

Connect Group Notes

Sermon: The Beginning of the Universe

Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:3

Date: 12th January 2025 (AM)

Introduction

Genesis is a book of beginnings. In these first chapters of the Bible we see the foundations laid for how we understand some of the fundamental questions in life. We also see Christ at work, from the beginning of the universe.

Bible Study

[Leaders, no questions suite every small group. Please adapt them to your own group]

Read Genesis 1:1-2:3

1. Does it matter that the Creator God is our God rather than simply god-in-general? Why? Consider the wilderness context of Moses' authorship.
2. What does it mean for humanity to be "vice regents" in God's creation? What does this mean for how we live in the world today?
3. How does knowing that God stands at the beginning and end of creation give you hope or assurance in life's uncertainties?
4. How does acknowledging God as Creator who made an ordered universe and good affect our lives today? Contrast how we might live if the world is produced at random from chaos.
5. Why is it important to know that everyone human being is made in God's image? Are we able to maintain the worth of every individual without it?

Prayer

- *This week we were praying for the work of Open Doors - continue to pray for the persecuted church around the world.*
- *On Thursday 14th January we will be hosting a deanery service, celebrating the 950th anniversary of the Diocese of Chichester. Pray for Bishop Ruth and our local churches.*

