GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

When in Doubt

Week 3: Is God Real?

Romans 1:20

Week of April 17, 2021 (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

How can we know if God is real? Is there actual evidence out there to prove He exists? Although we can't necessarily prove Him like we prove a math problem or a lab experiment, proving God is real might be more like proving friendship or love. Let's take a closer look into the evidence in the world.

Kicking it off: As you think about one of your all-time favorite creative artists (such as a painter, a musician, or an actor) ... who comes to mind, and what makes them your favorite?

Discussion:

- 1. When you hear the question, *Is God real?* ... when do you remember first asking this question for yourself? Or, if you feel like you've always known "for sure" one way or another, when did you first begin to ask real spiritual questions? What prompted that in your life?
- 2. According to Psalm 19:1, what is declaring God's glory? Do you prefer more of a sunrise or a sunset?

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

3. Look at Romans 1:20. Where do you see signs of a creative designer in the world?

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

- 4. Jeff describes a number of ways people have found God to be true in the universe, which demonstrates there IS a maker. Which observation resonates with you the most?
 - 1. Dominoes (origins). 2. A clock (human complexity). 3. A thermostat (constants in the universe). 4. A gavel (moral argument). 5. A speaker (aesthetics and beauty).
- 5. Compare *Genesis 1:21, 1:25, and 1:31*. What key word is part of verse 31 that's not in verse 25? What does this tell us about God's heart for the world, looking at the initial creation of animals versus making humans?
 - Verses 21b and 25b, when making animals: "And God saw that it was good."
 - o Verse 31b, after making humans: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

Wrapping It Up: Read Hebrews 11:6. How does God handle those who seek Him?

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Asking big spiritual questions is a powerful faith step. Having doubts and faith-filled questions are signs of growth in Christ, not signs of weakness. When we ask questions about God, we can move more deeply into a mature faith. Pray your group members keep asking big questions and for God to open eyes and hearts to see Him in new and meaningful ways. 15 So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.