

GENESIS: REAL GOD PART 1: REAL BEGINNINGS
GENESIS 1:1–2 IN THE BEGINNING, GOD.

NOTES

- I. GOD IS PREEXISTENT
- II. GOD IS CREATOR
- III. GOD IS KNOWABLE

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study

For Starters: Pop quiz! What books or movies do the following opening lines come from (no Googling!)? 1. *All children except one, grow up* 2. *It was the best of times; it was the worst of times* 3. *Rosebud* 4. *The key to faking out the parents is the clammy hands* 5. *Who am I? I am sure you want to know* 6. *Mr. and Mrs. Dursley, of number four Privet Drive, were proud to say they were normal, thank you very much* 7. *In the beginning God...*

The Basics: Consider and share some beginnings that have impacted your life. What is powerful about a new beginning? Read Genesis 1:1–2, Isaiah 46:8–10, Ephesians 1:9–10, and Ephesians 3:8–13. What is unique about the Bible’s beginning? Discuss.

Quick-Fire Round

1. Read Psalm 90:1–3, Psalm 93:1–2, Isaiah 40:28, Job 38:1–7, and 1 Peter 1:20. Is it hard for you to comprehend a preexistent, eternal God? How can you know God exists? Why is *any* belief in creation and beginnings a matter of faith?
2. Read Genesis 1:1–2, Deuteronomy 6:4–5, John 1:1–3, and Colossians 1:15–17. The Hebrew word for God is *Elohim*, a plural word used in singular terms. How does Genesis imply a Trinity? How is this idea unpacked in the Bible, and what is the significance of a triune God? How has each part of the Trinity impacted your life?
3. Read Psalm 19:1–4, Isaiah 40:12, 48:13, and Romans 1:18–23. How does the creation reveal a creator? Share some examples of how design—technology, architecture, engineering, art and/or music—need a designer? How would you engage with someone who claimed the universe was created by chance? Discuss the ramifications of creation and evolution.
4. Read Acts 17:16–28. How did Paul make known the “unknown God” in a religious, pluralistic, and confused culture? How can we do the same today?
5. Read Psalm 33:8–9, 145:10–13, 150:1–6, and Romans 12:1–2. Why is worship our only right and proper response to knowing a Sovereign–Creator God who has made Himself known? What does worship look like to you? How can you worship God this week?

Community Group Prayer: Spend time as a group praying through the Scriptures in this study focusing on the sovereignty, greatness, and majesty of God. Commit to trusting Him by faith for some specific areas of your life.

A Closing Prayer: God, although I cannot comprehend your sovereignty and majesty fully, I trust and believe you made everything from nothing in order that I might know you and worship you. Amen.

Additional Resources: <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/genesis-1/>
<https://answersingenesis.org/creation/> Morris – *Answers in Genesis*; Brueggemann – *Genesis*;
Wiersbe – *Be Basic: Genesis 1–11*.