



GO DEEPER

SESSION 2: WHO MADE GOD?



Aim

To explore whether God is created or eternal and to consider whether something created could be God.



Starter

Play 'The Clue's in the Beginning' quiz. The winner will be the person who finishes first.

The last three letters of each word give the start of the next word.

1. Thin sheets from pulp of wood (5 letters, starts with P)
2. Human being (6 letters)
3. A poem of 14 lines (6 letters)
4. Sport played in a team of seven players (7 letters)
5. Reptile (9 letters)
6. Rotating wind (7 letters)
7. Loveable, charming (8 letters)
8. God's favour and protection (8 letters)

Answers: 1 - paper, 2 - person, 3 - sonnet, 4 - netball, 5 - alligator, 6 - tornado, 7 - adorable, 8 - blessing

See page 3 for a version of the quiz which you can print or project.



Video

Watch the video **Who Made God?** (Running time 3:24)



Questions

Encourage pupils to write any questions on sticky notes as they occur to them.

Answer questions of understanding about the video straight away unless these will be answered later in the session. If there is not time for a question, confirm you will answer it another time. Consider using the 'car park' so pupils know you will not forget.



Exploring the Bible

The question 'Who Made God?' suggests that God was created which then forces us to ask, 'Who made the being that created God?' as *they* would then be God and we would find ourselves in a loop. A created God could not be God.

Read Exodus 3:14 and Psalm 90:4.

God is not bound by time and space. God already was. He is eternal.

Discuss

How can believing that God is eternal help us grasp that he was not made?

Whether you agree that the world came about through the Big Bang or not, cosmological evidence shows that the universe came into being at a particular point in time. It has not always existed. This causes a problem for atheists – if nothing at all existed prior to the Big Bang, what exploded? Who or what caused it to happen? An atheist must accept a lot that is not reasonable to believe that something came from nothing. This is as much a step of faith as believing that God always was.

Read Psalm 19:1-4 and Romans 1:18-20.

Discuss

Why does the Bible say that people who do not acknowledge God will be without excuse?

The heavens and the skies reveal to us that God is the glorious creator (Psalm 19:1-2); the 'voice' of creation goes out into the whole world (Psalm 19:4); people suppress the truth (Romans 1:18); what can be known about God is made plain through creation (Romans 1:19-20)

In the video Andy Bannister said, "What if the very existence of the universe is a screaming great big sign saying, 'There is a god'?" Nobody will be able to stand before God with the excuse that they did not know about him. The wonders of creation are sufficient to cause each one of us to ask questions about how it came to be.

Discuss

If people "...suppress the truth..." (Romans 1:18 NIV) about God and refuse to see what is before them, is there any point in telling people the good news?

We are commanded to tell others about Jesus and make disciples (Matthew 28:19), and we must trust God to give us opportunities to talk about him. When these opportunities come up, we must then be prepared to give a gentle and respectful answer for the hope we have (1 Peter 3:15).



Reflection

Allow a time for reflection that is most appropriate to your group.

You could choose to reflect quietly or discuss one of the following and pray:

- ◆ Who would you like to see accept the good news of Jesus? Pray for an opportunity to share something of what he means to you, and for courage to take that opportunity when it comes.
- ◆ As you see God's attitude to creation and created people, how do you feel about your own attitude?



Further resources

The God Delusion Debate Richard Dawkins vs John Lennox

If God, Then What? A book by Andrew Wilson (IVP Books)

Who Made God? An article by Peter S. Williams



The Clue's in the Beginning!

Work through the clues in order and try to work out the answer.

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The fastest to finish with all the correct answers wins!

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