

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

WHO IS GOD?

Part 2: God is...

February 21, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ongoing Leadership Training: Biblical Community Class – Instructor Scot Lord: Last week we started Session 1 of this class and will continue on Sunday March 6th. It was originally to continue this Sunday Feb. 27th, but it will be postponed until the following week. This is a great class to learn how strengthen the community in your group, but to do it biblically.

Session 2: Sun. March. 6th – Room TBD – 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

“And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” (1 John 5:11-12 ESV)

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.” (Genesis 50:20 ESV)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – WHO IS GOD?

Getting Started

1. Review these 4 points that were discussed in the Sunday sermon:
 - A limited object cannot **cause** itself
 - God is our **uncaused** cause (cf. Genesis 1)
 - God is our **sustaining** cause (cf. Job 38-39)
 - God is our **terminating** cause (cf. 1 John 5:11-12)
2. How should we respond to science after reviewing these attributes of God?

Check out this video about the “Awe Factor of God” by Francis Chan

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ya12l036lg&playnext=1&list=PL23E0742D635F7DC6>

Digging Deeper

1. Read Genesis 1:1-2 as a group. How should these verses help to shape our view of God? Are there scientific undertones in these verses too, or is the focus on the creative attributes/self-existence of God?
2. Read Gen. 50:15-21 as a group. How does Joseph view the sovereignty and sustainability of God, even in the midst of strong trial and despair?

(For a brief review of Joseph’s story visit <http://www.allaboutgod.com/joseph-in-the-bible.htm>)

3. In the midst of your own trials and despair, how do you view God? Is it similar to Joseph, or do you sometimes fear and doubt the sovereignty of God?

The Sovereignty of God is the biblical teaching that all things are under God's rule and control, and that nothing happens without His direction or permission. God works not just some things but all things according to the counsel of His own will (cf. Eph. 1:11), even in the midst of trial, pain, and evil. His purposes are all-inclusive and never thwarted (cf. Isa. 46:11); nothing takes Him by surprise. The sovereignty of God is not merely that God has the power and right to govern all things, but that He does so, always and without exception. In other words, God is not merely sovereign in principle, but sovereign in practice.