



**In the Beginning ...
The Most Essential
Verse in the Bible**

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

January 3, 2021

Truth for Life

For the week of January 3, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." – Genesis 1:1

If My Life is to Have Meaning, I'll have to answer the following ...

- _____ ?
- _____ ?
- _____ ?

In the Beginning God ...

I. The Universe Had a _____ ...

Everything had a beginning ... _____

II. The Universe Was Created By God _____

Cp. Psalm 147:4; 19:1; Hebrews 11:3

God left _____ all over the Universe

III. All Things Owe Their Existence to _____

If God is the Creator of all Things ... All things _____

IV. _____ Begins with Genesis 1:1

Cp. John 1:1; 3:16; Proverbs 1:7

It is a very short distance between _____ 1:1

and _____ 3:16

So What ...

1. Remove God and _____ Makes Sense

2. Start with God and _____

Makes Sense

1. As you begin a new year, it is always good to look back. What have been the highlights of your life story? Where have been successes? Failures? Where have you seen God at work in and through your story? Take your time on this step.

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?

3. As we heard this weekend, Genesis 1 forces us to wrestle with the question "How big is 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
1 Timothy 1:7

Isaiah 40:28

Hebrews 12:29
1 John 4:8

4. When we slow down and take the time to consider who God is, He 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. Read Psalm 46:1-7 & 10. Identify any ways the Psalmist helps to reinforce that God is personally involved with each of us and cares about what's happening in our lives?

5. When we hear a message about Creation and God's role in bringing all to pass that exists ... sometimes we're not exactly sure how to respond. There is no set formula on how to respond or what emotion to feel. Observing how others came to grasps who God is may help us. Psalm 19 is one example - it's David's response to the enormity of God in creation. Read through the chapter and jot down what David is observing and how he is responding to the God of Creation.

6. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.

- a. Can a belief in God as Creator co-exist with a belief in random evolution or natural selection? Why/why not?
- b. How would you answer someone who said that the early chapters of Genesis are just a bunch of religious myths?
- c. How would you respond to someone who said, "To accept Genesis 1:1 requires a leap of faith"?



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If My Life is to Have Meaning, I'll have to answer the following ...

- **Where did I come from?**
- **Why am I here?**
- **Where am I going?**

In the Beginning God ...

I. The Universe Had a **Definite Beginning** ...

Everything had a beginning ... **except God**

II. The Universe Was Created By God **Out of Nothing** ...

Cp. Psalm 147:4; 19:1; Hebrews 11:3

God left **His fingerprints** all over the Universe

III. All Things Owe Their Existence to **God the Creator**

If God is the Creator of all Things ... All things **belong to Him**

IV. **True Wisdom** Begins with Genesis 1:1

Cp. John 1:1; 3:16; Proverbs 1:7

It is a very short distance between **Genesis** 1:1 and **John** 3:16

So What ...

1. Remove God and **Nothing** Makes Sense

2. Start with God and **Everything Eventually** Makes Sense

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