

# “IN THE BEGINNING”

## The Book of Genesis

**Who wrote The Book of Genesis?**

The Book of Genesis was probably written by several writers with Moses as the primary author.

**How did The Book of Genesis get its name and/or what does that name mean?**

In Greek, Genesis means "in the beginning"

**When did these events take place?**

No one knows how much time passed between the creation of the world and the Israelites journey into Egypt. Scholars generally agree this migration took place in about 1700 B.C.

**For more about The Book of Genesis:**

See page 7 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

Can you imagine when there was no time, no people, no earth, no sky, no sun, and no stars . . . not even light? Well, that's what it was like, in the beginning. In the beginning, there was only God. The Book of Genesis is the story about God's first gifts - the creation of the world, the creation of man and His blessing on a Chosen People. It's also a story about the darker side - the story of the origin of sin and death. In The Book of Genesis, mankind discovered the wrath of God that comes into play when he decides to let sin take over his life. Just ask every one of Noah's neighbors who refused to listen to Him about what the wrath of God can mean.

But Genesis is full of good news too. Even though we learn that God is a jealous God and that He demands a great deal from His people, many stories in Genesis reveal God's endless mercy. Despite the human weakness, the sin and the death we read about in Genesis, this book is really the story of God's promise to man (the covenant He made with Abraham) and how that promise survives because of his abounding love for us.

**Interesting Fact:** The Book of Genesis was probably not written until the time of Moses.

**Bonus Point:** What Patriarch in Genesis lived to be 969 years old?