Beginning Again- **Genesis One**

A New Creation- Ingimar DeRidder

A New Creation

There are times when people wish they could "begin again." Things went "from bad to worse," and they wish they could start all over. Have you ever felt like that? You are not alone. That is the story of humanity. As a matter a fact, the Bible says that everyone needs to start all over again, because "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). It also says that becoming a Christian is becoming a new creation (2Cor. 5:17). There are even times when believers need to repent, and start again. How can a person begin again?

1. Begin with God. The Bible begins in the beginning. It starts where life and new life starts. "In the beginning God." If you don't know how or where to start, this is it: Begin with God. When people begin without God things can only get worse and worse. Begin your day with God, begin your week with God. Don't try to build a home or a business unless you begin in the beginning. Begin with God.

2. Read God's Word. The creation of everything as seen in the Book of Genesis is the result of God's word. "And God said…" Learn to listen to what God says. The Bible is God speaking. Open the Bible and listen. God is still speaking and He has something important to tell you.

3. Pray for Guidance. Pray for light. God always begins creation with light. "Let there be light." Call it illumination, insight, or guidance, whatever—pray for light. Turn from darkness, and dark things. (Jn. 3:19;2Cor.6:14;Acts 26:18;1Jn 1:5). When God sheds his light on something it always looks different. On the first day of creation God made light.

4. Look up. On the second day of creation God made the heavens. Determine to set your heart on things above. Look up. Scientists today are awestruck with just how big space is. Every day it looks larger and larger. Find time and a place to worship. Catch a vision of how great and awesome God is.

5. Stand on solid ground. On the third day of creation God made the land and called it earth. God calls us to trust him, and to trust his word, to stand on his promise. We are invited to build our lives on the solid rock. (Mt. 7:24). Only a life that is built on the principles of God's word is on solid ground.

6. Use what God has given you. On the third day God ordered the earth to "bring forth." Plants, trees, and fruits of every kind and description were created by God for man. (Gen. 1:11;Ps. 104:14). The Bible tells us that God even made the herbs "for the service of man." God's creation is full of gifts. Gratitude should be our attitude for all the presents God has given. Thank God for his wonderful gifts. God has filled the earth with everything we need. David said, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." Paul said, "but my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches ...in Christ Jesus."

7. Dedicate your time to God. God made a calendar and a clock. "Six days shalt thou labor," says the fourth commandment, and while all work is holy work for the believer, one day is to be "set apart" for God. On the fourth day God made the sun, the moon and stars. These are the workings of an enormous clock measuring days, and months, and years. "Lord, teach us to number our days." Life is loaned, not given. Make the most of it by letting God be the God of your time.

8. Find your element. On the fifth day God made fish and birds. At times we have all felt like a "fish out of water." That means we were not where we belong. Find where you belong. Seek God's will for your life and a place of service. A fish belongs in water. It is happy there. If God gave you gills head for the water. If he gave you wings you leap to the sky. If he gave you a voice and a song, then by all means sing. Find what you do best, and then do it.

9. Live in the likeness. "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness…" On the sixth day of creation God made the animals, and then God made something special. God made man. Man is very different from an animal. Man was made in the likeness of God. He was given the ability to love, to laugh, to reason. Animals were given instinct, man was given the ability to choose, to change, and to take charge (have dominion). Every day we can choose to live like an animal, or like the child of God we were meant to be.

When the Book of Genesis describes the creation account it shows what God can do with nothing. As a matter of fact, it shows what God can do with less then nothing (without form, empty, and dark). That is where God finds every sinner: without clear direction, without substance, and without light. That is what sin has done to man.
If you have never been "born again" you need to experience the "new creation." If your life is without direction, if you sense something missing, or have become tired of the "darkness" of sin, you need to trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Ask him to forgive you for your sin, come into your heart and life and make you a new creation.