

# O R I G I N S

It's easy to rush through life without pausing to understand our meaning and purpose. But to have a life worth living requires answering the Big Questions: Who are we? Why are we here? Where are we going?

The universe, life, order, meaning, gender, marriage, languages... everything we experience today started somewhere. In this series, we'll examine the beginning of human history and the Bible's answers to some of life's biggest questions.

## **Week One:** The Origin of Meaning

**Text:** Genesis 1:1-3

From the opening lines of the Bible we see that God is the originator of everything, that He brings meaning out of chaos, and that He does so by His Word. It was so at the very beginning and it is true for us today: Ultimate meaning and satisfaction are found in obeying the word of God.

**Discussion Questions:** These three larger questions will drive our discussion:

1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through Sunday's sermon and the associated passage?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. How can others in the group help you and pray for you so you can do what God told you to do?

### **What did the Holy Spirit say to you through the sermon?**

- Do you ever struggle with questions of meaning? (Who are we? Why are we here? Where are we going?) What circumstances surface these questions for you?
- Can you describe a time when you lost focus on your purpose and just started going through the motions of getting through the day? What was the result?

### **What are you going to do about it?**

- What information can we glean from Genesis 1:1? What do we learn about God? Try to think of all the implications of what you see in this passage to your life.
- Genesis 1:2 shows that matter and energy do not produce a life of meaning. Compare this idea to Jesus' warning about placing too much value in material things. (See Matthew 6:24-34)

### **How can others in this group help you or pray for you?**

- God's word brings meaning from chaos. (See 2 Timothy 3:16-17) To ignore what God says brings back the chaos. (See Jeremiah 4:22-26) How have you seen this to be true?
- Do you find areas of chaos in your own life? Ask the group to share Scripture with you to help you get back to meaning.

### **Possible Applications:**

Specific:

- Applying God's word to the chaos in our lives is easier when we do so together with a small group of friends. Discuss how you may apply something from the sermon in some tangible way.

General:

- This month at HCBC we are focusing on helping people connect with a small group community. Talk with your group about being open to take new people resulting from our church-wide "Find Your Group" focus and welcome new people seeking community!

### **Memory Verse:**

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

Genesis 1:1