gospel, and why is it such good news?
- 2 By means of the gospel, God accomplishes more than just our salvation. He is redeeming and restoring all things. What are the all things God is restoring, and how does that fulfill the Adamic Covenant?



# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## GOSPEL (P. 29)

**Context:** The background/narrative that makes the Jesus story “make sense”

**Content:** The life, death, resurrection & ascension of Jesus; His rule & reign over His kingdom

**Consequence:** The reconciliation of God to His creation; the mission of God’s people ruling with Jesus in God’s Kingdom forever

# COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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## TABLE DISCUSSION QUESTION #1:

1. What do you guys think is the main thrust of this week's topic?
2. What is the one thing that, as a SG Leader, you want your people to walk away understanding better?

## COVENANTS: WEEK 2

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### LARGE GROUP FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION QUESTION:

What are some potential topics (aka rabbit trails) that might pop up in your group (or in your own mind) that could hijack the group and steer them away from the main point?

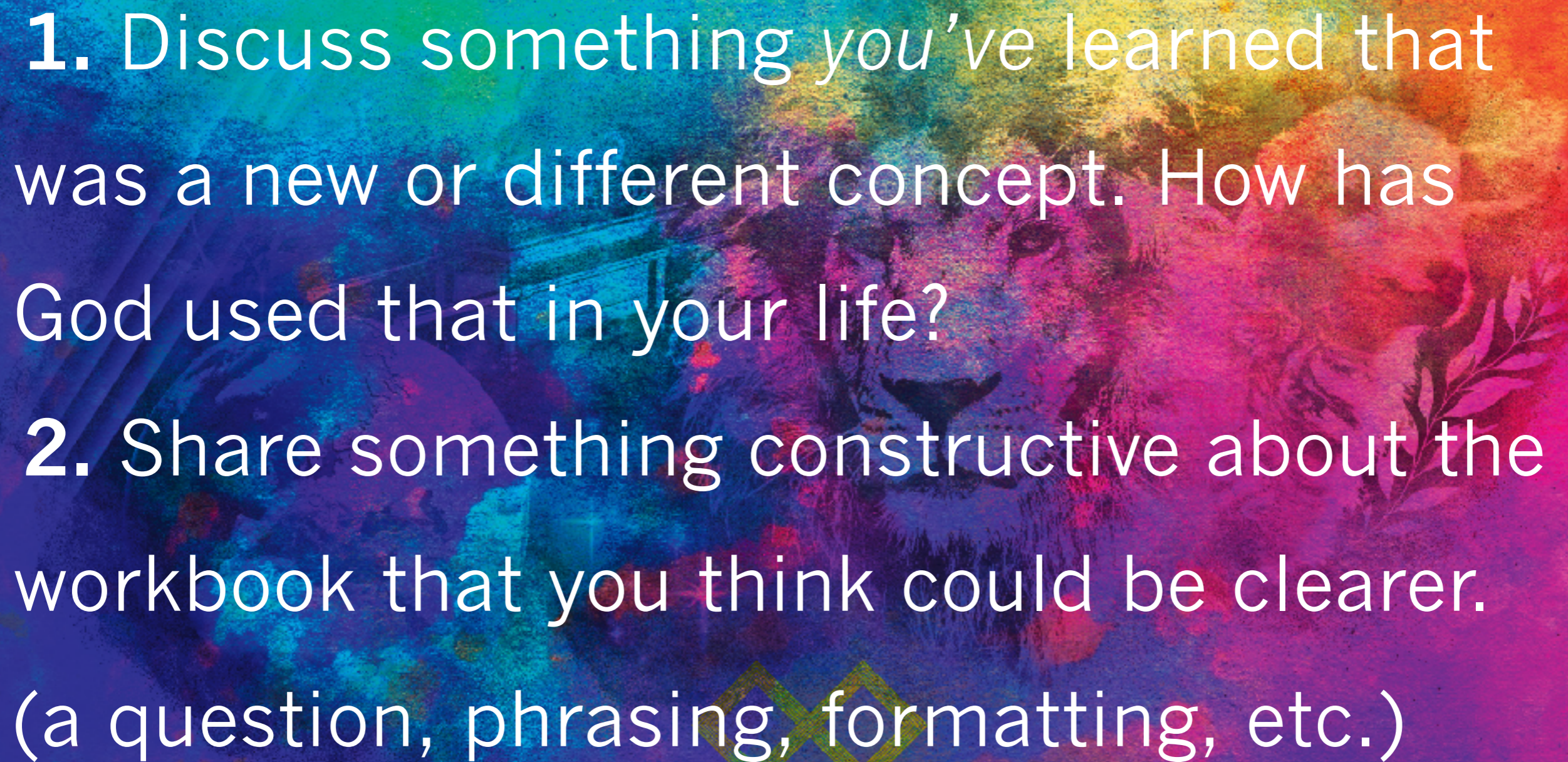




3

## WEEK THREE

NOAHIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH NOAH

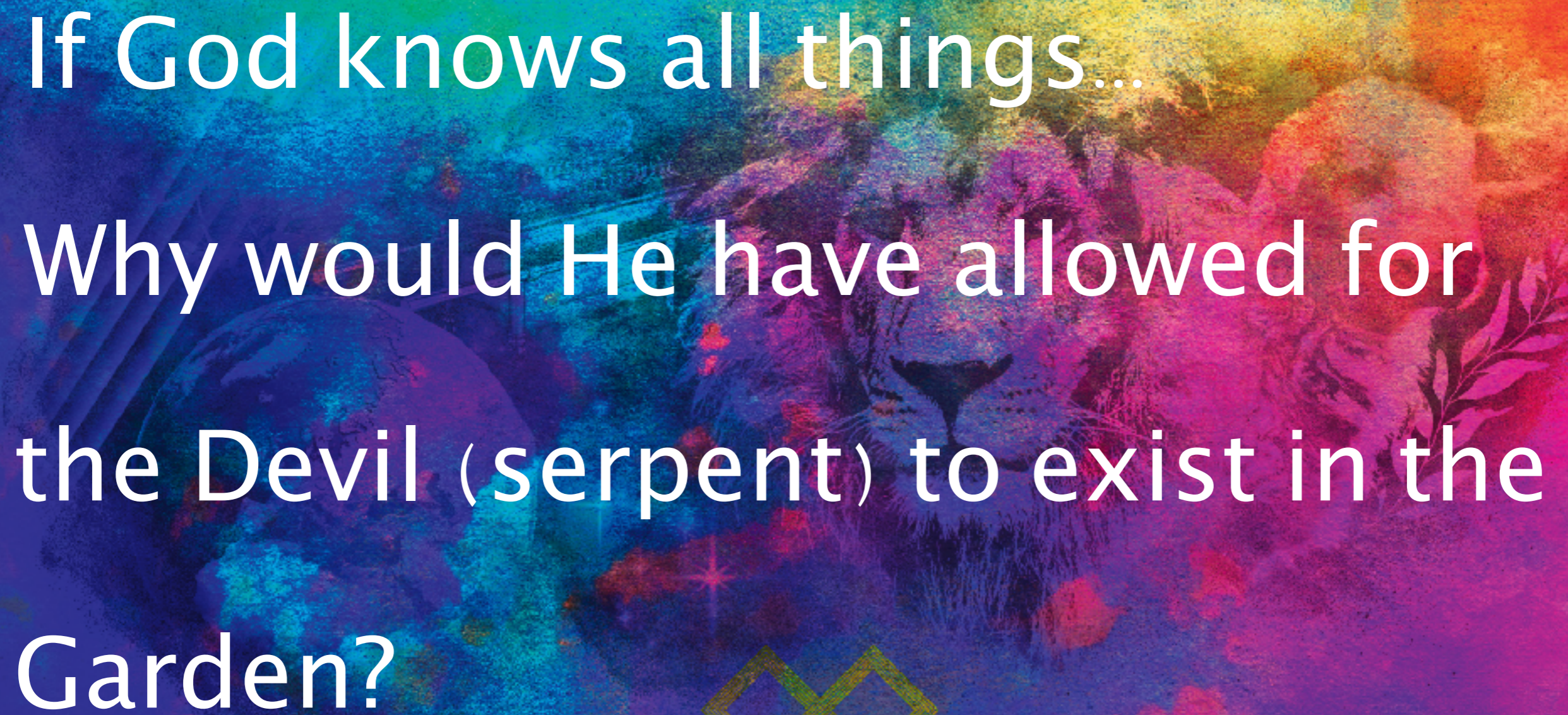
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1. Discuss something *you've* learned that was a new or different concept. How has God used that in your life?
  2. Share something constructive about the workbook that you think could be clearer. (a question, phrasing, formatting, etc.)



03

## WEEK THREE

NOAHIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH NOAH

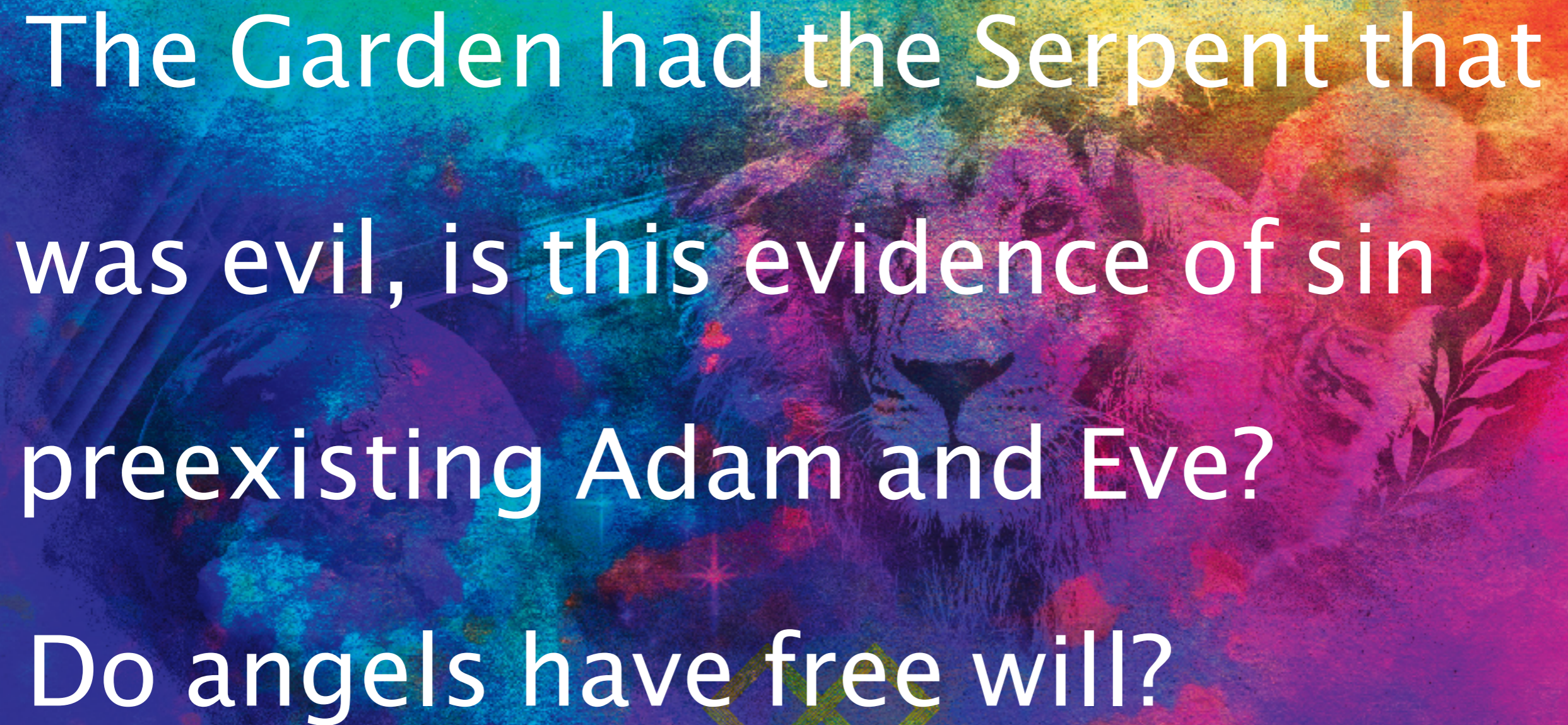


If God knows all things...  
Why would He have allowed for  
the Devil (serpent) to exist in the  
Garden?



**Gen 50:20** As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

**Acts 2:23-24** Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.  
24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.



The Garden had the Serpent that  
was evil, is this evidence of sin  
preexisting Adam and Eve?  
Do angels have free will?



Was the Tree of Life in the  
Garden of Eden?

If so, would eating the fruit have  
conferred eternal life?

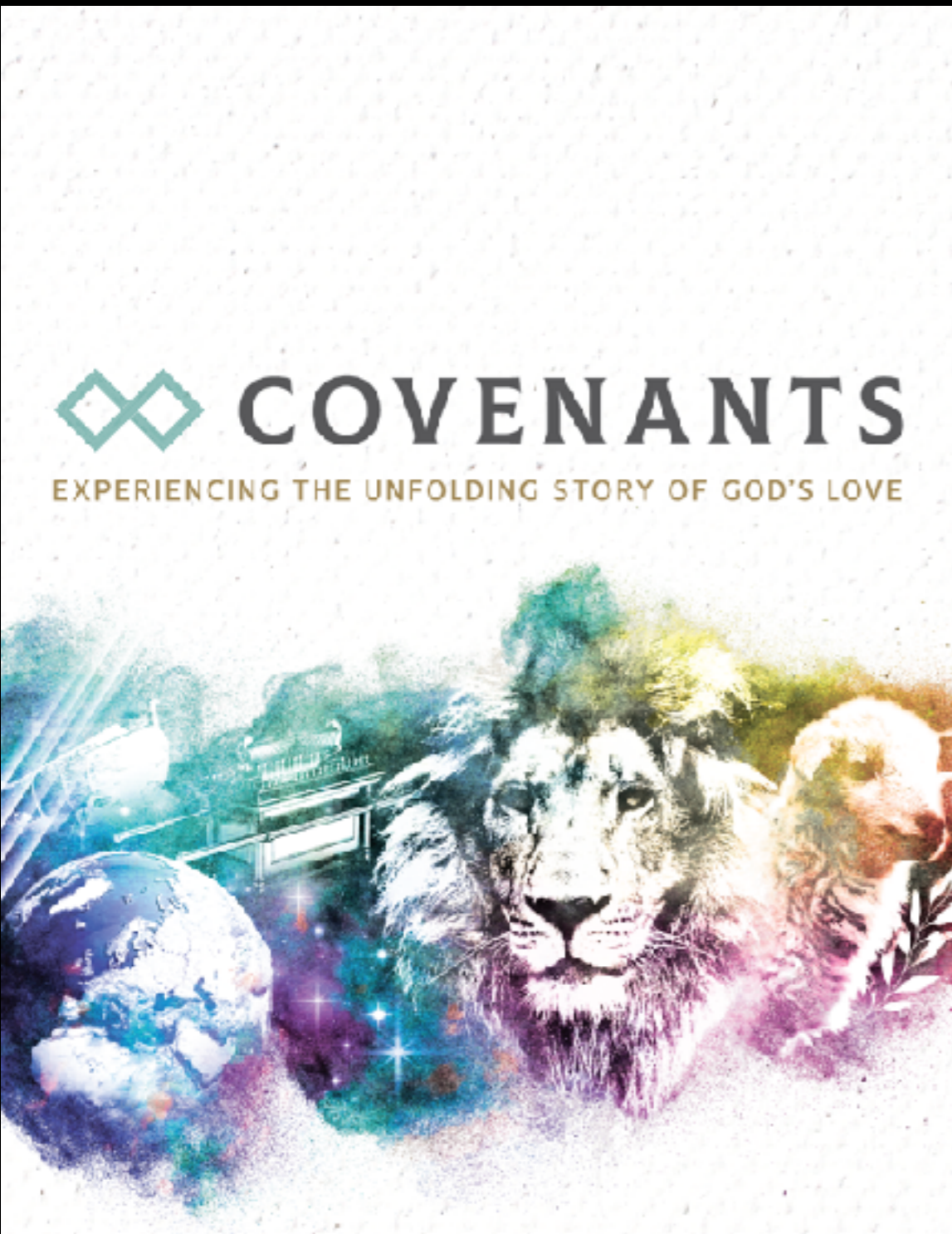
**Gen 3:22** “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever”



What are the various views of Gen 6:1-2?

“When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, 2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose”

**Don't miss the point**



## **The Theological Points:**

The Nephilim (6:1-4)

Current location of the Ark

The time/chronology of the flood

## **The "Science" of the flood:**

Worldwide/Local flood

Atmospheric Vapor Canopy

The Grand Canyon

Dinosaurs

Fossil Record

Global Warming

**Covenant:** A chosen relationship in which two parties make binding promises to each other.

—Thomas R. Schreiner

# 1. YAHWEH's regret? (pg 39, "The wickedness of humanity")

## Genesis 6:6

<sup>6</sup>And the LORD *regretted* that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

Hebrew "*nakham*" - sorrow; grief

Seen in 1 Sam. 15:11 - God was grieved over Saul's sin



## **2. New addition to previous mandate (pg 39 - “God then blesses Noah”)**

**- Punishment for murder; sanctity of life - image bearers of God**

### **Genesis 9:3**

<sup>5</sup>And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.

<sup>6</sup> “Whoever sheds the blood of man,  
by man shall his blood be shed,  
for God made man in his own image.

### **3. Common Grace** (pg 132 - definition of common grace)

pg 41; 51

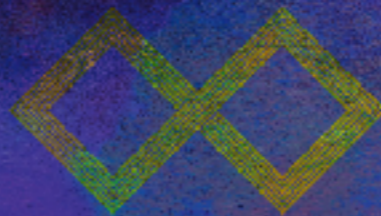
#### **Genesis 8:21-22**

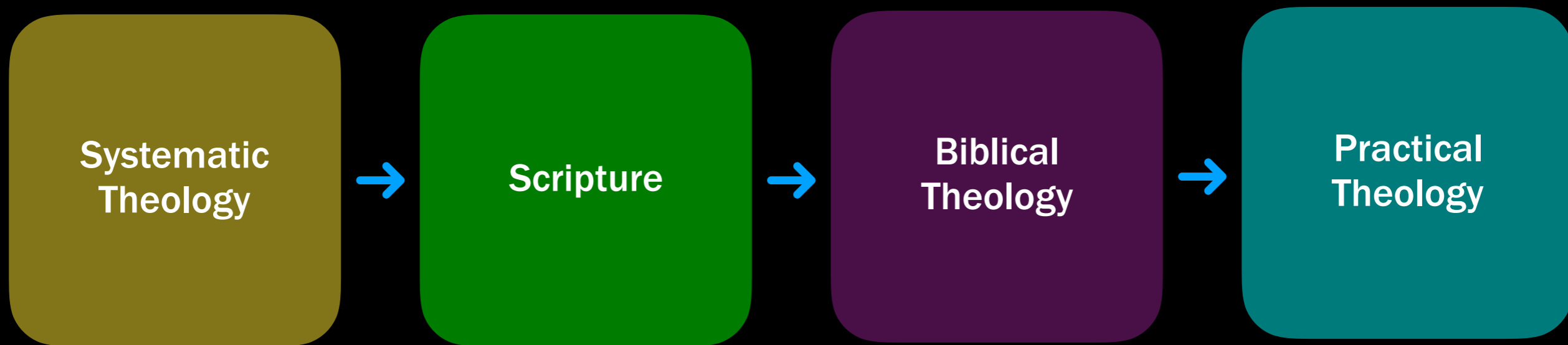
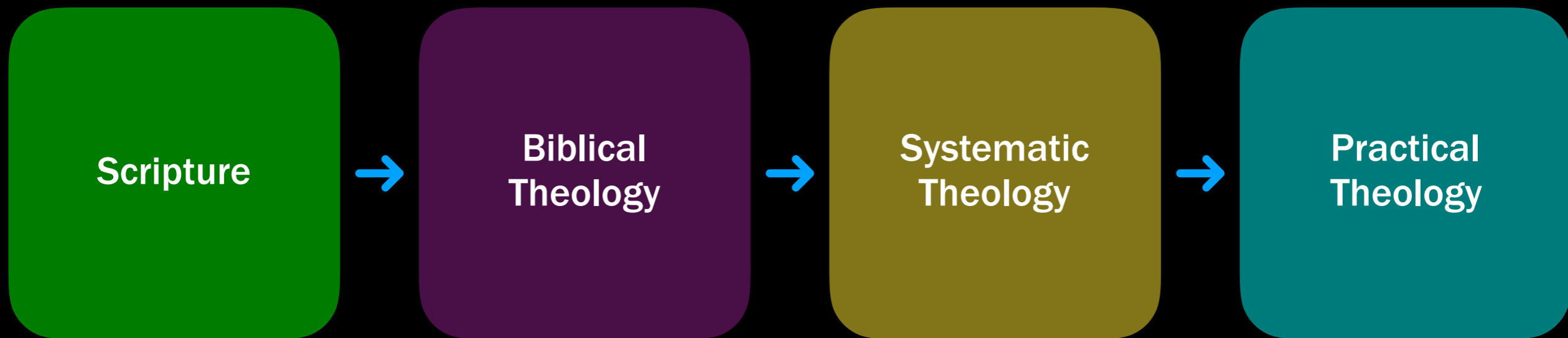
<sup>21</sup>And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. <sup>22</sup> While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

#### 4. Do-overs? pg 49

- in our sin, we can sometimes think if we could just start over or have a re-do then things would be better.
- God shows us through Noah that starting with a clean slate without a remedy doesn't solve our sin nature
- "God progressively moved from a relationship with Adam and Eve with only one expectation; then He progressively provides more and more boundaries for humanity to live by, because we are unable to see our sin on our own."
- "...we need only to see that our path toward righteousness and glorification through Jesus is progressive. This means that each step we take in faith is ordained by God - even the most painful, difficult things of life." God is working all things for His good (Rom. 8:28)

# Early Rain Covenant Church (Facebook)







04

# WEEK FOUR

ABRAHAMIC: YAHWEH'S  
COVENANT THROUGH ABRAHAM

Share w/ your table how you handle one of the 4 issues:

**For instance:**

1. How do you *initially respond* when you sense a **discussion going** in a **negative** direction?
2. How do you typically *defuse or redirect* **theological arguments** back to the lesson?
3. How do you handle it when people are *gossiping* about **someone else** or what someone else **believes**?



04

# WEEK FOUR

ABRAHAMIC: YAHWEH'S  
COVENANT THROUGH ABRAHAM





All translations are **interpretations**

No translation is word-for-word/literal

Gen 3:16

אֶל-הָאִשָּׁה אָמַר הַרְבָּה אֲרַבָּה עֲצֹבוֹנְךָ וְהָרִנְךָ בְּעֵצָב  
תִּלְדִּי בָנִים וְאֶל-אִישׁךָ תִּשְׁוָקֶתְךָ וְהוּא יִמְשָׁל-בְּךָ

A. Your desire shall be **contrary to** your husband,  
**but** he shall rule over you.

B. Your desire shall be **for** your husband,  
**and** he shall rule over you.

“Far from being a reign of co-equals over the remainder of God’s creation, the relationship now becomes a fierce dispute, with each party trying to rule the other. The two who once reigned as one attempt to rule each other.” —Victor Hamilton (NICOT)



05

# WEEK FIVE

MOSAIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH MOSES

Share something from last week's lesson that you:

- Newly **Discovered**
- Just plain **Delighted** in
- Was **Dissatisfied** with



Someone in your small group says this...

CP CHURCH & MINISTRIES | TUESDAY, JANUARY 08, 2019

# Andy Stanley says Ten Commandments don't apply to Christians

By [Michael Gryboski](#), Christian Post Reporter



As a  
SG Leader,

*What's*

*your*

*response?*



05

# WEEK FIVE

MOSAIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH MOSES



Phil W >

I had a handwritten note sent to me. It says, "on page 78, the workbook says "The a third Commandment is to remember the Sabbath" and that is wrong. You need to correct this because this is God's word."

It was not signed. FYI

"The Third Commandment..."

Oops

Crap am I going to Hell now?

I think the mistake is indicative that you are destined for wrath, yes.





And God spoke all these words, saying,

2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt...

3 “You shall have no other gods before me.

4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them...

7 “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain...

8 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy...

12 “Honor your father and your mother...

13 “You shall not murder.

14 “You shall not commit adultery.

15 “You shall not steal.

16 “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor's house...or anything that is your neighbor's.”

### Division of the Ten Commandments by religion/denomination

Commandment	Jewish (Talmudic)*	Anglican, Reformed, and other Christian	Orthodox and other Christian	Roman Catholic, Lutheran**
I am the Lord your God	1	preface	1	1
You shall have no other gods before me		1		
You shall not make for yourself an idol	2	2	2	
Do not take the name of the Lord in vain	3	3	3	2
Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy	4	4	4	3
Honor your father and mother	5	5	5	4
You shall not kill/murder†	6	6	6	5
You shall not commit adultery	7	7	7	6
You shall not steal††	8	8	8	7
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor	9	9	9	8
You shall not covet‡ your neighbor's wife	10	10	10	9
You shall not covet‡ anything that belongs to your neighbor				10

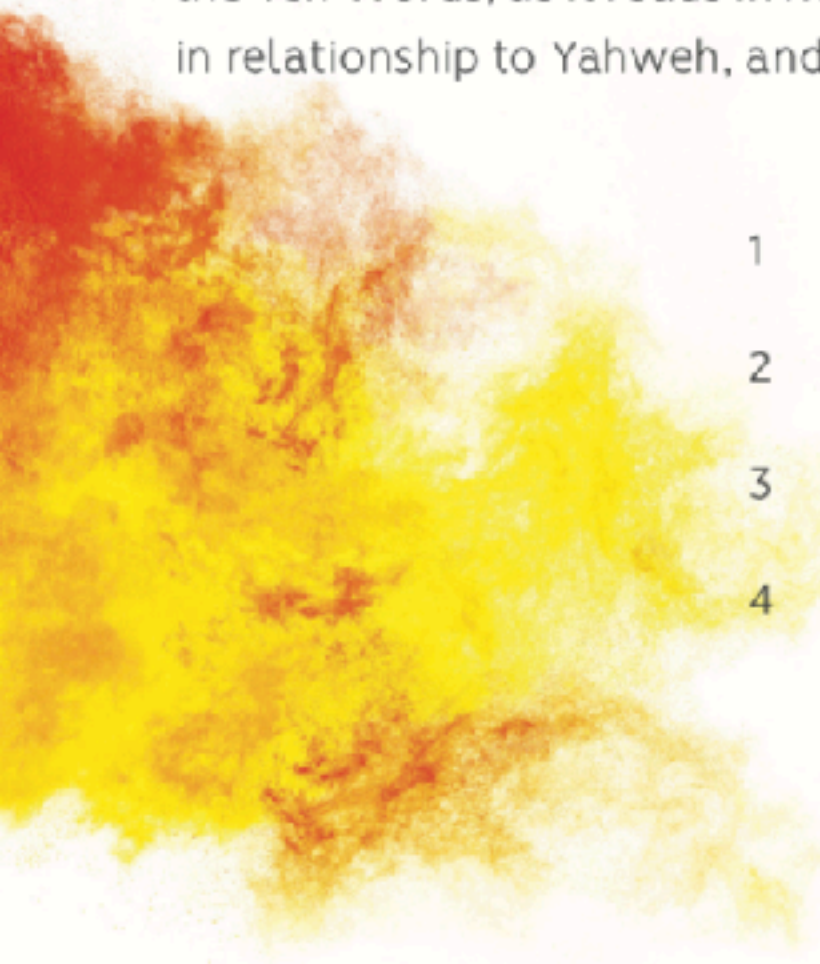
# WHAT IS THE COVENANT

As Christians who are not “under the Mosaic Law,” we sometimes have difficulty understanding what the Law is, because unlike Israel, it is not central to our identity with God. Was the Law some rigid set of external rules? Were there really 613 laws that all needed to be followed? One popular Protestant view divides the Law into three parts: civil, ceremonial, and moral (also known as the *tripartite view*). In this view, Christ’s coming abolished the civil (judicial laws for Israel) and ceremonial (*temple*/priestly) parts of the Law, leaving only the moral law to be continued in the life of Christians.

This perspective makes sense, is taught by many Protestant pastors and theologians, and is described in many of the historic church confessions;<sup>4</sup> I personally held this view for a long time. However, over the past few years, I have become convinced that

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AND THE COVENANT

So what is the Law? It is the *Ten Commandments* itself. In Exodus 20:1-17 (also repeated in *Deuteronomy 5*), Yahweh presents to Moses what we know as the Ten Commandments (or, the Ten Words, as it reads in Hebrew). These form the basis of the covenant: four commands in relationship to Yahweh, and six for the *people of God* in relation to one another.<sup>5</sup>

- 
- |   |                              |    |   |
|---|------------------------------|----|---|
| 1 | No other gods/no images      | 5  | Honor your parents                                      |
| 2 | No graven images             | 6  | Do not murder   |
| 3 | No taking God's name in vain | 7  | Do not commit adultery                                  |
| 4 | Remember the Sabbath         | 8  | Do not steal  |
|   |                              | 9  | Do not bear false witness                               |
|   |                              | 10 | Do not covet someone's household members or possessions |

In Exodus through Deuteronomy God often refers to this list of commands—specifically the words Moses wrote down on the tablets—as the covenant. For instance, in Exodus 34:27–28, God says to Moses: ***“Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel...and he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.”***

And in Exodus 24:12: we read, ***“Yahweh said to Moses, ‘Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.’*** And in Deuteronomy 4:13 says, ***“And He declared to you His covenant, which He commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments, and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.”***

So what is the relationship between the Ten Commandments, the Law, and the covenant? Simply put, the Ten Commandments are the covenant that Yahweh made with Israel.

# THE PROHIBITIONS AND THE CASE LAW

The Ten Commandments are the Law, and the Law is the Ten Commandments—the ten general commands that inform God's people how they ought to serve God and neighbor in actions, behaviors, and thinking. However, they do not describe how to apply the Ten Commandments to everyday life, or the consequences of a broken commandment. This is where the rest of the “laws” come in. The additional laws (equaling up to 613) are what we might call the *judgments* or *case law*; they describe what the breaking of the Law looks like, and the penalty for those crimes—they are the application of the Law, not additional laws.

## MOSES

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Moses was born in distress, as the king of Egypt (Pharaoh) had the male children killed

**Exodus 1:16**

---

Moses/Israel came into Egypt through Jacob

**Exodus 1:1**

---

Moses and Israel passed through the water, the Red Sea

**Exodus 14**

---

Moses and Israel wandered for 40 years in the wilderness, and the people grumbled

**Exodus 15:17**

---

Moses went up onto the mountain (Sinai) to receive the Law

**Exodus 19–20**

---

Moses, at the end of his ministry, went up onto the mountain to watch the people of God go into the Promised Land

**Deuteronomy 34**

## JESUS

---

Jesus was born in distress, as King Herod had the male children killed

**Matthew 2:16**

---

Jesus fled to Egypt (from Herod) for safety, and then was called "out of Egypt"

**Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:13–15**

---

Jesus was baptized in the water, to fulfill all righteousness

**Matthew 3:15**

---

Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days, but never grumbled against God or sinned

**Matthew 4:1–11**

---

Jesus went up onto the mountain to give the Law

**Matthew 5–7**

---

Jesus, at the end of His ministry, went up onto the mountain to commission the people of God to go into the entire world, to spread the Kingdom of God

**Matthew 28:16–19**

# How is the Law applied to the People of God today?

← Continuity

Discontinuity →

## Theonomy

**Matt 5:17-20** 17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them...”

**1 Tim 1:8-11** 8 Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, 9 understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient...

## Law of Christ

**Rom 10:4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

**Matt 22:38-40** This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

## Law is Abolished

**Rom. 6:14** “For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.”

**Rom 7:6** “But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound...”

**Gal. 5:18**, “But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.”



CP CHURCH & MINISTRIES | TUESDAY, JANUARY 08, 2019

## Andy Stanley says Ten Commandments don't apply to Christians

By [Michael Gryboski](#), Christian Post Reporter



**Rom. 6:14** *"For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace."*

**Rom 7:6** *"But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound..."*

**Gal. 5:18** *"But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law."*

## THE LAW: LOVING GOD & NEIGHBOR

In His public ministry, Jesus taught that the Law was something to be taken seriously:

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”* (Matthew 22:34–40)

Here Jesus summarizes the Ten Commandments: the first four commands are the relationship with God's people to Yahweh, and the final six are the relationship of God's people to one another. We see this throughout the books of Moses with the summary commands to **“love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might”** (Deuteronomy 6:5), and to **“love your neighbor as yourself”** (Leviticus 19:18).

It is true that we are not under the authority of the Mosaic Covenant today, as we do not keep the Torah in order to stay in right relationship with Yahweh. But because Jesus fulfilled the Mosaic Covenant, and because God sent His Spirit to dwell within the church (Acts 2:1–47; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20), and because God writes His law on His people's hearts (Jeremiah 31:31–34), the people of God are now empowered to actually keep the Law.<sup>21</sup>

God has shown His *hesed* towards His people, empowering us to love God and neighbor—we can now live the Law!

The background is a vibrant, multi-colored abstract composition. It features a central, semi-transparent image of Jesus with a beard and long hair, wearing a white robe. The colors transition from deep blues and purples on the left to bright yellows and oranges on the right. There are also some green and red accents. At the bottom center, there is a small, stylized logo consisting of two interlocking diamond shapes in a light green color.

Jesus' followers are NOT under the Law...  
but the Law certainly applies to them



05

# WEEK FIVE

MOSAIC: YAHWEH'S COVENANT  
THROUGH MOSES