

Let's Consider . . .



First Things First

While no one seems to remember taking their first step or uttering their first word, there are many firsts in our lives that are very meaningful to us. We remember our first friend, our first school, our first kiss, our first job, our first car, our first love, our first.....

What were your firsts for the Lord?

Do you remember the

- first time you taught someone about Jesus,
- or the first time you taught a Bible Class,
- or the first time you prepared a series of lessons to teach others?

We know the word Genesis means origin or beginning. The name for the book Genesis was assigned by the translators who gave it that name because of its opening verse "In the beginning..."

Genesis allows us to read about many first occurrences:

- the origin of the universe,
- the beginning of the human race,
- the beginning of sin and of God's way for salvation.

While the importance of this book is not in physical beginnings, but God's relationship to his people, there are many firsts found in this book.

How many of these first mentions can you find:

First	Verse found
Worker	1 _____
Parents	2 _____
Murderer	3 _____
Shepherd	4 _____
City Builder	5 _____
Musician	6 _____
Person Not To Die	7 _____
Shipbuilder	8 _____

Covenant	9 _____
Priest	10 _____
Wage Contract	11 _____
Son of Jacob	12 _____
Prison	13 _____
Man to hear an animal speak	14 _____
Women to Own Land in Canaan	15 _____
Female Judge of Israel	16 _____
Circuit Judge	17 _____
Labor Union	18 _____

The first set of genealogies is found in Genesis 5. These are often a long list of names that we deem to not be so important and we usually tend to pass over them in our reading.

The genealogies were not merely inserted to take up space. They serve three important purposes.

- Trace ancestry of important people in the Bible.
- Show links between people and nations
- Reveal Gods plan of salvation through Jesus Christ

The following genealogies serve important purposes:

- Descendants of Adam – Gen 5 Shows the lineage from Adam to Noah
- Descendants of Noah – Gen 10 Indicates the origin of the three major tribes/nations that play a major role in the Bible narrative
- Descendants of Shem – Gen 11 Traces the line from Noah to Abraham
- Descendants of Esau – Gen 36 Cousins of the Israelites who they regularly feuded with
- Descendants of Jacob – Gen 46 Lists the principle families of the Israelites
- Moses first census of Israel – Num 1 Lists the families that left Egypt
- Lists people returning from the Babylonian exile – Ezra 2 & Neh 7 These were the families that returned to build Judah and to indicate ownership of the land.
- Genealogy of Jesus – Matt 1 & Luke 3 To establish the lineage of Jesus from David

Answers to First Mentions

1	Gen 1:1-2	7	Gen 5:21	13	Gen 39:20
2	Gen 2:19 3:20	8	Gen 6:9	14	Num 22:5
3	Gen 4:1	9	Gen 8:20-22	15	Mum 27:1-11
4	Gen 4:2	10	Gen 14:18	16	Judges 4:4
5	Gen 4:18	11	Gen 29:15-20	17	1 Sam 7:15
6	Gen 4:21	12	Gen 37:21	18	Acts 19:26-28