10-MINUTE BIBLE LESSON Four Rivers Genesis 2:10-17

Before watching the video: what do you believe about how the universe began? What did you learn in science classes or in a religious tradition? If you've ever heard about, been taught about, or read Genesis 2, what have you believed or assumed it says or means?

Now read the passage twice. Take your time to notice every sentence and phrase. What stands out to you?

A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." – *Genesis 2:10-17*

Why do you think the writer included the details about the four rivers in this passage? Remember what is said in the video about how this implies there may have been other people and communities around the garden. How does that change your understanding of the story?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with "amen."

