



GOD SPEAKS START HERE

God | Genesis 1:1-2

CORAM DEO Living in the Presence of God

The late and infamous atheist Christopher Hitchens would often ridicule Christians for faith in a God who, according to Genesis, created a universe that was without form and void. He claimed what seemed to him to be an obvious contradiction between a loving God who does all things with purpose and an initial creation that seemed chaotic and without meaning. And yet, even a surface reading of Genesis by any reasonable mind conveys the picture of the divine artist who speaks the raw materials of the universe into existence out of nothing and then lovingly engineers them into an unparalleled masterpiece of beauty and complexity. And all that simply through the power of His Word. Like a sculptor shapes the lump of clay or the artist paints on the empty canvas, God masterfully detailed the universe around us so that we would know that He alone is God and worthy of our worship.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment to share how God has used His creation to reveal Himself to you.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. There are three ways that God has revealed Himself to us. First, His general revelation, which is His creation. Second, His specific revelation, which is His Word, the Bible. And third, His personal revelation, which is the incarnation of His Son Jesus Christ.

What do you learn about God through His general revelation, His creation? Make a list of God's attributes that creation reveals.

Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God!

Psalms 90:2

2. While we rightly enjoy the beauty of God's creation, all of creation exists to point our attention to the Creator so that we may worship Him.

Using your answers from question one, spend meaningful time worshiping God for His divine attributes. Remember that creation was made so that you could Coram Deo - live in God's presence.

The beauty of creation isn't the creation itself; it is the creator God saying to you through His creation, "I am here."

Creation universally demonstrates the wisdom and love of God and his worthiness to be worshiped.

3. The Bible without apology declares that God is the creator of all things, not an unguided process of natural selection over the course of billions of years.

Make a survey of Scripture and find at least 10 verses that declare that God is the creator of all things. There will be some unique aspects to these verses. Share what you learn with your group.

I have made the earth and created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, and all their host I have commanded.

Isaiah 45:12

4. If God can create the universe out of nothing and cause it to operate with precision and beauty, He can handle the challenges you are dealing with. Your trust in God is never misplaced.

What do you need to put in His hands?



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

Jeremiah 32:17

"Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You."



REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, take special note of God's creation and connect what you observe with worship. Maybe it will be the beauty of the sunset or the fresh fragrance of the desert rain. Pinpoint divine attributes and honor the Creator.

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear how He revealed Himself to you through His creation.