

SERMON: Genesis: The Beginning of the Gospel
SERIES: The God of All Creation
SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

September 9, 2018

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:1-31

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. Believe God existed before Creation.
- II. Be in awe: God created everything by his word.
- III. Appreciate God's creation as good.

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Genesis tells us our origins and the origins of all we believe. Why is it so important to know where you come from? How does it impact where we are and where we are going?
2. What do we learn about God, his character and nature from this chapter? How do these truths about God encourage you today?
3. "We want to know the HOW of creation, but the WHY is more important." As you read Genesis 1 how would you answer the question "why did God create?" Think especially about 1:26. How does man being made in the image of God help to answer the question of why God created?
4. "God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." How can you personalize and find comfort from these thoughts:
 - God **sees** everything (See also Genesis 16:13). Does God see you? Does he care?
 - **It was very good.** God delighted in his creation. Do you believe that he delights in you? What makes this hard to accept? How does Christ make us **very good**?
5. How does Genesis 1 connect to the Gospel? Read these verses: John 1:1-5,14; 2 Corinthians 4:6; 2 Corinthians 5:17; How does Jesus' work on the cross compare to the work of God in Creation? How has the story of the cross been a new beginning for you?

Pray: Honor and worship God for his creation work. Thank God for seeing you and delighting in you through Christ. Ask God to increase your trust in Him as the eternal Creator.