

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the needs of their unique group.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Would you consider yourself a creative person? What is the most creative thing you've ever done?
- What's the first thought that comes to your mind when you hear the phrase, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth"?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

Intro:

A. Read Genesis 1:1-2

B. What is your **one thing** from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

C. Genesis 1:1 lays the foundation for our understanding of God, the Bible, man, and nature:

- ***In the beginning: Time***
 - Psalm 90:2 - From everlasting to everlasting, You are God.
 - How does this change the way you think about God?
- ***God: Force***
 - "Elohim" - God is personal, powerful, awe-inspiring, and sovereign.
 - How does the fact that God is both personal and powerful make you feel?
- ***Created: Action***
 - Psalm 33:6, 9 - By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
 - How does this change the way you respond to those who support evolution?
- ***The heavens and the earth: Space and Matter***
 - Hebrews 11:3 - By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.
 - How does it challenge your faith to hear that God created space and matter "ex-nihilo" - out of nothing?

Responding to Truth:

#1 - God is awesome, so I must worship Him

- A. After reading Genesis 1:1-2, how has your attitude toward "worship" changed? How might that affect your Bible reading, interaction with other Christians, prayer life, or worship through singing?

#2 - God is creator, so I must believe Him

- A. Does your belief in God depend on whether or not you understand Him? Why, or why not?

#2 - God overcomes darkness, so I must go to Him

- A. What kind of darkness are you experiencing in your life right now? What would it take for you to trust God and let him create something new out of your chaos and confusion?

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Express **worship** in your prayer - "God, I worship you because..."
- Express **belief** in your prayer - "God, I believe you, so I will..."
- Express **dependency** in your prayer - "God, I rely on you, please create something beautiful out of..."

"Theology, not science, explains creation." - John MacArthur

