ROOTED IN WONDER



Group Study Guide



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MASTER NATURALIST SHARING THE CREATION STORY NATURE + BIBLE RESOURCES



Fully Convinced

- What was your exposure to nature when you were a child? How did a specific experience in nature shape your perspective while growing up?
- What are some of your hopes as you begin reading this book? How do you want to see your family's relationship to nature transform?
- What would help you gain confidence in pointing your child to their Creator through nature?

Chapter 1

This is My Father's World

- Share a specific time you experienced God in nature. Is there a way you have discovered his character, creativity, and interactions through what he has made?
- What questions does your child have about God?
- How are you inclined to or most comfortable with sharing God's truth with your child? Have you shared the gospel with them through God's Word, and do you let them experience God through nature? Share any insecurities or struggles you've had in this area.

Chapter 2

Reconnecting the Dots Between Creation and Creator

- Who is or was someone in your life who greatly influenced your faith? How did they make an impact on what you believe?
- When was a time that nature took your breath away or left you in awe? Share your thoughts from that experience.
- How have you personally seen people around you "shutting their eyes to the light of truth?" Have you witnessed anyone trying to explain away intelligence or worshiping creation rather than the Creator?

Chapter 3

Creation Groans . . . Until It Sings

- Have you or someone close to you experienced a natural disaster? What questions about God or faith did it bring up?
- Has your child asked you questions about climate change, a warming earth, glacial melt, or pollution? How have you responded in the past?
- Have you ever experienced what felt like a miracle of nature? Share your story.

Chapter 4

Nurturing Contagious Curiosity in Your Children

- Were you a naturally curious kid? Are you still curious about natural things? If not, when did that sense of wonder begin to fizzle out? What do you think would have preserved it?
- When have you observed your child most absorbed in nature?
- Have you ever witnessed your child experiencing a profound moment in nature? Have they said anything about how something in nature makes them see or understand God better?

Chapter 5

Becoming a Wonder Conservationist

- Have you ever planted anything with your child? Explain the experience and what you and your child took away from it.
- Do you think conservation is important to God? Respectfully share your thoughts around how much a believer should care about preserving natural things.
- Have you ever experienced the loss of a natural thing or natural area you loved? Maybe it was a development taking over the field behind your home, a fire devouring a hiking path, or a river from your childhood that's now dried up. Share how that loss has impacted you.

Chapter 6

The Absolute Truth About Nature

- Has your child or their friends ever brought up questions or arguments against the Bible? How have you responded or helped your child respond?
- Have you ever encountered a dangerous experience in nature? How did you react or respond? What absolutes or unchangeable qualities about nature did this experience show you?
- What do you think it means to "love the Lord your God... with all your mind," Mathew 22:37?

Chapter 7

Nature-Minded: Growing a Healthy Mindset Outdoors

- Are you comfortable with the idea of silence? What do feel when you think about spending a silent hour in the woods by yourself?
- Have you ever found clarity in nature? Share your experience. What problem did you begin with, and how did time outdoors help sort your thoughts?
- Is your child currently facing issues with their mindset? While respecting your child's privacy, share what you feel comfortable about current struggles with thoughts, and how you hope to see these helped through time outdoors.



Native Pastimes

- How did you spend time outdoors as a child? Do you see your child partaking of the same activities?
- What screen-time struggles are you facing in your home? Avoid generalities and focus on specific issues you're hoping to remedy through time outdoors. Share ideas with one another.
- Share about a wonderful extended time in the outdoors your family has had. Maybe it was a half-day hike, an afternoon at the beach, or a weekend camping trip. What is keeping you from making more of those experiences happen?

Chapter 9

Nature's Time Capsule

- Without overthinking it, list three values you want your family to live by. Does your current lifestyle reflect those values?
- Have you ever lost sense of time while outside? Describe the experience.
- Picture your child grown up. Looking back on their childhood, what is one thing you'll be very grateful you spent time doing with them?

Chapter 10

Family Hibernation

- Does your family take regular opportunities for rest? What does rest look like in your home?
- What obstacles are you facing in creating a more restful atmosphere in your home? Share with one another what challenges you've faced and solutions you've found.
- In twenty years looking back, will you be content with how fast or slow you lived these years? What is one thing you can do to adjust the pace of your life?

Chapter 11

Creation and Creativity

- Have you ever seen your child take inspiration from nature to create something of their own? Explain what they made.
- What materials in nature does your child gravitate towards when playing outside?
- What do you enjoy creating, or how have you expressed yourself creatively in the past? How can you include your child in those activities?

Chapter 12

Bringing Nature Indoors

- Have you or someone close to you experienced the healing qualities of nature?
- Was there a difficult time in your life that you can look back on and see that you— whether intentionally or not—sought healing and hope outdoors?
- Share with each other your experiences of bringing nature indoors. Have you done any of the activities in this chapter or similar activities?

Chapter 13

Unshakable Faith

- What doubts have you had regarding your own faith? How have you or are you sorting through them?
- How does time in nature affect your relationship with God? Do you feel nearer to him? Do you understand better what he says in his Word? Does your faith feel stronger after a day spent outside?
- What is one of your big takeaways from this book? How do you plan on spending time outside with your child and equipping them with an unshakable faith?

Thank you

for reading Rooted In Wonder. I pray it has been a blessing!

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