

Adult
Sabbath School
Bible Study Guide

Oct | Nov | Dec 2026

THE GIFT OF PROPHECY



THE CREATOR SPEAKS

Lesson 1 Study Notes[ABSG-4-2026]
September 26-October 2



SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON STUDY NOTES

Fourth Quarter 2026 | Lesson 1

The Creator Speaks

September 26-October 2

Purpose

These notes are prepared to simplify and reinforce the weekly Sabbath School lesson for personal devotion, family worship, small-group study, and Sabbath School discussion.

They are designed to help readers engage with the weekly lesson in a clear, practical, and easy-to-understand way, while encouraging deeper study of the original sources.

Disclaimer

These notes are prepared to support personal and group Bible study. They are prepared with reference to the Bible, the Sabbath School Quarterly Guide, and the writings of Ellen G. White.

However, these notes are not an official publication of, nor endorsed by, the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Readers are encouraged to rely first on the Holy Bible, together with the Sabbath School Quarterly Guide and the writings of Ellen G. White, as the primary sources for their study and understanding.

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Questions, corrections, or suggestions?

We welcome your feedback as we continue to improve these study notes.

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Sounding the Advent Message

Lesson 1 [Sep 26 - Oct 2]: Understanding the Memory Text

*“**God**, who at various times and in various ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers by the **prophets**, has in these **last** days spoken to us by His **Son**, whom He has appointed **heir** of all things, through whom also He made the **worlds**.” — **Hebrews 1:1-2 (NKJV)***

- This week's lesson shows that **God** has always desired to **communicate** with **humanity**.
- Before **sin**, **Adam** and **Eve** enjoyed close **communion** with their **Creator**.
- **Sin** **broke** that **relationship**, but **God** did not **abandon** His **children**.
- He continued to **speak** through **prophets** and **Scripture**, and He ultimately **revealed** Himself through **Jesus Christ**.

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past...”

- **God** did not remain **silent** after **humanity** fell into **sin**.
- He **communicated** His **will** through different **people** and in different **ways**.
- **God** gradually **revealed** His **character**, His **purposes**, and His **plan** of **salvation**.
- The important point is that **God** Himself was the One **speaking**.
- The **prophets** were His chosen **messengers**, carrying the **message** He had given them.

“...to the fathers by the prophets...”

- The “**fathers**” refers to **people** of earlier **generations** who received **God's revelation**.
- **God** used **prophets** as His **representatives** to **communicate** His **messages**.
- Some **prophets** wrote what became part of **Scripture**, while others delivered **messages** without writing books of the **Bible**.
- The **prophet** was **God's spokesperson**, but the **message** came from **God**.

“...has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...”

- Here the **focus** moves from the **prophets** to **Jesus Christ**.
- **God's revelation** reaches its fullest **expression** in His **Son**.
- **Jesus** did not merely bring **information** about **God**.
- His **life revealed** what **God** is like.
- **Jesus** said, “He who has seen Me has seen the **Father**,” showing that His **character** and **ministry** reveal the **character** of **God**.

“...whom He has appointed heir of all things...”

- **Jesus** is not merely a **messenger** who delivers **God's words**.
- He is the **Son** who has **authority** over all **things**.
- As the **heir** of all things, **Christ** holds **supreme authority** and is worthy of our complete **trust** and **obedience**.

“...through whom also He made the worlds.”

- The One through whom **God** has spoken to **humanity** is also the One through whom **God** **created** the **worlds**.
- **Christ** is the **Creator**.
- He is not merely a **teacher** who tells us about the **Creator**.
- The One who **created** us is the One who came to **restore** us.

Spiritual Meaning

- **Hebrews** 1:1–2 shows that **God** has not **abandoned** **humanity**.
- **Sin** **damaged** our **communion** with **God**, but **God** took the **initiative** to **restore** **communication** and bring **hope**.
- He spoke through **prophets**, preserved His **message** in **Scripture**, and **revealed** Himself through **Jesus Christ**.
- **Jesus** is **God's supreme revelation** because His **life** reveals **God's character**.

What This Means for You

- **God** wants you to **know** Him.
- When you read **Scripture**, you are **listening** to the **God** who has chosen to **reveal** Himself.
- When you look to **Jesus**, you see the clearest **revelation** of **God's character**.
- Do not allow **guilt** or **shame** to make you **hide** from **God**.
- After **Adam** and **Eve sinned**, **God** was the One who came **looking** for them.
- He still **seeks** those who have **wandered** from Him.
- Open His **Word** with a **willing heart** and **listen** to what **God** has **revealed**.
- Look to **Jesus**, because in Him **God's love**, **character**, **salvation**, and **purpose** are made **known**.

September 26: Sabbath Afternoon - Overview

Summary

- **God** created **humanity** for close **fellowship** with Him.
- **Adam** and **Eve** enjoyed **face-to-face communion** with their **Creator**.
- **Sin** broke this **intimate relationship**.
- **Sin** brought **fear**, **shame**, and **separation** from **God**.
- Yet **God** did not **abandon** His **fallen children**.
- He took the **initiative** to **seek** them.
- He also gave them the **promise** of a **Savior**.
- Throughout **history**, **God** continued to **speak** to **humanity**.
- He spoke through **creation**, **prophets**, **Scripture**, and **Jesus Christ**.
- Through **Jesus**, **God** has made His **love** and **character** known.
- **God** still **speaks** to us and leads us toward **restored communion** with Him.

Main Points to Learn This Week

Sunday: We will **discover** the close **relationship** **God** intended to have with **humanity** in **Eden**.

Monday: We will see how **sin** and **disobedience** caused **Adam** and **Eve** to **hide** from **God**.

Tuesday: We will discover how **God** **seeks** **fallen humanity** and continues to offer His **love** and **hope**.

Wednesday: We will learn how **sin** **separated humanity** from **God** and how the **promise** of a **Savior** brought **hope**.

Thursday: We will **explore** the many **ways** **God** has **spoken** to **humanity**, especially through **Jesus Christ**.

Let us **study** this week and discover how the **God** who **spoke** to **humanity** in **Eden** still **speaks**, **seeks**, and leads us toward **restored fellowship** with Him.

September 27: Sunday - Communication in Eden

Read: Genesis 1:27–28; Genesis 2:15–17; Genesis 2:18–23; Genesis 3:9

Summary

- God created human beings in His image to live in communion with Him.
- He also made us for relationship with one another, saying, "It is not good that man should be alone."
- Adam and Eve listened to God, learned from Him, and enjoyed open communion with Him.
- The Sabbath gave them a special time to rest and enjoy their Creator's presence.
- Sin changed everything, and Adam hid from God in fear.
- Yet God still came looking for him and asked, "Where are you?"
- That question was not about location but about relationship.
- Even after sin, God kept seeking communication with humanity, and in Jesus He came to seek and save the lost.
- Creation still points us to the good Creator and awakens a desire to know Him more deeply.

Question

- What does Eden teach us about the relationship God wants to have with us?

Answer

- God wants us to know Him, hear His Word, enjoy His presence, and walk with Him.

Reflection

- Am I making room in my life to hear God and enjoy His presence?

Takeaway

- God created you for communion with Him. Let His Word and creation draw you closer to your Creator.

September 28: Monday - Hiding From God

Read: Genesis 3:1–8; Jeremiah 23:24; Hebrews 4:13; 1 John 4:8

Summary

- God gave Adam and Eve the freedom to choose because love cannot be forced.
- When they disobeyed, sin entered their hearts and everything changed.
- The glory that had covered them disappeared, and they saw themselves as naked and ashamed.
- Their first instinct was not to run to God but to hide from Him among the trees.
- This is exactly what we do when we sin.
- Guilt makes us want to flee from the very One who can heal us.
- We avoid prayer, we stay busy, we withdraw, and we tell ourselves we will deal with God later.
- But no one can truly hide from God, for He sees every secret place and knows every hidden corner of the heart.
- Yet even in their sin, God came walking in the garden and called out to them.
- He did not wait for them to clean themselves up but went looking for them first.
- That is the heart of God, and He is still looking for you.

Question

- Why did Adam and Eve try to hide from their Creator after they disobeyed Him?

Answer

- They hid because sin made them feel guilty and ashamed, and guilt makes us want to flee from God's presence.

Reflection

- What has been your own experience with shame and seeking to hide from God after you have sinned?

Takeaway

- God is not waiting for you to come out of hiding on your own. He is already walking toward you, calling your name, and inviting you to come into His presence just as you are.

September 29: Tuesday - God Seeks Humanity

Read: Genesis 3:9–13; Luke 15:11–32; Luke 22:61; Romans 7:15–25

Summary

- God took the first step toward Adam and Eve after they sinned.
- His question "Where are you?" was not because He did not know where they were.
- It was an invitation to restore the communication that sin had broken.
- This is who God is because He never gives up on us.
- The parable of the prodigal son shows the same heart, for the father ran to his son instead of waiting for him to come back on his own.
- When Peter denied Jesus three times, Christ simply turned and looked at him, and that look was a call to return.
- But sin does more than make us hide because it also makes us blame.
- Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent, and neither one owned their guilt.
- Paul describes this same struggle in Romans 7:15–25, and our only hope is deliverance through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Question

- How does the parable of the prodigal son reflect what happened in Genesis 3:9–10?

Answer

- In both stories, God takes the initiative to seek the lost. The father ran to his son just as God came walking in the garden. God does not wait for us to return on our own. He comes looking for us because He loves us.

Reflection

- When I sin, do I hide and make excuses like Adam and Eve, or do I run to the God who is already seeking me?

Takeaway

- God is not waiting for you to find your way back to Him. He is already seeking you, and He will not stop until you are safe in His arms.

September 30: Wednesday - Expelled From the Garden

Read: Genesis 3:14–24; Isaiah 59:2; Genesis 3:15; Exodus 19:16–22; John 14:1–3

Summary

- One of the most **devastating** consequences of **sin** was **separation** from **God**.
- **Adam** and **Eve** were **expelled** from the **Garden** and could no longer **speak** with God **face-to-face**.
- **Isaiah** describes this **condition** when he says our **iniquities** have **separated** us from God and our **sins** have **hidden** His **face** from us (**Isaiah 59:2**).
- **Sin** **changed** everything, for the **land** was **cursed** and humans would now **experience pain**, **sweat**, and finally **death**.
- Of all the **reminders** of sin, **death** remains the most **powerful**.
- But even in this **dark** moment, **God** gave **hope**.
- **Genesis 3:15** is called the **first gospel promise**, and it spoke of a **coming Redeemer** who would **defeat** sin.
- God's **provision** of **clothing** for Adam and Eve was a **symbolic act** pointing to their future **redemption**.
- As soon as there was **sin**, there was the **promise** of a **Savior**.
- Through the future **death** and **resurrection** of **Jesus**, **communion** with God would be **restored**.

Question

- How has **sin specifically changed** our **communication** with **God**?

Answer

- **Sin separated humanity** from God so that we could no longer **speak** with Him **face-to-face**. But **God promised** a **Redeemer** who would **restore** that **communion**.

Reflection

- How have I **felt** after doing something **wrong**, and how did my **faith** in God and the **promise** of the **gospel** keep me from **giving** up on faith entirely?

Takeaway

- Even when **sin separates** you from **God**, He is **already providing** the **way** back. The **promise** of a **Savior** was given in **Eden**, and that promise is for you **today**.

October 1: Thursday - God's Spokespeople

Read: Hebrews 1:1–2; Romans 1:19–20; Numbers 12:6; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; John 14:7–9; John 10:27–30

Summary

- Sin broke our face-to-face communication with God, but God did not stop speaking.
- He speaks through creation, which still displays His power and wisdom even though it also bears the scars of the Fall.
- He speaks through prophets, chosen messengers who remind us that God has not forgotten His children.
- He speaks through Scripture, where we learn who God is, who we are, and where we are going.
- But the clearest and most effective way God has spoken is through Jesus Christ.
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost, fulfilling the promise given in Eden.
- He said, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father."
- After Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit continued guiding us into all truth.
- God has never stopped reaching out to His fallen children.

Question

- How has God continued to speak to humanity after sin broke our face-to-face communication with Him?

Answer

- God speaks through creation, prophets, Scripture, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. He uses many methods because He is determined to reach us and restore the relationship that sin broke.

Reflection

- How much comfort do I get from knowing that Jesus reveals what God the Father is really like?

Takeaway

- When you look at Jesus, you are looking at the heart of God, and that heart has always been turned toward you.

October 2: Friday - Further Thought

Read: Ellen G. White, Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, pp. 20–39

Summary

- **God** still **speaks today**, and the **story** of Ellen White **shows** us how He **reaches** people in their deepest **despair**.
- Ellen was a young girl who **suffered** a **painful** injury, **struggled** with feelings of **unworthiness**, and **believed** she was forever **lost**.
- She was **afraid** of God and **saw** Him as a **stern tyrant**.
- But **God reached** her through a preacher who helped her **understand** His **love** and **grace**.
- **Faith took** possession of her **heart**, and she **felt** an **inexpressible** love for God and the **assurance** that her **sins** were **forgiven**.
- Her **view** of the **Father** changed completely, and she **began** to see Him as a **kind** and **tender parent**.
- She also **came** to understand the **truth** about **death** and that there is no forever-burning **hell**.
- This **new understanding** of God and His love changed her **attitude** entirely.
- From that **point** on, she **loved Jesus deeply** and **served** Him for the rest of her **life**.

Question

- How **did God reach** Ellen White in **her** despair, and what **changed** her view of Him?

Answer

- **God reached** her through a preacher who helped her understand His **love** and **grace**. She **stopped** seeing God as a **stern** tyrant and **began** to see Him as a kind and **tender** parent.

Reflection

- Do I **see God** as a **stern** tyrant or as a kind and **tender** parent?

Takeaway

- **God** still **speaks** today, and He can **reach** you in your deepest **despair**. When you see Him as He **truly is**, your **heart** will **go** out to Him in **love**.