

WE BELIEVE!

WK II - CREATION

Creation

We believe that God, out of his love and for his glory, created all things out of nothing and pronounced them good. The Father, Son and Spirit created Adam and Eve in their image and blessed them that they might fill the earth, subdue it and cultivate shalom in all the earth for God's glory. In the joy of his presence they were to love God, love each other and steward the world on his behalf as his representatives.

Key Scriptures for the Week

- Genesis 1-2
- Psalm 19
- John 1

Key Points

- **Ex Nihilo:** God made everything from nothing; from His very word all things were created.
- **God as the Source of Life:** God is the very fountain of all that sustains life. All of life depends on His "omnipresent" being to exist.
- **The purpose of Creation:** God made humanity out of His abundant love for Himself. We are created—body and soul—to glorify and enjoy Him forever.
- **Creation Mandate:** In Creation we were given the role, authority, and power to rule, subdue, multiply and fill the earth. We are still called to this even today. All of humanity's God-glorifying efforts stem from these mandates.
- **Creation and Science:** Science and faith are not opposite ends of a spectrum but are interrelated. Science is a process and means to discovery of God's created order; a tool to be used for His glory.
- **"Male and Female he created them":** God made humans set apart from all other life and created the two different sexes for different purposes. We are created with a body and soul that are linked together. We believe the order and purpose that God created humanity matters to how we live and that we compliment each other best when living in that order and purpose.

WK II - CONT.

Discussion Questions:

- What do you find are some of the most significant aspects about belief in God as the Creator?
- How do these beliefs shape the way you see the world around you?
- How does this impact the way you treat others?
- What are some wrong beliefs about creation?
 - How do you know?
- What do you think causes people to believe these false beliefs?

We Believe! Outside the Gate

You're about to meet a friend for lunch. He has been wrestling with ideas about God's existence. He believes there is a "higher power" but is struggling to know if the God of the Bible can be trusted. You agreed to meet and talk about this with him to bring him good news...

- What are some things you may point to as evidence for God being the Creator we see in Scripture?
- What kinds of questions might be helpful to ask your friend about his struggle?
- What resources might you point your friend to, in order to help him learn more?
- What do you think is most important in helping your friend in his quest?

"I BELIEVE..."

Summarize in your own words your beliefs about Creation.