



Inter-European Division - Sabbath School Ministry

Outline for Sabbath School Teachers with ideas for group discussion inspired by the Teachers' Edition of the Sabbath School Lesson prepared by the General Conference SS ministry.

Lesson No. 03 **08 – 14 October 2022**
Title: **Understanding Human Nature**

Let's Share the Word

Key Texts: ***Genesis 1:24–27; 2:7 & 19; Matthew 10:28; Ecclesiastes 12:1–7; 1 Kings 2:10 & 22:40.***

Themes to Explore

- Just as last week's study of the two trees in the Garden of Eden is amongst the fundamental lessons to know, so is this week's.
- Understanding the nature of God and man represent two fundamental themes of God's revelation.
- A knowledge of human nature, of the meaning of life and death, and of human destiny has always been at the centre of philosophical and scientific research.

Pastoral Group Objectives

1. The fundamental ground on which the Great Controversy is fought is the nature of man.
2. The human person, his/her nature and destiny are central themes of the divine revelation – to understand them is a duty.
3. Deepen your understanding of the themes of life, death and immortality – challenge and existential search of every believer.
4. To believe that there is something immortal in us in us the idea that we will live forever without divine help.
5. God being the source and support of life, it follows that first of all we must seek Him (Deut. 30:18-20).

Suggestions for Teaching and Spiritual Objectives:

- Clarify in your mind the great truth that life is in God, comes from God, and outside of Him there is no possibility of life.
- The central objectives to make your own are to know God as the source of life and to keep close to Him.

Possible Questions for Deeper Study, Sharing and Application:

1. What are the principal dangers inherent in the doctrine of natural immortality of the soul?
2. Why is this theme (immortality) central to Satan's attempts to distract us from God?
3. Why is the whole Biblical message, from the first to the second advent of Jesus, rooted in the theme of man's nature as proposed in the Bible?
4. How can we present this topic to those we know in such a way as to make it a topic of hope?

Personal Testimony and Church Mission:

The Biblical message of the nature of man is profoundly linked to the message of the resurrection, which was the primary proclamation of the early Christians, and through which the church was born. How can we do the same today?