**INTERPRETATION WORKSHEET #1**



--------------------------------------------------------- Interpretive Questions ----------------------------------------------------------

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|  | Observation | What? | Why? | So What? |
| Genre |  | * What is the connection between this narrative and scientific theories of origins? | * Why does the author tell of earth’s origin in narrative genre? | * So, what effect will the narrative genre have on our reading of the text? |
| Words |  | * What are the “heavens” in verse 1? Are they the same or different from “heaven” in verse 8? * What does it mean to be “without form” or “void”? * What is a “day” in Genesis 1? Is it the same thing we mean by “day”? * What is the difference between “livestock” and “beasts of the earth” in verse 24? | * Why is earth initially formless, empty, and dark? | * So, what is our world like now? Does it still have any formlessness, shapelessness, or darkness? |
|  | Observation | What? | Why? | So What? |
| Grammar |  | * What does it mean to be “*made* in God’s image”? | * Why doesn’t God make a finished earth in verse 1? * Why does God delegate dominion to humanity? * Why does God rest? Is he worn out? | * So, what does God expect of humanity as being made in his image? * So, what might cause humanity to lose the image of God? Is that possible? * So, what does godly dominion look like in everyday life? * So, what did this dominion mandate mean for the original audience? * So, what does this mean for vegetarianism, environmentalism, animal rights, and ecology (or other issues we face today)? |
| Structure |  | * When were Satan and the angels created? * How did plants survive without pollinating insects? | * Why does God take six days to finish the earth? * Why does God tackle earth’s three areas of incompleteness one at a time? | * So, what is our purpose in work and rest, and how does it mirror God’s purpose? |
| Mood |  | * What about Day 6 makes the creation “very good”? | * Why does the chapter climax with Day 6? | * So, what role do God’s words on Day 6 serve in the context of the whole chapter? |