

Lesson 1

Becoming a Dwelling Place



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Becoming a Dwelling Place

God brings order and separation before He inhabits.

First, God created order.

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God brings order and separation before He inhabits.

Genesis 1:2–3 (NLT)

“The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.”

When God first approached creation, He did not rush to live in it. The earth was full of chaos, no shape, no structure, no clarity. Scripture says the Spirit of God hovered. God was present, but He had not yet settled.

Then something important happened: God spoke order into chaos.

God did not create life immediately. He followed a process.

First, God created order.

He spoke light into darkness.

Genesis 1:3 Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light

Second, God created separation.

He separated:

- Light from darkness
- Water from sky
- Land from sea
- Day from night

Separation came before growth.

Third, God established structure and function.

He set boundaries, measurements, rhythms, and purpose.

Only after order and separation were established did God begin to fill the earth with life, plants, animals, and finally humanity.

And only after everything was ordered and filled did God rest.

This teaches us a powerful truth:

God's presence initiates change, but God's habitation requires preparation.

God will meet us in confusion, but He does not dwell in disorder.

God does not inhabit chaos, He transforms it.

Many people confuse feeling God with God living in them. Feeling God is the beginning, not the destination. God is not looking to hover over our lives forever, He wants to dwell in them.

But dwelling requires order.

Application for the Family

Just like creation, God works in our lives the same way:

- He brings light where there is confusion
- He calls us to separate from what harms us
- He establishes healthy boundaries and habits
- Then He fills our lives with peace, purpose, and growth

If God feels near but distant at the same time, it may not mean He left, it may mean He is inviting us to bring order where there is chaos.

Family Discussion

- What did God fix first in creation chaos or life?
- Why do you think God separated things before filling the earth?
- What areas in our lives or home need more order so God can dwell there?

Family Prayer

“God, thank You for meeting us in our chaos, for hovering over our lives even when things feel formless, unclear, or broken. Thank You that You are not afraid of our darkness, and that Your presence comes near before anything is fixed.

Lord, just as You spoke light into the darkness, we ask You to bring order into our hearts, our thoughts, and our daily lives. Speak clarity where there has been confusion, peace where there has been unrest, and direction where we have felt lost.

Teach us to walk in separation, to discern between what brings life and what pulls us away from You. Help us separate light from darkness, truth from distraction, and what is holy from what weakens our faith.

Establish boundaries and measurements in our lives, just as You set the limits of the sea and the rhythm of day and night. Help us order our time, our habits, our priorities, and our choices so they align with Your will. Give us the discipline to live within the structure You designed for our good.

And Lord, once You have ordered, separated, and prepared us, we invite You to dwell with us. Make our hearts Your home. Make our family a place where Your presence rests, not just visits. Fill our lives with Your peace, Your purpose, and Your Spirit.

We offer ourselves to You, prepared, willing, and open, so You can live in us every day. Amen.”