

# **FOUNDATIONS**

## **Part 1 of Foundation 260 - OT. Genesis 1-4.**

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. January 11, 2026.

### **THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

**Foundations 260 - OT readings began last week.**

- We're on track to read through the most significant passages and themes of the Old Testament.
- It will expand our faith and fuel our worship.

### **TODAY**

**We'll focus on the opening chapters of Genesis.**

- They outline the foundations of the Christian worldview.
- We'll also consider practical ways to implement those foundations.

### **WHY WAS GENESIS WRITTEN?**

**God revealed to Moses the ancient origins of the world and Israel.**

- God wanted to provide an alternative worldview to a nation that had been immersed in Egyptian religion and culture for 400 years.
- Genesis addresses life's major questions and the foundations of life.

**Listen to the selected readings from Genesis 1-4.**

- Genesis 1:1, 26-28; 2:7, 8-9, 15, 16-17, 18, 24-25; 3:6-7, 14-15, 21, 22-23; 4:8, 23-24

# THE FOUNDATIONS OF LIFE

## What is God?

- *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”* (Genesis 1:1, CSB) suggests that God is eternal, separate from his creation, outside of time and space, powerful, and good.

## What is Humanity?

- God made us for a relationship with him. He made us in his image and likeness to relate to him, represent him, and rule the earth with him.
- We are priests, interceding with God, representing him in the world. “Work it and watch over it” (Genesis 2:15) are terms used of priestly service in the temple and tabernacle in Leviticus 8:35; Numbers 3:5-10; 4:46-49.

## What is the Problem?

- As good and beautiful as life can be, it’s obvious that things are not ideal.
- This is due to Adam and Eve’s choice to rebel against God and eat from the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil, that is, to decide for themselves what is right and wrong.
- The result was spiritual death that continues today: spiritual and physical death, alienation from God and each other, expulsion from the Garden.

## What is the Solution?

- God did not abandon Adam and Eve, but sought them, spoke to them, and clothed them. He promised someone who would destroy the deceiver. He received Abel’s worship offering.
- All is not lost. God offers a way back. He invites everyone to eat from the *Tree of Life* by turning to Jesus Christ.

# **APPLYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF LIFE IN 2026**

**Since the main thing in life is a relationship with God ...**

## **1. We Will Focus On Hearing God Speak.**

- God wants to speak into our lives primarily through the Bible.
- Follow a Bible reading plan in 2026. See the book table.
- We will be known as a Bible teaching church.

## **2. We Will Focus On Speaking to God.**

- Prayer is our part in the relationship with God. Intercession is our priestly calling.
- We'll continue to incorporate prayer in our services, small groups.
- Consider using a prayer guide - see the book table.
- Attend the Prayer Meeting 2026 on Saturday, January 14, at 9:00 AM.
- Join the Pastor's Prayer Team.

## **2. We Will Focus On Speaking for God.**

- The church is an embassy, and we are ambassadors for God. As priests, we represent God and his message.
- In 2026, we will work for a spiritual awakening by sharing Jesus and the awesome Good News at every opportunity.
- 247 Project. Pray that the Lord adds daily to the Cornerstone those who are being saved.

***Without God, we're going nowhere. With God, what can stop us?***

# SMALL GROUP GUIDE

## Review

- Review Peter's January 11<sup>th</sup> teaching and study guide.
- What were the main insights of Peter's teaching?
- What questions do you have about the passage or Peter's teaching?
- What were the main applications or takeaways for your life?

## Discuss

Focus on helping each other apply the three takeaways from Peter's teaching.

1. Discuss practical ways **to hear God speak** through Bible reading, study, and teaching. What works for you? How do you overcome the barriers?
2. Discuss practical ways to **speak to God** through prayer. What works for you? How do you overcome barriers to prayer? Why bother?
3. Discuss practical ways to **speak for God** by sharing Jesus and the Good News.

## Prayer Focus

- Turn everything you've studied and discussed today into prayers. Pray that the Lord will add to the Cornerstone daily those who are being saved.