



His dream, from the beginning, was to share life with His people. To be *with* His people. But the dark forces—what the book of Revelation refers to as “the serpent” or “the dragon”—tries to thwart God’s plan at every turn. Listen in as we tell the grand story from beginning to end—the tale of the Dragon Slayer, working through the fullness of time until the end, when, as Revelation puts it, “God himself will be with them.” This is the story of God with us.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Introduction:

“Why do we all love good stories?”

**A GRAND STORY.** What are the basic elements in a good story? Think of your favorite story. When “art meets life”, the story is even better. If God were to tell the greatest story ever told, what elements would you expect?

**ACT 1: BEFORE ALL WORLDS.** Read **John 1:1 & Revelation 12:3-4**. How do both Christ and Satan have stories that come before the creation of the world? Discuss. **Follow up:** Read **Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Luke 10:18; 1 Timothy 3:6**. From these passages, what kind of story emerges about a cosmic power struggle with an evil desire to fight against God and his plan?

**ACT II: CREATION.** Read **Job 38:4-7; 1 Peter 1:12; John 1:1-3; Genesis 1:1-3, 26-28**. Describe creation from heaven’s perspective. **Follow up:** Read **Revelation 12:4&9; Job 1-2; Genesis 3**. What seems to be Satan’s role in the garden? How is this part of a bigger story?

**ACT III: THE COVENANT.** Gods makes covenant with Noah, with Abraham, and with Moses. How is “covenant” part of the grand story? What stories from the OT come to mind that show God at work, giving hints of his future plans, as the story develops?

**ACT IV: THE CHRIST.** Read **Genesis 3:15; Matthew 1:23**. How is the coming of Christ connected to the grand story? Read **Revelation 12:7-11**. How is Jesus the dragon slayer?

**ACT VI: COMPLETION.** Read **Revelation 21:1-3**. How is the final completion a reminder of the garden story? What does that mean as the completion of the grand story?

**ACT V: NOW.** Reflect on what it means to live in Act 5—Christ has conquered, but we wait for the full restoration. Christ is in us and with us (Matt 28:20; Col 1:27) because the Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:7; Phil 1:19) is the Spirit of God that dwells in God’s people (Jn 14:15-21; 15:5; 1 Cor 3:16-17).