

## Lesson 4

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# What and Why is Man? *Day 6*

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## What and Why is Man? Day 6

*This is certainly the most exciting family study in this series on God's creation! From the intricacies the human body, to the wonder of the human mind, to the incredible human potential of being born into God's family—this study will stimulate your family study and conversation!*

### Objectives

- Understand that humans are created in God's image and we are the pinnacle of God's physical creation.
- Understand why God created men and women, and what his purpose is for us.
- To know what God requires of us.

### How To Use This Family Guide

#### *How to use this Family Guide*

The guide will:

- Ask your family to respond to God's questions and declarations regarding His creation.
- Suggest links to videos or stories that show the wonders and power of God's creation.

We suggest your family, take time to research, meditate on, and discuss the topic of each study.

1. Watch a suggested video or have you or your children find your own.
2. Have family members discuss their favorite or most interesting part and why.
3. If a video talks about theories of how things “evolved”—discuss the absurdity of everything existing from nothing.
4. Take time to go outside and observe the various aspects of creation.
5. Discuss how God displays His power through creation. Creation shows that God can do all things and that He has the power to intervene and be involved in our lives. God can handle all our problems!

In the Creation story, God shows us that He made human beings very special to Him, and gave us a special place in His creation:

*Genesis 1:27-28 (NCV) So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said, “Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth and be its master. (GNT) I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals.”*

*Psalms 8:3-8 (GNT) When I look at the sky, which you have made, at the moon and the stars, which you set in their places what are human beings, that you think of them; mere mortals, that you care for them? Yet you made them inferior only to yourself; you crowned them with glory and honor.*

*You appointed them rulers over everything you made; you placed them over all creation: sheep and cattle, and the wild animals too; the birds and the fish and the creatures in the seas.*

In this Family Study series, we have examined several of the questions God asked Job about His creation so that Job could learn more about who God is. This lesson will pursue the answer to one of Job's questions to God.

*Job 7:17 (NCV) Why do you make people so important and give them so much attention? 18 You examine them every morning and test them every moment.*

King David also pondered this question. It is also asked and answered in the book of Hebrews:

*Hebrews 2:6-8 (NCV) Why are people important to you? Why do you take care of human beings? You made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You put all things under their control.*

## **The Miracle of Human Birth**

God's "masterpiece of creation" is human beings—and God takes personal interest in each one of us from the very beginning. King David reflected on this great miracle, and so should we.

*Psalms 139:13-16 (GNT); 17-18 (NLT) You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother's womb. When my bones were being formed, carefully put together in my mother's womb, when I was growing there in secret, you knew that I was there you saw me before I was born. How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them*

Take a few minutes to watch these inspiring videos that show how God begins to work with each of us.

- The Miracle of Life—YouTube  
[bit.ly/3vt2BZN](https://bit.ly/3vt2BZN)

- The Miracle of Birth 002—YouTube  
[bit.ly/3MgmSHI](https://bit.ly/3MgmSHI)

While all creatures reproduce in a miraculous and often times in a unique manner, not one is born with a brain like a human brain with a special connection to God.

## **Why Are Human Minds Special?**

It is exciting to see how wondrously God made all living creatures. But as amazing as these animals are – not one comes close to humans – and the human brain. Scientists recognize the superiority of man's intellect and ability, but cannot explain it because they reject God as the creator. So what is it that makes humans so special?

Unlike animals, human beings have a spiritual component to our makeup.  
*Job 32:8 says, There is a spirit in man.*

Notice that the spirit in man is the unique element God puts into humans that give them special understanding and reasoning abilities.

*1 Corinthians 2:11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him.*

It is this human spirit that imparts human intellect to our physical brains, creating the human mind. It is what makes people vastly more intelligent than animals.

- For example, while animals are created with the ability to do many amazing things – no animal can understand, think, feel, reason, have values or create like humans can. The spirit in man gives him those unique characteristics and special abilities.

### **More on the Spirit in Man**

- Beyond Today – short discussion by Darris McNeely: The Spirit in Man | United Church of God  
<https://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/beyond-today-daily/the-spirit-in-man>

- Bible Study by UCG Pastor, Randy Stiver: What Is the Spirit in Man? – UCG video  
<https://binged.it/3vLsXGH>

As a family, listen to this short video by Dennis Prager at Prager U. and discuss it from what you know about God's plan for mankind.

- Are Humans More Valuable Than Animals? - Bing video  
<https://binged.it/35hmgkO>

The spirit in man is an unfathomable gift from God that enables us to have a relationship with Him—but it is only the beginning of what God has in store for His Eternal plan for humans!

### **The miracle of spiritual birth into God's Family.**

While the human spirit is critical to our destiny, it is God's Holy Spirit joining with it that makes us God's children.

Just as the spirit in man gives us human understanding, so God's Spirit gives us higher, godly understanding, and connection to the Father and the Son.

Carefully read Paul's inspired explanation:

*1 Corinthians 2:7 ...the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. 8 But the rulers of this world have not understood it... 10 But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. 11 No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit (spirit in man), and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. 12 And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. 13 When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths.*

We began this study by talking about the miracle of childbirth. We end by showing God's ultimate purpose for mankind is to become spiritual children of God in His Eternal Family.

Romans 8:14 (NLT) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15...you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit (spirit in man) to affirm that we are God's children. 17 And since we are

his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory.

This series has focused on God's creation. God wants us to understand that it was all done for His purpose of bringing humans into His Kingdom.

*Romans 8:19 For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. 21 the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. 22 For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.*

As a family, review and discuss these two brief articles that outline and explain God's plan to bring us into His Family.

- Why Were You Born? | United Church of God ([ucg.org](http://ucg.org))

[ucg.org/bible-study-tools/booklets/lifes-ultimate-question-does-god-exist/why-were-you-born](http://ucg.org/bible-study-tools/booklets/lifes-ultimate-question-does-god-exist/why-were-you-born)

- God's Great Purpose for Man | United Church of God ([ucg.org](http://ucg.org))

[ucg.org/bible-study-tools/bible-study-course/bible-study-course-lesson-3/gods-great-purpose-for-man](http://ucg.org/bible-study-tools/bible-study-course/bible-study-course-lesson-3/gods-great-purpose-for-man)

**The next Study Guide will focus on HOW it is that we can receive God's Spirit and complete His creation plan to bring us into the Kingdom of God.**

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## **Additional Resources for Family Studies**

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### **Challenge activities:**

- Using the principle of Romans 1:20 (For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...)—discuss from this fascinating video how a child's brain development might be similar to how God is developing the Kingdom of God.

- Brain Power: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLp-edwiGUU>

*Read* some of these amazing facts about how God created our bodies, and have your child bring their favorite fact to share at Compass Check or Youth Lesson.

- Amazing Medical Facts of the Body —<http://www.medindia.net/facts/index.asp?startpage=1>

- 100 Very Cool Facts About The Human Body —[http://icantseeyou.typepad.com/my\\_weblog/2008/02/100-very-cool-f.html](http://icantseeyou.typepad.com/my_weblog/2008/02/100-very-cool-f.html)

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## Possible Teen Class Activity

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Each student gets a specified part of the family study guide to study in depth with guiding questions. They will then bring back findings to share with the whole group. The students can practically run the whole lesson with what they bring and the instructors are there for insight, feedback, and direction.

These are some suggested sections. Assign the most appropriate ones.

### Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: Man is a physical, temporary being created by God to think, reason, plan and make choices. Man is a fearfully and wonderfully made being (Psalms 139:13-16).

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: Man is a future son of God (Revelation 21:7).

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: Man's purpose is to develop holy, righteous character and qual-

ify to become a part of the family of God. (Matthew 6:33)

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### **Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment**

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: Man's purpose is to become like God, to be a part of God's family. (Revelation 21:3) (\*\*Why Were You Born)

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### **Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment**

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: Man's purpose is to have eternal life through Jesus Christ (1 John 5:11).

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### **Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment**

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: What does God require? To fear Him and keep His commandments (Eccl 12:13).

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Fam-

ily Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### **Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment**

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: What does God require? To do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.

### **Creation Day 6: Summary Lesson Assignment**

**Objective:** Explain the importance of man and his purpose now and in the future.

Assigned point from study guide: What does God require? To love Him. (I John 4:8) (Matt 22:37 – heart, soul & mind) God needs to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that we will love and obey Him completely.

**Directions:** You have been assigned one point and one or two related bible verses from the Family Study guide. Study that point and the verses from the Bible. Be ready to share answers to the following:

- What is being explained about man and his purpose?
- Why is that important to me now? Why is it important to mankind now?
- Why is that important to my future? Why is it important for mankind in the future?

**Challenge:** Bring your own related scripture. Show how it connects to your explanation.



