

Gospel Fluency: Study #1



Creation

Consider...

One of the saddest things you can ever see is a creature that is unable to live the way it is meant to live. Think of a battery hen crammed into a small cage with five others. It spends its short life standing on wire, unable to peck in the dirt, or stretch its wings. Or consider the lion, stuck in an urban zoo. It spends its time pacing backwards and forwards in a confined concrete area, there is little sun, it has never known a pride and is unable to hunt and run!

Now picture the old man sitting alone in the corner of a nursing home. He is unable to leave the building anymore and no one visits him, or even speaks to him. Or think of a child sitting in the mud of a refugee camp, filthy, malnourished and sick. The Tsunami destroyed her whole village and killed her parents. Finally picture the woman crying herself to sleep. She always dreamed of getting married, but five years of abuse and 3 affairs have left her wishing she'd never met the man lying next to her.

When you think about it, it is pretty clear that we are not living the way we're meant to. But if we're not made for this, what exactly *are* we meant for?

Read...

1. Read Genesis chapter 1:27-2:25. How does this passage describe humanity's relationship with the world around it?
2. How does the passage describe the man and woman's relationship with one another?
3. How does the passage describe humanity's relationship with God? (Hint: look particularly at what God does for the humans throughout the chapter and think about the point of what God says in vv.16-17).
4. What does the passage teach about death?

Summarise...

God created us to share perfect relationships...

- with himself
- with one another
- with the world around us