

Wonder of the Word

NANCY DeMOSS WOLGEMUTH

VOL. 1
Companion Guide

The Law

The Wonder of God's Grace

GENESIS to DEUTERONOMY



 **Revive**
Our **Hearts**

Welcome to Wonder

DISCOVER THE BEAUTY, POWER, AND
LIFE-CHANGING TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD

You are about to embark on a journey that will leave you breathless.

The Word of God is powerful. It's transformational. It gives us perspective on everything in and around us. As Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth has said, "Every moment we spend soaking in Scripture—putting it under a microscope, reading it, meditating on it, praying through it, seeking to understand it, and

responding to it in worship and obedience—is more than worth the time and effort."

At *Revive Our Hearts*, our desire is that every woman would encounter God in His Word. Truly there is no greater wonder in all the world.

The volume in your hands has been developed to enrich your experience as you seek to learn, love, and live out God's Word, one book at a time.

How to Use this Companion Guide

The *Wonder of the Word Companion Guide* includes tools to equip you as you study through the Bible with Nancy on *Revive Our Hearts*. This volume accompanies Season 1 of Nancy's Wonder of the Word teaching, *The Law: The Wonder of God's Grace*. In its pages, you will find the following features:

- **An introduction**, providing context for the section of Scripture covered and how it fits into the whole of God's Word.
- **An overview for each book** of the Bible included in this volume, with helpful information about its title, authorship, themes, gospel connections, and points of application.

- **Daily content for each episode** including prayer prompts, reading options, the day's "Big Idea," space to record your notes, as well as content to help you go deeper with what you've learned.

Think of your Companion Guide as a travel guide and journal—a place to document your journey through Scripture. When complete, it will become a "stone of remembrance" you can return to for years to come.

Before You Begin

Whether you are completely new to Bible study or you are a seasoned student of the Word, Nancy is looking forward to being your "tour guide" in this walk through the pages of Scripture. To help you get started, she has recorded two **special introductory episodes** that will be helpful as you step into Genesis.

Find them at ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Bonus.

The Word of God

It is the Word of God that created this universe.

It is the Word of God that produces new birth and creates saving faith.

It is the Word of God that reveals the heart and ways of God.

It is the Word of God that reveals our own hearts to us.

It is the Word of God that convicts of sin, renews the mind, and revives the heart.

It is the Word of God that accomplishes His purposes in this world.

And it is the Word of God that assures us that He is a redeeming God who is making all things new, that through Jesus, sin and death have been overcome, and that one day, sorrow and tears will be no more for those who are in Christ.

It is the Word of God that assures us that Heaven rules and Jesus really is near.

—NDW

Volume 1

INTRODUCTION

“God is always acting in our world—always moving, declaring, making, breathing, hovering, planting, placing, seeing, saying, blessing, and so much more.”

—NANCY DeMOSS WOLGEMUTH

The Law. The Pentateuch. The Torah. These titles all refer to the first five books of the Old Testament—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. With depth, breadth, poetry, and prose, they relate the beginning of God’s redemptive story.

Moses is considered the primary human author of these books because they record the instructions God gave to him, which he then passed on to God’s people. Deuteronomy 18 presents Moses as the model for the prophet God would raise up, one who would speak the words God puts in his mouth (vv. 15–19). These divine words move us through every chapter of Genesis–Deuteronomy as the prophet hears *from* God and the prophet speaks *for* God.

We can hardly imagine the law portion of the Scriptures without the creation story (Gen. 1–2); the Fall (ch. 3); the flood (chs. 6–8); the call of Abraham (ch. 12) and the covenant God initiated with him (ch. 15); the fall and rise of Joseph (chs. 37–50); the exodus (Ex. 1–18); and the years of wilderness wanderings. Yet when we think of the core message of these five books, we are drawn to Exodus 20:1–17, which records what we know as the Ten Commandments.

All of "the law" is anchored in these ten directives:

Do not have other gods besides me.	Do not murder.
Do not make an idol for yourself.	Do not commit adultery.
Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God.	Do not steal.
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.	Do not give false testimony against your neighbor.
Honor your father and your mother.	Do not covet.

Each of these commands and all of them together were the absolutes that God wanted His people to know, the essential things they were to do and not do that would bring them the enjoyment of a life set apart for Him. Obedience to the law promised great blessings, and that is what God wanted for His people.

Real hardship would come through breaking the law, not through keeping it. Though the comprehensive instructions for preparing and offering the right sacrifices at the right times were demanding and the rigid specifications for every pole, curtain, and vessel required for the tabernacle were extreme, attentiveness to these details hailed the glorious presence of God.

By contrast, the shortcuts, revisions, and outright rebellion that some men and women attempted along the way prompted God's retribution. The accounts of Cain killing Abel (Gen. 4), the making of the golden calf (Ex. 32), and the rebellion of Korah (Num. 16) stand as witnesses to the foolishness of breaking God's commands.

Even so, keeping the law was impossible. No man or woman, however devout, was able to fully keep it. While revealing the absolute holiness of God (and what He wanted His people to be), the law exposed their inability to meet His standard.

And that was the point. The holiness God required would have to be provided by Him. *He* would make a way.

That is exactly what He did by sending His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus perfectly fulfilled the law of God and sacrificed His life as the Lamb of God, so we could be forgiven and made righteous.

Genesis

IN THE BEGINNING GOD. (1:1)

The title *Genesis* is a Greek word that means origin, beginnings, or even generations. It is related to the verb *ginomai*, which means “to come into being.” Genesis is the book of beginnings.

Genesis records . . .

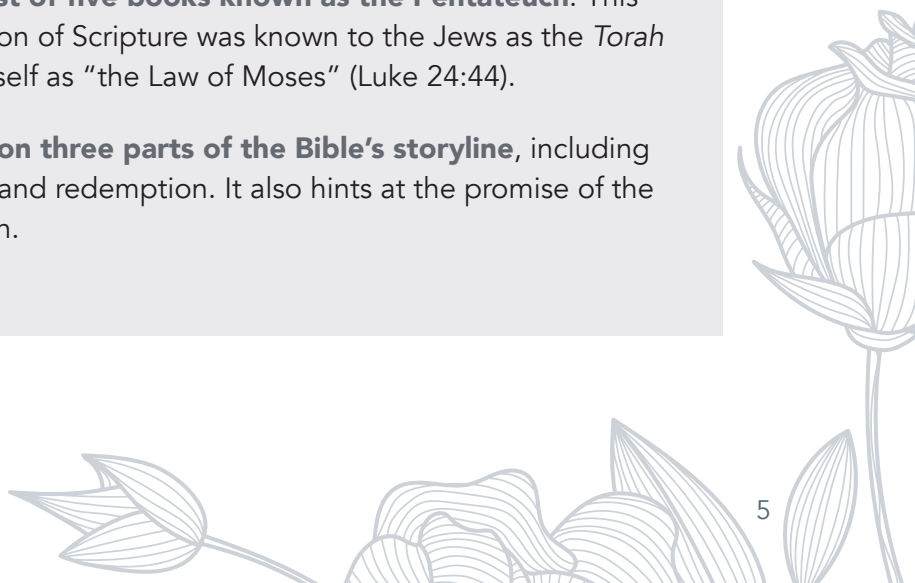
- The beginning of the universe.
- The beginning of the human race.
- The beginning of marriage and family.
- The beginning of the nations.
- The beginning of sin.
- The beginning of redemption.

Genesis is written in the literary form of **historical narrative**.

Moses is the author (see Josh. 8:35; 23:6; Ezra 6:18; Mark 12:26; Rom. 10:5), though some updates were made to the book after his death (for example, the names of locations).

Genesis is the first of five books known as the Pentateuch. This foundational section of Scripture was known to the Jews as the *Torah* and to Christ Himself as “the Law of Moses” (Luke 24:44).

Genesis touches on three parts of the Bible’s storyline, including creation, the Fall, and redemption. It also hints at the promise of the fourth—restoration.





Of Special Interest

- **The original audience of Genesis**—and the Pentateuch—would have been the children of Israel in the wilderness.
- **The five books of the Torah** (Pentateuch) were originally considered one book.
- **The gospel connection to Genesis** is identified in 2 Corinthians 4:6: "For God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ."

Life Lessons from Genesis

- All that God made was good; apart from Him, there was nothing good. Just as the earth was formless, empty, and dark (Gen. 1:2), so our lives are without Him.
- The events in our personal lives and the events in our world are neither random nor meaningless. They are sovereignly ordained and carried out by a good, wise, and loving Creator.

As you walk through Genesis in the days to come, use the space below to jot down additional life lessons of your own.



EPISODE 1

In the Beginning



Today's Big Idea

God, our wise and loving Creator, brings light into our darkness, gives meaning and purpose to our lives, and is actively at work to redeem and restore all things through Christ.



Pray

Ask the Lord to give you a fresh sense of wonder as you read His Word. Pray for understanding and for an open, humble, obedient heart to receive what He wants to say to you.



Read

Genesis 1:26–2:3, 15–25 (3-minute read)

Genesis 1–2 (6-minute read)



Today's Episode

Find it at [ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law01](https://www.ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law01).

Listen to Episode 1: In the Beginning

Write down notes from today's teaching.

My Prayer

Write a prayer of wonder, thanksgiving, confession, or surrender.

Go Deeper

Find related content at ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law01.



 Listen to today's WoW Kids Episode: In the Beginning.

Visit [ReviveOurHearts.com/Kids](https://www.ReviveOurHearts.com/Kids) for today's Wonder of the Word for Kids worksheet, podcast episode, and more.

EPISODE 2

Glimpses of Grace at the Fall



Today's Big Idea

Sin distorted God's good creation, bringing brokenness and death into the world—but God, in His mercy, pursued His people and unveiled a plan to reverse the curse.



Pray

Ask the Lord to give you a fresh sense of wonder as you read His Word. Pray for understanding and for an open, humble, obedient heart to receive what He wants to say to you.



Read

Genesis 3:8–24 (2-minute read)

Genesis 3–5 (7-minute read)



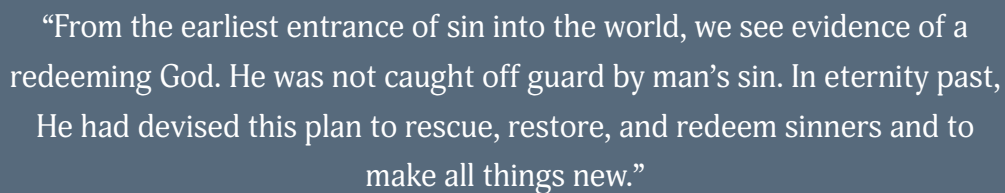
Today's Episode

Find it at [ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law02](https://www.ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law02).



Listen to Episode 2: Glimpses of Grace at the Fall

Write down notes from today's teaching.



My Wonder Takeaway

What message will you take home from today's study of God's Word?

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My Prayer

Write a prayer of wonder, thanksgiving, confession, or surrender.

Go Deeper

Find related content at ReviveOurHearts.com/WoW/Law02.

Visit ReviveOurHearts.com/Kids for today's Wonder of the Word for Kids worksheet, past podcast episodes, and more.