**INTERPRETATION WORKSHEET #1**



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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 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?
 |