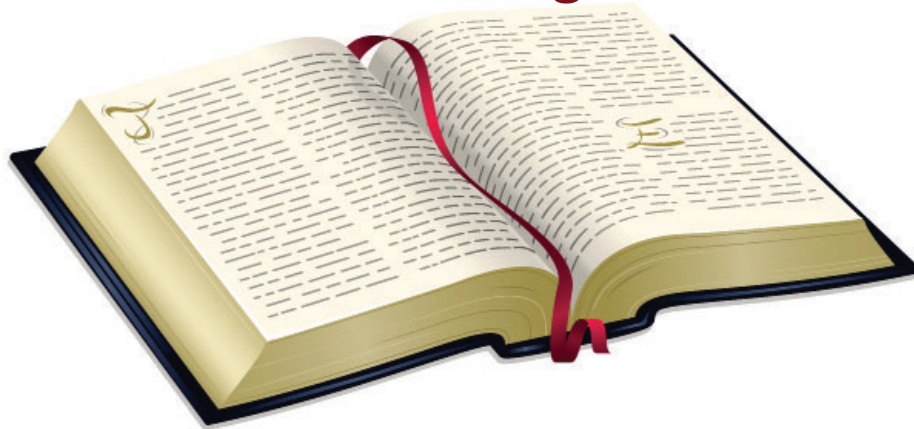


# toServe Bible Study ITB-01

## Answer Sheet - New Living Translation (NLT)



### In The Beginning Series

#### Twelve Lesson Study on the Book of Genesis

#### This Lesson - Genesis Chapters 1 - 4

**Date of Writing and Who Wrote It:** The book of Genesis describes the origins of the universe, humanity, sin, and redemption. Its iconic stories include God’s creation of the world, Adam and Eve’s fall into sin, the global flood in Noah’s lifetime, and the establishment and growth of the nation of Israel. The best evidence indicates that Moses wrote Genesis between 1440 and 1400 BC, during the 40-year period after Israel’s exodus from Egypt and before the nation entered the Promised Land.

Identifying the author of Genesis is key to determining when the book was written, as it narrows the period of time to the writer’s lifespan. Thus, although Genesis is technically anonymous, as the writer doesn’t identify himself in the text, the Bible assigns authorship of Genesis to Moses (e.g., Malachi 4:4; Matthew 8:4). Moreover, when citing events in Genesis, Jesus refers to Moses as the book’s author (Matthew 19:4–6; Mark 12:26; Luke 16:29; John 7:22), as does the apostle Paul (Romans 10:19; 1 Corinthians 9:9).

**Purpose of Writing:** The Book of Genesis has sometimes been called the “seed-plot” of the entire Bible. Most of the major doctrines in the Bible are introduced in “seed” form in the Book of Genesis. Along with the fall of man, God’s promise of salvation or redemption is recorded in Genesis 3:15. The doctrines of creation, imputation of sin, justification, atonement, depravity, wrath, grace, sovereignty, responsibility, and many more are all addressed in this book of origins called Genesis.

**Many of the great questions of life are answered in Genesis.**

- (1) Where did I come from? (God created us - Genesis 1:1)
- (2) Why am I here? (we are here to have a relationship with God - Genesis 15:6)
- (3) Where am I going? (we have a destination after death - Genesis 25:8).

**Practical Application:** The overriding theme of Genesis is God’s eternal existence and His creation of the world. There is no effort on the part of the author to defend the existence of God; he simply states that God is, always was, and always will be, almighty over all. In the same way we have confidence in the truths of Genesis, despite the claims of those who would deny them. All people, regardless of culture, nationality or language, are accountable to the Creator. But because of sin, introduced into the world at the Fall, we are separated from Him. But through one small nation, Israel, God’s redemptive plan for mankind was revealed and made available to all. We rejoice in that plan.

God created the universe, the earth, and every living being. We can trust Him to handle the concerns in our lives. God can take a hopeless situation, e.g. Abraham and Sarah being childless, and do amazing things if we will simply trust and obey. Terrible and unjust things may happen in our lives, as with Joseph, but God will always bring about a greater good if we have faith in Him and His sovereign plan. “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

**Please read Genesis Chapter 1**  **Check**

## Chapter 1

1. (Gen. 1:1) What were the first two things that God created?

1. heavens                      2. earth

2. (Gen. 1:2) Who is the first member of a Trinity mentioned here.

Spirit  
What did He do? hovering over the surface of the waters.

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3. (Gen. 1:29) **In your own words**, what is the significance or reason for God to give man every seed-bearing plant / herb for food? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Please read Genesis 1:26. **In your own words**, who is God referring to in this verse? Your answer should center around the words, "Let Us".

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5. (Gen. 1:1-32, 2:1-3) Briefly, write out what God created in each of the first six days, or what He did on that day.

First Day: (Gen 1:3-5) "Let there be light,"  
He separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night."

Second Day: (Gen 1:6-8) "Let there be a space between the waters,  
to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." God made this space to  
separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. God called the space "sky."

Third Day: (Gen 1:11-13) God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—  
every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit.

Fourth Day: (Gen 1:14-19) God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day,  
and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars.

Fifth Day: (Gen 1:20-23) God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life.  
Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." Each producing offspring of the same kind.

Sixth Day: (Gen 1:24-31) God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals,  
each able to produce offspring of the same kind. God said, "Let Us make human beings in Our  
image, to be like Us.

## Chapter 2

1. (Gen. 2:3) What did God do and say was special about the seventh day?

God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy,  
because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.

2. (Gen. 2:6) Before God created rain, how did the plants get watered?

springs came up from the ground and watered all the land.

3. (Gen. 2:7) What was man created from?

dust of the ground

4. (Gen. 2:9) What are the names of the two trees that God planted in the middle of the Garden of Eden?

1. tree of life 2. tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

5. (Gen. 2:11-14) What are the names of the four rivers that flowed through the Garden of Eden?

1. Pishon 2. Gihon  
3. Tigris 4. Euphrates

6. (Gen. 2:15-17) The Lord God took man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. What was the one command that He gave man?

“You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden  
except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

Why did God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden?

God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden to give Adam and Eve a choice to obey Him or disobey Him. Adam and Eve were free to do anything they wanted, except eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Genesis 2:16-17, “And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.’”

If God had not given Adam and Eve the choice, they would have essentially been robots, simply doing what they were programmed to do. God created Adam and Eve to be “free” beings, able to make decisions, able to choose between good and evil. In order for Adam and Eve to truly be free, they had to have a choice.

There was nothing essentially evil about the tree or the fruit of the tree. It is unlikely that the fruit, in and of itself, gave Adam and Eve any further knowledge. That is, the physical fruit may have contained some vitamin C and some beneficial fiber, but it was not spiritually nutritious. However, the act of disobedience was spiritually deleterious. That sin opened Adam’s and Eve’s eyes to evil. For the first time, they knew what it was to be evil, to feel shame, and to want to hide from God. Their sin of disobeying God brought corruption into their lives and into the world. Eating the fruit, as an act of disobedience against God, was what gave Adam and Eve the knowledge of evil—and the knowledge of their nakedness (Genesis 3:6–7).

7 . (Gen. 2:19) How did all the livestock, birds, and wild animals get their names?

man chose a name for each one.

8. In Genesis 2:24 we learn the most important part about marriage as God designed it. How are man and woman united / joined as husband and wife?

joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

Please read Genesis Chapter 3  Check

## Chapter 3

1. (Gen. 3:1) What was the question that the serpent asked the women?

“Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

2. How did the woman respond in Genesis 3:3?

“It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat.

God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

3. (Gen. 3:4-5) How did the serpent respond back to the woman?

“You won’t die!”

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“God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

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### The serpent:

Genesis 3:1 does not, by itself alone, clearly identify the serpent as Satan, but the rest of the Bible makes it clear this is Satan appearing as a serpent.

Ezekiel 28:13-19 tells us that Satan was in Eden. Many other passages associate a serpent or a snake-like creature with Satan (such as Job 26:13 and Isaiah 51:9).

Revelation 12:9 and Revelation 20:2 speak of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan.

The representation of Satan as a serpent makes the idea of Moses saving Israel by lifting up a bronze serpent all the more provocative (Numbers 21:8-9), especially when Jesus identifies Himself with that very serpent (John 3:14). This is because, in this picture, the serpent (a personification of sin and rebellion) is made of bronze (a metal associated with judgment, since it is made with fire). The lifting of a bronze serpent is the lifting up of sin judged, in the form of a cross.

Ezekiel 28 tells us Satan, before his fall, was an angel of the highest rank and prominence, even something of a leader of worship in heaven. Isaiah 14 tells us Satan’s fall had to do with his desire to be equal to or greater than God, to set his will against God’s will.

4. Genesis 3:6-7 tells of the experience the woman had after she ate the fruit from the tree that God told her not to. **In your own words**, from past experiences of sin, can you relate to this? Explain the consequences you may have had?

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5. (Gen. 3:8) What did the man and his wife do when they heard God walking in the Garden of Eden after eating the forbidden fruit from the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

they hid from the Lord God among the trees.

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6. (Gen. 3:12) What did the man say to God when He asked, "Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

"It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

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### Understanding Genesis 3:12

Adam and Eve have introduced human sin into the world. They gave into temptation; they disobeyed God. The wisdom of knowing good and evil that they hoped to discover turned out to be a gift of shame and separation. They came to know evil by participating in it. In the previous verse God asked Adam directly, "Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

In Adam's response, we see the next consequence of human sin. The first was overwhelming shame. The second was a deep desire to get away from the Creator. Now we see that their choice to sin together will drive a wedge into Adam's and Eve's relationship to each other.

7. (Gen. 3:16) What punishment did God give the woman for disobeying His command about eating from the Tree of knowledge?

"I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,

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and in pain you will give birth.

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And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.

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8. (Gen. 3:22) God said that man was becoming like one of Them, knowing both good and evil. Because of this what did God do with man?

So the Lord God banished them from the Garden of Eden,

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## Understanding Genesis 3:17

After pronouncing curses on the serpent/Satan in response to his deception and on Eve in response to her sinful choice, God now turns to Adam. Compared to the punishments given to Eve and the serpent, this curse is longer and more detailed.

Adam's sin was not, simplistically speaking, that of listening to his wife. Taking godly counsel is always a good thing (Proverbs 15:22). Instead, Adam sinned by not standing up and speaking the truth to his wife when she invited him to participate in her sin. And, judging by the description of Eve's conversation with the serpent, for failing to protect and lead her as he should. God makes clear that Adam was independently responsible for his choice to eat from the tree. He wouldn't be allowed to get away with passing the blame to her or anyone else.

Please read Genesis Chapter 4  Check

## Chapter 4

1. Genesis Chapter 4 starts off with Eve giving birth to two sons.

What were their names?

1st son: Cain

2nd son: Abel

What were their occupations?

1st son's occupation: Abel became a shepherd

2nd son's occupation: Cain cultivated the ground.

2. (Gen. 4:3-5) In the process/course of time, both Cain and Abel brought an offering to the Lord of what they produced. **In your own words**, from God's perspective, what was the main difference in the two offerings?

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3. (Gen. 4:6-7) **In your own words**, why do you think Cain got angry?

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Write out the wisdom that God gave Cain from Genesis 4:7

You will be accepted if you do what is right.

But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out!

Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you.

But you must subdue it and be its master.

4. (Gen. 4:15) After Cain killed his brother Abel, God put him under a curse and drove him from the land. Cain said the punishment is more than he can bear and whoever finds him will kill him. What did the Lord say He would do to protect him?

the Lord put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him.

5. (Gen. 4:17) After God said He would protect Cain, scripture says he went out/away from the presence of the Lord, and lived/dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

What three things happened/accrued next?

1. Cain had sexual relations with his wife,
2. she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch
3. Cain founded a city, which he named Enoch

### **And Cain knew/made love/sexual relations with his wife (Genesis 4:17):**

In Genesis 5:4 it says Adam had other sons and daughters. Cain obviously married his sister. Though marrying a sister was against the law of God according to Leviticus 18:9, 18:11, 20:17, and Deuteronomy 27:22 (which even prohibits the marrying of a half-sister), this was long before God spoke that law to Moses and the world.

Here, necessity demanded that Adam's sons marry his daughters. And at this point, the gene pool of humanity was pure enough to allow close marriage without harm of inbreeding. But as a stream can get more polluted the further it flows from the source, there came a time when God decreed there would no longer be marriage between close relatives because of the danger of inbreeding.

Even Abraham married his half-sister Sarah (Genesis 20:12). God did not prohibit such marriages until the time of Moses (Leviticus 18:9). Marrying a brother or sister was not forbidden until God forbade it.

6. (Gen.4:20) What was the two things that Jabal was the father of/first of?

1. first of those who raise livestock
2. first to live in tents.

7. (Gen. 4:21) Jabal had a brother named Jubal. He was the father of all who played which two instruments?

1. harp
2. flute

8. (Gen. 4:22) Another descendant of Cain was Tubal-Cain. What was he known for?

expert in forging tools of bronze and iron.

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### **Understanding Genesis 4:23**

Lamech, six generations removed from Cain, demonstrates that he shared Cain's anger, violence, and arrogance—and then some. In this speech, continuing into the following verse, he brags about his sin in an almost unbelievable way.

He announces to his two wives that he has killed a man in revenge for wounding and/or striking him. We obviously don't know the whole story. However, Lamech's response indicates that his action was out of proportion with what was done to him. The Hebrew word used for "kill" here is from the root word *hā'rag*, the same used to describe the murder of Abel in Genesis 4:8 and Moses' murder of the Egyptian in Exodus 2:14.

He sounds proud and arrogant, and even more so in light of the following verse. The fact that he specifically directs this confession of murder to his wives can be interpreted in several ways. One prominent possibility is that this is meant to be a threat: "look what happens to people who cross me."

9. (Gen. 4:25) After Adam's wife gave birth to another son what did she say God had granted her?

another son in place of Abel,

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### Understanding Genesis 4:26

The next chapter will detail the descendants of Seth all the way through to Noah. Judging by Lamech's story, Cain's legacy seems to be one of productive work and innovation, but also of arrogance and violence. Seth's line though, includes several examples of people who were overtly faithful to God.

We will learn that Seth was 105 years old when his son Enosh was born. These first generations after the garden had extraordinarily long lifespans (and reproductive years) by our standards.

We're told that starting around the time of Enosh's birth, people began to call on or proclaim the name of the Lord. This may well have been a direct response, and certainly a contrast, to the descendants of Cain. As shown in prior verses, his offspring were deeply sinful. And, that sin would eventually spread to pollute almost the entire human race (Genesis 6:5).

Following Eve's example, the people of Seth apparently expressed their dependence on God and perhaps worshiped Him publicly.

### Verse to remember from this lesson:

Then God said,  
"Let Us make man in Our image,  
according to Our likeness"

Genesis 1:26a NKJV

For some understanding of Genesis 1:26, please read John 1:1  
Your thoughts on this?

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