An Introduction Genesis 1:1

The first week of the Alpha and Omega series helps us understand how God established the world and how He plans to restore the world in the future. Because these topics have been deemed controversial, many Christians have not taken time to explore and believe the truths found in the first 11 chapters of the Bible. However, God makes His Word clear and therefore, it remains imperative that we allow the Word of God to speak and that we place ourselves under His authority. As we began our series, we answered two main questions: *Why teach Genesis 1-11?* and *How is God introduced?* Take some time to reflect and ponder what God revealed to you.

Here are this week's sermon notes for review:

Why teach Genesis 1-11?

- Answers many of life's greatest questions
- Establishes the foundation of our faith
- Is <u>Scriptural</u> and therefore completely <u>trustworthy</u>

How is God introduced?

- As THE eternal, self-existent God living outside of space and time
- By His Name, *Elohim*, which means strong, powerful God
- Through His <u>awesome</u> creation of the <u>universe</u>
- As the only <u>eyewitness</u> in the <u>beginning</u>
- As worthy of all your **honor** and **praise**

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't listened to this week's message, you can <u>watch it here</u>. After watching, please use the following questions in your BRAVE group or discuss them with your family and/or friends. BRAVE groups are now online every weekday, and this is a great time to get involved. Email info@bravechurch.co and we will connect you with a community that will work for you.

Questions

- 1. When it comes to the book of Genesis, what are you yearning to learn? What are you scared to learn? What are your presuppositions about the book? What do you hope to gain?
- 2. What are some of the questions that the book of Genesis will answer? Which of these questions are most important to you? Why?
- 3. Why is it important to learn who God is from the beginning? How can this help us in our journey with the Lord Jesus Christ? What are some of the teachings we learn about God, man, sin, redemption, judgment, relationships, etc. from the beginning?
- 4. Is Genesis considered Scripture? Did the apostles and prophets consider Genesis Scripture? Did Jesus consider Genesis Scripture? If so, then how should we approach Genesis in our reading and studying?
- 5. How trustworthy is the testimony of Genesis regarding creation? Compared to other world views of creation, how much credence should be given to Genesis?
- 6. As the book of Genesis opens, who does God first discuss? Why is the introduction of Himself so important to our understanding of God's Word? What does this tell us about how He feels about Himself? Why is this important?
- 7. Why is it important to understand that God is eternal and self-existent? What does it mean that God is eternal? What does it mean that God is self-existent? What does it mean that God is outside of time? What does it mean that God is not contained by space? How awesome is our God?
- 8. What are some of the cosmological arguments for God (causation)? What are some of the teleological arguments for God (purpose)? What are some of the moral arguments for God? Why is simply knowing that there is something out there not enough?
- 9. What is the significance of God being introduced with the name *Elohim*? Why does He introduce Himself as the strong powerful one? What does it mean that God is transcendent? How is God personally engaged with His creation? How does His plural name *hint* at the Trinity?
- 10. How awesome were God's creative acts? What did He create? How long did it take Him? Do you believe this?
- 11. Why is evolution a theology and not a science? Christians and evolutionists both have faith. Christians believe God made everything out of nothing. Evolutionists believe that nothing made everything out of nothing. Which takes more faith? Why

- do so many schools from kindergarten through graduate studies promote evolution and refuse to teach God's Word?
- 12. Science by definition is observable. Who was the only eye witness at creation? Who should we believe? Why?
- 13. If Genesis 1 is accurate history, what should this cause us to do? How is your worship enhanced through the understanding of God being our awesome creator?
- 14. Read Genesis 1. How was the universe created? Who created the universe? How long did the creation take? Do you believe this?