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## The Book Of Beginnings

### How Big Is Your God?

#### Genesis:

#### Who Wrote It and Why?

Mark 12:26/ Luke 24:27 & 44/ 2 Peter 1:21 & 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- ✓ The Author: **Moses**
- ✓ The Purpose: **A family history lesson**
  - Abraham's *Physical* Descendants = **Jews**
  - Abraham's *Spiritual* Descendants = **All Who Live By Faith In Messiah**
- ✓ What Genesis Was Never Meant To Be:  
A **science** book, a **world history** book

#### The Most Important Verse In Genesis 1

Genesis 1:1/ Hebrews 11:3 & 6/ Romans 1:18-23/ John 5:46-47/ Luke 16:31

#### A Brief History Of The Universe

Ephesians 6:10-12

1. God exists in **eternity past**
2. God creates the **universe, earth and angels**  
Genesis 1:1/ Job 38:1-7
3. Satan, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the angels **rebel** and are **judged**  
Genesis 1:2/ Ezekiel 28:11-19/ Isaiah 14:12-17/ Revelation 12:3-10
4. God remakes the earth for **Adam and his race**  
Genesis 1:3-31
5. Adam rebels and turns control **back to Satan**  
Genesis 3:1-24/ 2 Corinthians 4:4/ Matthew 4:8-10
6. God redeems the **earth** and **Adam's race** back to himself  
John 19:30/ Colossians 1:15-20/ 2 Corinthians 5:19-21/ Revelation 5:1-11
7. God waits so more of us can **join his kingdom**  
2 Peter 3:7-11
8. God eventually returns with **judgment and reward**  
Revelation 21:1-8

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of September 30, 2012

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## QUICK REVIEW

This week we launched our new series, The Genesis Project. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything about the book of Genesis that was new to you, particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## MY STORY

1. This weekend we were given a quick view of the history of the universe. You and your family are part of that story. What's a quick fly-by of your family history and spiritual journey?

2. If a co-worker or acquaintance asked you to describe God, what would you say? Is there anything you would add after hearing the weekend's message?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. As we heard this weekend, Genesis 1 launches with the question "*How big is your God?*" We all have different perceptions and experiences of who God is. How do the following verses further describe who God is and/or how he relates to us?

### Psalm 116:5

The Lord is gracious and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion. [NIV]

### Isaiah 40:28

Do you not know?  
Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary,  
and his understanding no one can fathom. [NIV]

### Hebrews 12:29

for our "God is a consuming fire." [NIV]

**1 John 4:8**

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. [NIV]

**1 Timothy 1:17**

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.  
[NIV]

2. When we slow down and take the time to consider how big God really is, it is "awesome" in the truest sense of the word. Yet, it is interesting how we can also at times think God can't really relate to us or our lives because he is so big. What statements in Psalm 46:1-7 & 10 help reinforce that God is personally involved with each of us and cares about what's happening in our lives?

**Psalm 46:1-7 & 10**

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. According to alamoth. A song.

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

[2] Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

[3] though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Selah

[4] There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

[5] God is within her, she will not fall;  
God will help her at break of day.

[6] Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;  
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

[7] The Lord Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Selah

[8] Come and see the works of the Lord,  
the desolations he has brought on the earth.

[9] He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear,  
he burns the shields with fire.

[10] "Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth." [NIV]

Looking back at what you read and wrote above, have you ever sensed God's presence similar to what any of the verses stated? If so, explain.

3. When we hear a message on how big and awesome God is, as we did this week, sometimes we're not exactly sure how to respond or if we're responding as we should. Fortunately, there's no set formula on how to respond or what emotion to feel. Observing others can help us know if we're really grasping who God is. Psalm 19 is one example - it's David's response to his observation of the enormity of who God is. Read through the verses listed below and jot down what David is observing and how he's responding to who God is.

#### **Psalm 19:1-2**

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
[2] Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge. [NIV]

#### **Psalm 19:7-11**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul.  
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.  
[8] The precepts of the Lord are right,  
giving joy to the heart.  
The commands of the Lord are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.  
[9] The fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever.  
The ordinances of the Lord are sure  
and altogether righteous.  
[10] They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold;  
they are sweeter than honey,  
than honey from the comb.  
[11] By them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward. [NIV]

#### **Psalm 19:12-14**

Who can discern his errors?  
Forgive my hidden faults.  
[13] Keep your servant also from willful sins;  
may they not rule over me.  
Then will I be blameless,  
innocent of great transgression.  
[14] May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,  
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. [NIV]

What about David's response is catching your attention the most and why?

### **TAKING IT HOME**

How big is your God? Looking back at this week's teaching and study on God is there a specific characteristic or thought about God you want to remember this week?

Prayer Requests:

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