

## Lesson #1 Who is Jesus and why do we believe in Him?

Open In Prayer

Activity (To show that man's creation isn't forever)

-Begin with dividing in to small groups (4-5 per team). Give teams a piece of paper and ask them to work as a team to come up with answers. They have 2-3minutes (your choice) to come up with as many answers. After time is up have teams share their answers and the team who has the most without overlapping other teams wins the game.

Challenge: Name as many man made historic structures/ sites that exist on earth today.

Bible Passage: Hebrews 11:6 Please read Hebrews 11:1-16 to get the entire context of passage.

Lesson "Why Should I believe in God?"

Belief in God is the most basic of all human considerations. Acknowledgement of one's Creator is foundational to learning any more about Him. Without believing in God, it is impossible to please Him or even come to Him (Hebrews 11:6). People are surrounded with proof of God's existence, and it is only through the hardening of sin that men reject that proof (Romans 1:18-23). It is foolish to disbelieve in God (Psalm 14:1).

There are two choices in life. First, we have the option to trust man's limited reason. Man's reason had produced various philosophies, the many world religions and "isms," different cults, and other ideas and world views. A key characteristic of man's reason is that it does not last, for man himself is not lasting. It is also limited by man's finite knowledge; we are not as wise as we think we are (1 Corinthians 1:20). Man's reason starts with himself and ends with himself. Man lives in Time's box with no way out. Man is born, grows to maturity, makes his impact on the world, and eventually dies. That is it for him, naturally speaking. The choice to live by reason leaves one weighed in the balance and found wanting. If a person objectively thinks about such a lifestyle, it should cause him to consider the second choice.

The second choice we have is to accept God's revelation in the Bible. To "lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). Of course, to accept that the Bible is from God, one must acknowledge God. Belief in the God of the Bible does not negate the use of reason; rather, it is when we seek God that He opens our eyes (Psalm 119:18), enlightens our understanding (Ephesians 1:18), and grants us wisdom (Proverbs 8).

Through reading of the Bible, we discover that God is eternal, holy, personal, gracious, and loving. God has broken open barrier through the resurrection of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. God's loving action does not depend on man's reason but provides enlightenment for man's reason so he can begin to understand that he needs forgiveness and eternal life through the Son of God.

Sure, one can reject the God of the Bible, and many do. Men can reject what Jesus Christ has done for them. To reject Christ is to reject God (John 10:30).

### Discussion/ Sharing Questions

1. Look back on your list of man made objects. Which ones are still functioning as they were meant to be? Are any of them deteriorating? Will they be around in 50yrs? 100yrs?

2. Think of a present or recent difficult experience or situation in your own life. What was it and how diligently did you seek God out in the midst of it? Did you expect him to respond? Why or Why not?

3. What's one thing that struck a chord with you or felt that God was wanting you to hear during this time?

### Take It Home

-We are all human. It's a fact. Because we are human we'll consistently make mistakes. We need to believe in Jesus and have faith that He exists because our only way to heaven.

### Application/ Challenge

-How can you this week challenge yourself to believe that Jesus Christ is real in your life?

### Close in Prayer