

# WHAT SHOULD WE BELIEVE?

Week 1

BRBC Groups

May 1, 2022

**Scripture** | Genesis 1:1-2:4, Psalm 103:13, Psalm 68:5, The Apostles Creed

**Ice Breaker** |

1. What is one thing from the past that is no longer available that you wish you could still get?
2. What is something that you believe in that maybe others don't?

**Going Deeper** |

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from this week's message, or do you have any questions?
2. This week we started a series on the Apostles Creed. Historically, Baptist churches don't use creeds. What do you understand a creed to be? Are you familiar with the Apostles Creed? What are you feel or think about the idea of creeds?
3. In this week's message, Rob said the creed serves as a frame for scripture. A creed is not inspired and authoritative in the same way the Bible is; it serves as a guide to how people have read and understood scripture for centuries. What would you say has, or does, most influence what you believe about God and scripture?
4. Read the Apostles Creed together
5. The creed starts with "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth." What stands out to you from this statement?
6. When you describe God, what adjectives do you use to describe Him?
7. Why do you think the creed emphasized the three characteristics of God as father, almighty and creator?
8. Read Genesis 1:1-2:4
9. What does this poem teach us about God?
10. What does this poem teach us about creation?
11. In the message this week, Rob mentioned that the authors' concern around creation was that there was nothing that God did not create. At the time of the development of the creed, some people were teaching that there was matter that existed and it was bad, and God just reformed that matter, and we are to escape it because it is still bad.<sup>1</sup> Instead, the Bible and the creed point to God being the creator of everything out of nothing (creation ex nihilio). Why do you think this is important? What would it mean if there was matter that existed that God did not create?
12. Read Psalm 103:13 and Psalm 68:5
13. What does it mean to call God father?
14. What does it mean that God is almighty?

<sup>1</sup> This is an oversimplification of the belief present in the gnostic movement at the time but serves as a summary.

15. How do you make sense of the personal, relational truth about God as Father and the powerful righteous truth about God as Almighty Creator? How do these two realities of God affect how you approach Him?
16. If you were to rewrite the Apostles Creed today, is there anything you would add or take out in this first point about who God is?
17. Is there anything you believe about God that might not line up with the teachings found in the creed?

