

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

WHO IS GOD?

Part 1: God is...

February 13, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ongoing Leadership Training: Biblical Community Class – Instructor Scot Lord

Are you interested in learning how to build the relational dynamics within your group? This class is for you! Here we will learn the purpose for small group community, how to guide discussion, how to listen and how to be an overall better small group leader. This is a 2-week class the schedule is as follows:

Session 1: Sun. Feb. 20th – Room 252 – 2-4 PM

Session 2: Sun. Feb. 27th – Room 354 – 2-4 PM

Please RSVP to john.darrow@therocksandiego.org if you are interested in attending. This is free for all who attend. Look forward to seeing you there.

Prayer Partner: Just a reminder to identify at (1) person in your group who will commit to praying for everyone in your group and that would like to receive other prayer requests from other groups within the small group ministry. Contact michelle.bauman@therocksandiego.org with the person's contact info, thank you.

Potential Small Group Leaders: As we grow in the ministry we are looking for solid and quality leaders to step up and lead groups of their own. We encourage you identify an apprentice that can come alongside to learn more about small group leadership, or someone that is ready to start leading today. If you have someone in mind, please contact scotty.james@therocksandiego.org and he would like to connect with you and them to get this process rolling.

MEMORY VERSES

“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” (Acts 2:42 ESV)

“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” (Romans 11:33-35 ESV)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – WHO IS GOD?

Getting Started

1. Define the 5 attributes of God as listed in the lesson plan:
 - God is **self-existent** (cf. Ex. 3:14; Psalm 90:2)
 - God is **omnipotent** (cf. Matt. 19:26; Rev. 19:6; Psalm 115:3)
 - God is **omnipresent** (cf. Acts 17:28; Jer. 23:24; Psalm 139:7-10)
 - God is **omniscient** (cf. 1 John 3:20; Job 37:16; Psalm 147:4; Matt. 6:8; Rom. 11:33-35)
 - God is **holy** (cf. 1 Pet. 1:16)
 - God is **love** (cf. 1 John 4:8; John 3:16)
2. Which attribute stood out the most to you and why?

Digging Deeper

Each question will focus on a different one of the attributes mentioned above. Feel free to go through all of them, or select a few of them to study:

1. The Psalmist in Psalm 90:2 states God is from “everlasting to everlasting”. Everlasting means from eternity, continuing, always, etc. How does faith in the One True God change or get solidified by this truth?
2. See the chart below of false belief systems and discuss the differences. Have you or do you currently believe some of these beliefs? If so, which one, and how do the attributes listed above counter these beliefs?

Thought	Central Idea	Emphasis
Deism	God creates but is not present in the workings of His creation	God's transcendence
Pantheism	God is part of His creation	God's personal immanence
Panentheism or Monism	All in God. All is one.	God's transcendent nature
Process Theology or Open Theism	God is in process, growing in knowledge with His creation	God's personal nature
Naturalism	Matter comes forth from natural processes, without aid from any supernatural entity. In this worldview, matter and life are created by chance	Matter is either eternally existent or it comes into effect <i>ex nihilo</i> ("out of nothing").

3. Rom. 11:36 states, “For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.” Does your view of Christ change or stay the same as you recognize this verse is describing Jesus rather than the Father?

Check out this article on the Trinity for the importance of why we should study the attributes of God’s nature, <http://theresurgence.com/2010/03/21/why-should-we-study-the-doctrine-of-the-trinity>.