

# BOOKENDS

Sunday, April 24, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 1 | **From Creation to New Creation**

Genesis 1:1-2:3; Revelation 21:1-8

### *The Bookends: Genesis and Revelation*

The focus of both is not on the **WHEN** but the **WHO**.

In the beginning, God created **EVERYTHING**

*ex nihilo*

**3 days of forming commands, 3 days of filling commands**

*Pattern: God speaks, it happens, he calls it good...*

with **BIG PLANS** for Adam & Eve

the mandate

the end game

that he'll **FULLILL** in the end!

recreation

all things new

How **BIG** is  
your God?



**We're Glad You're Here Today!**  
Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you!  
**You can also access today's bulletin** using the same QR or link.



**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card at the Connect Desk.

**Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.** For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this as a guide for further study and growth personally.

## Getting Started

**Part of our time together is learning more about one another and sharing life. Toward that end...**

*This week we talked about how it all began. You have a story, too. What's the quick fly-by of your family history and spiritual journey?*

## Review...

This week we began a new series called Bookends, looking at the beginning and the end of Scripture, and how they parallel one another.

**Review your message notes.** What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Was this idea of the "Bookends" of Scripture a new discovery to you? Discuss it as a group.

## Digging Deeper

- As we heard this weekend, Genesis 1 and Revelation focuses not on the **when** but the **Who**. It begs the question "How big is your God?" We all have different perceptions and experiences of who God is. How do the following verses further describe who God is and/or how he relates to us?

**Psalm 116:5**

**Isaiah 40:28**

**Hebrews 12:29**

**1 John 4:8**

**1 Timothy 1:17**

- When we slow down and take the time to consider how big God really is, it is "awesome" in the truest sense of the word. Yet, it is

interesting how we can also at times think God can't really relate to us or our lives because he is so big. What statements in **Psalm 46:1-7 & 10** help reinforce that God is personally involved with each of us and cares about what's happening in our lives?

---



---



---

*Looking back at what you read and wrote above, have you ever sensed God's presence similar to what any of the verses stated? If so, explain.*

- When we hear and read and think about how big God truly is, sometimes we're not exactly sure how to respond or if we're responding as we should. Fortunately, there's no set formula on how to respond or what emotion to feel. Observing others can help us know if we're really grasping who God is. **Psalm 19** is one example — it's David's response to his observation of the enormity of who God is. Read through the verses listed below and jot down what David is observing and how he's responding to who God is?

**Psalm 19:1-2**

**Psalm 19:7-11**

**Psalm 19:12-14**

*What about David's response catches your attention the most and why?*

## Closing

How big is your God? Looking back at this week's teaching and study on God is there a specific characteristic or thought about God you want to remember this week? **Pray for everyone in your group.**

*This week's Study Guide is adapted from a small group study published by North Coast Church, a sister EFCA church in San Diego, CA.*

# Word Find in the Word

*Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.*

T O L U H E A V E N P A C  
T D I B R I D E H E A R D  
B M V L P E O P L E S F N  
A B E O Y A R P T M S I F  
W E D O Y R N R E V E R Y  
A C E K T T E E A O D S K  
Y A A H H H D P R I S T M  
D U T L H U W A C C A H O  
V S H O U M E R O E L E R  
J E R U S A L E M S S N E  
L Y O D B N L D I H O L Y  
I E N K A I I L N W I P E  
K S E K N T N B G R R R G  
E S A I D Y G C C I T Y Y

## Word Find for Revelation 21:1-6 (CSB)

*Find the words **bolded** below.*

**1** 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** I **also** saw the **holy city**, the new **Jerusalem**, **coming** down out of **heaven** from God, **prepared like a bride adorned** for her **husband**. **3** Then I **heard** a **loud voice** from the **throne**: **Look**, God's **dwelling** is with **humanity**, and he will **live** with them. They will be his **peoples**, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. **4** He will **wipe away every tear** from their **eyes**. **Death** will be no **more**; grief, crying, and pain will be no **more**, **because** the previous things have **passed away**. **5** Then the one seated on the **throne said**, "**Look**, I am making everything new." He **also said**, "Write, **because** these words are faithful and true." **6** Then he **said** to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will freely give to the thirsty from the spring of the water of life."