

Knowing God—The Creator (Week 1)

Devotional Series—January 2010

DAY 1: CAN GOD MAKE A ROCK SO BIG?

Read Psalms 19:1-4; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Consider our size. All mankind could be scrunched into Chicagoland if they each sat within two square yards. One million Earths could fit inside the sun. An average galaxy has 200 million suns (stars). There are hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe, according to recent claims from scientists.

What light does this shed on our problems?

DAY 2: WHERE DID I COME FROM?

Read Acts 17:24-31; Ephesians 5:1

Consider the leading theories for our origins. First is the biblical view that we are God's offspring. The second theory is that we came from aliens. Or thirdly, we came from selfish genes that eventually evolved from matter into self-serving creatures.

Consider the possible outcomes if you grew up exclusively believing one of the two latter views.

DAY 3: WHAT AM I?

Read Genesis 1:27, 31; Psalms 139

We were created in God's image. The weaknesses that exist in our lives are due to the negative influences from the fall of mankind. We started out in conception as a "wonder," and through God's plan for our lives, we can be a "delight" again.

Consider what would happen if you always believed that you were molded from a perfect blueprint and that in heaven God will restore you back to his intention.

DAY 4: WHY IS THE WORLD LIKE THIS?

Read Psalms 148; 1 Corinthians 12:14-27

The world was created with man in mind. This observation is called the *Anthropic Principle*. God set up Earth like a biochemical organization with enormous sophistication. Both Scripture and scientific evidences support this principle.

What does this indicate about the hope that God had from day one for humans? For you specifically?

DAY 5: WOW! HOW DOES IT DO THAT?

Read Job 12:7-10, 40:15-24

There are some creatures that silence even the most ardent hyper-evolutionist. The Bucket Orchid attracts the bee and causes the bee to fall towards a liquid. The bucket stays “topped off”, which forces the bee to exit through steps into a tunnel. The bee has picked up gluey pollen in a struggle that will last over a half hour. And finally the pollen has set and the departing bee leaves the exit tunnel with dry pollen that will be brought to the next orchid.

If God has created animals to have certain safeguards for their preservation, what has he created for you to be safeguarded?

DAY 6: WHY WOULD HE DO ALL THIS?

Read Genesis 1:28-30; Job 10:12, 37:14-16

The evidence of God’s hospitality is shown all over creation. He entertains. He comforts. He provides. Therefore, he is the author of hospitality. To be hospitable is one of the chief ways to imitate our Creator.

How is your home? Is it inviting? What does a person feel from spending time in your home?

DAY 7: WHAT HAPPENED IN EDEN?

Read Genesis 3; Romans 8:16-25

All of creation was seriously hampered when man sinned. Man wanted to *be* god, his own self-ruler of Eden. Ever since Adam and Eve, life has continued to demonstrate this. Ultimately, God is the only one who can provide solutions. He has solved the separation dilemma by giving us access to him through Jesus. He has solved the predicament of our spiritual ruin through rebirth. And he will one day deal a blow to disease and death.

What was it in Adam and Eve when they succumbed to Satan that you see in yourself?

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION—WEEK ONE

1. What were the most hard-hitting facts about God the Creator that stayed with you this week?
2. From what you learned about God's power, do you see why worrying insults God?
3. What are some of the personality traits that are evident about God from carefully observing creation?
4. Without referring to a single sin or weakness, describe yourself to another person.
5. In your old nature, what are some of the ways that you relate to Adam or Eve in their error in Eden?
6. If a neighbor were to ask you to prove the existence of God without the use of the Scriptures, where would you begin?
7. How much does your answer to the question "Who am I?" affect the outcome of your life? What does that tell us about our need to encourage one another daily?
8. If you were a wonder before birth, what wonderful things can still happen with your life?