



## September 17th Sermon Foundations: Of All Things Genesis 1-2:4

Icebreaker: If you had to describe how you're feeling right now as an amusement park ride, what ride are you on?

Discussion Questions: Read Genesis 1-2:4

1. How is the first sentence of Genesis 1 like a fairy tale or fantasy story? How is it different?
2. How did you understand the context of Genesis 1? To what extent does putting the passage in context (taking into account the original audience) enhance our ability to interpret and apply text?
3. How are these words "good news" to the Israelites-God's ancient people-who were recently freed from slavery, wandering in the wilderness?
4. God made all things: Why do you think Giorgio said this was one of the most radical statements someone could make in our current cultural context?
5. This passage is poetry. What does it stir in your heart and imagination?
6. If God made everything and everyone, and is the source of all things, what does that mean for us as human beings? What do you think we should think or believe? What do you think we should do?
7. What do these verses say about the nature and character of God? What do they say about our freedom not to be our own creators? How might believing that we are at the center of all things actually be a form of slavery, not freedom?
8. Giorgio said, "God created our idols." What do you make of this statement and what does that mean in your life?
9. This passage is an explicit polemic against the Egyptians' religion and view of the divine. How does it also push against our false gods and false beliefs?
10. If you are willing, what good things have you made into ultimate things or idols: i.e. comfort, power, control, approval, accomplishment?
11. What might you need to do to receive those things as gifts from God, rather than making them gods themselves?
12. How does Jesus help us see God as the creator and redeemer of all things?