



May 20-21, 2023

Foundations For Flourishing - Week 1 “A God-Shaped Worldview”

GATHER

- Has there ever been a time where you were making a mistake but didn't realize it? (Got lost, using a tool/device the wrong way, etc until you eventually discovered the problem.) What were the circumstances? Did something/someone help you recognize the error? What consequences were there if you didn't realize it til it was too late?
- If you were at a weekend service, share your takeaways from the message you heard. What was something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?

GROW

This weekend's message was launched out of Genesis 1:1 and interacted with some other key texts (see below). Talk through the topic more thoroughly as a group using the outline below.

Feel free to select a suggested question or two in each section to guide your conversation.

- **Understand Their Story**

First read Genesis 1:1 - Genesis 2:3.

- The original audience (Israel) would have received these words when they were exposed to a variety of alternative worldviews. What are some specific ways these verses would have shaped their perspective in regards to:
 - A higher power/the existence of the “divine”?
 - The origin of the universe and the earth? What specific details do you see?
 - The nature of humanity? What's unique about people in comparison to everything else in these verses?
 - In what ways do you think your answers above would have been different from the other cultures and religions Israel co-existed with? How do you know?

- **Connect To His Story**

- Look up John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:15-17.
 - Who is John talking about? How do you know?
 - What information does John give us that contributes to our understanding of Genesis 1?
 - Compare John 1:1-3 with Colossians 1:15-17.
 - What words or phrases are repeated? What does that tell us?
 - What do these passages tell us about Jesus?

- Why do these biblical claims matter? What difference do these make in our understanding of the key questions about things like human origins, life's meaning, morality, or human destiny?

GO

- **Apply To Our Story**

We all want to flourish and prosper. Building our lives on God and his word is the best way to get there. *Feel free to select a section or two to use in your group time.*

- Northview's statement of faith articulates our core beliefs. This might be helpful to consult as you think through these next questions. <https://northview.org/statement-of-faith/>
- What things have been most helpful in deepening / reinforcing a biblical worldview in your life?
- What things do you feel are most hostile with the Christian worldview today?
 - How do you recognize these things? (What places do you get your information from? What criteria do you use to determine how these events, trends, ideas, etc compare with Christianity?)
 - How do you typically react or respond?
- Are there times when you've not held a biblical worldview? Or struggled to?
 - When? Why?
 - If applicable: What pulled you back to a biblical worldview? Or, what's the barrier to coming back to it now?

Pray!

- All of our activity is unto God's glory our mission is to help every person become a "deeply rooted follower of Jesus". Who are those who don't currently follow Jesus - or are wrestling with the subjects we've looked at this week - that you could pray for by name?