



Genesis 1:1-2:4a

“More Than Just a World”

May 31, 2026

Today, we are considering Genesis 1:1–2:4a and its invitation to us to rediscover the complexity and sacredness of creation. We often move through the world assuming it is simple and automatic. We breathe, drink water, plant seeds, and everything seems to work without effort. Because it feels ordinary, we begin to treat creation as disposable rather than meaningful. We shift from wonder to control, from gratitude to entitlement, and from stewardship to exploitation. The result is that we flatten a complex world into something we assume exists only for our use.

Genesis presents a very different picture. Creation unfolds in layers, carefully ordered and deeply interconnected. Light, land, waters, plants, animals, and humanity all emerge in a purposeful sequence. Nothing is random. Humanity is placed within this ordered world as image-bearers and stewards, entrusted with care rather than domination. Yet we often ignore this calling. We take complexity for granted and behave like owners rather than caretakers. The problem is not simply environmental but theological. When we flatten creation, we also flatten our understanding of God.

The gospel restores this vision. The God who creates is also the God who enters creation in Christ. Jesus walks within the world, touches it, heals it, and redeems it. Where we misuse creation, Christ restores it. Where we exploit what was entrusted to us, Christ becomes the faithful steward we failed to be. In Christ, we are not removed from creation but invited back into it as partners in God’s ongoing work of sustaining and redeeming the world. Grace comes first. We rediscover stewardship not to earn God’s favor, but because we already belong to the Creator.

The sermon concludes with a simple practice: pause to notice one small piece of creation. Attention leads to wonder, wonder leads to gratitude, and gratitude leads to stewardship. The good news is that God is not asking us to fix everything, but to see again. Christ is already restoring what we have neglected and inviting us to join in God’s sustaining care.