

The Bible for Grown-Ups



SERMON DISCUSSION WEEK 2

Quotable Moments:

- If you don't understand how we got the Bible, you'll misunderstand what's in the Bible.
- If you don't know the story of the Bible, it's easy to dismiss the stories in the Bible.

Key Things You Heard:

- The story of The Bible doesn't begin at the beginning of the Bible.
- Jesus didn't write the Bible, but Jesus is the reason we have the Bible.
- In the first century, the idea of one God was novel and new.
- Moses introduced a radically different, unparalleled worldview.
- The Gentiles' worldview was changed as they embraced a relationship with Jesus. They came to understand that the character of God revealed the backstory of Jesus recorded in the Jewish Scriptures.

Pray: God, thank you for preserving your Word to us in the Bible. Thank you for those who carefully recorded your message so that we can come to know Jesus. Help me to follow you more closely as I apply your Word to my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Moving Forward:

- Start the 21 Day Book of John Reading Plan.
- Memorize Genesis 1:27
- Register for Theopraxis 3-hour workshop on April 2.
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to rivertown.cc or the RCC App.

Questions for Group Discussion:

First Minutes: On a scale of 1-10, what was your level of respect for the Bible as a child? What person shaped your view of the Bible (positive or negative)?

- Are there parts of the Bible or stories in the Bible that you find it difficult to understand or believe? From what we know of the character of God, does he respond like an angry authoritarian or a patient father? Why do you think that?
- Read Genesis 1:1. How do you think the Gentiles, who had been taught that there were many gods, would have responded to this first verse. How do you think this challenged their thinking?
- Read Genesis 1:26-27. For those used to pagan religions that made idols from parts of creation, what would the idea of a Creator sound like?
- What changed in the first-century Christians' worldview when people began to believe that mankind is created in the image of God? How did it change how they viewed themselves and others?
- How does this worldview communicate our responsibility as stewards of God's creation, rather than simply another part of His creation?
- Resist the temptation to think about others and what they need to change. What will you do differently because of what you have learned in this message and discussion?