



**WEEK 2**

HOW DOES GOD  
**SPEAK TO US?**

## WEEK 2 • OVERVIEW

We're beginning this course by looking at the Bible. It is through the Scriptures that we learn about God, His plan for humanity, and the life we are called to live in response.

Before we go on to affirm what we believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and various other subjects, we need to look at how we came to receive this knowledge and how we can know such beliefs are true.

### DAYS

- 1 God Revealed
- 2 The Writers
- 3 True & Complete
- 4 An Authority
- 5 Trustworthy

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand how the Bible serves as a primary way for God to reveal Himself to us
- Learn about the formation of the Bible and how we can trust its content
- Discover how the Bible is true in all it says, sufficient for us to know God, and authoritative in what it teaches

### WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

### WEEKLY PRAYER *(write down your prayers for this week)*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.*  
Colossians 4:2

# DAY 1 • GOD REVEALED

Let's start with reviewing our memory verse for the week:

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Think for a second. If there was something beyond our universe, some all-powerful being that caused everything to come into existence and continues to guide it, do you think that being would want to be known? Do you think it would find some way to be revealed to its creation, or would it remain absent, separated, and unknown to the universe? It seems strange that such a being would create conscious, thinking beings like humans and yet keep itself from being known to them, doesn't it?

The very first chapter of the Bible tells us that before everything, God existed. As He created the universe, we read that He spoke everything into existence (Genesis 1:1-31). From the very beginning, God was a communicator. He even spoke directly to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (verses 28-30). And so God, the creator of all things – the unmoved mover – wanted to be known to His creation.

Over time, God has revealed Himself to humanity in various ways. Theologians tend to group this revelation into two categories: general revelation and special revelation. Within general revelation, God has made Himself known. Through creation, the human conscience, and His work in human history, we can see that there is an intelligent and powerful being beyond ourselves. That the universe is marked by such order, complexity, and wonder gives testament to this. We can read in the Bible how creation is a way by which God has revealed Himself to us:

*The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*

<sup>2</sup>*Day to day pours out speech,  
and night to night reveals knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup>*There is no speech, nor are there words,  
whose voice is not heard.*

<sup>4</sup>*Their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.*

Psalm 19:1-4

God also created humanity as thinking beings, capable of reasoning and being guided by conscience, capable of conceiving of something greater than ourselves. Creation, then, whether it be the world around us, or the complexity of our own minds, points unequivocally toward God. We will think a little more about creation next week when we focus on the character of God.

The second way God makes Himself known to us is through special revelation. This includes various supernatural ways God has intervened to make Himself known throughout history. Examples include dreams and visions, such as were experienced by Daniel; being spoken to by angels as was the case for Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds in the nativity story; or God speaking to His people through prophets like Elijah or Isaiah. **However, there are two forms of revelation in this category that are considered more significant than others: the Bible and Jesus Christ.**

We will cover the life and work of Jesus in depth in Weeks 3 and 4. For the remainder of this week, we will focus on God's revelation through the message contained in the Bible.

## WEEK 2

God chose to use a variety of human authors spanning many centuries and using many different styles to write down His special message for humanity—the story of His love and mercy and how we can truly know Him. The Bible (which we will also refer to as the Scriptures and the Word of God interchangeably) weaves together an incredible story, beginning with the creation of all things.

The Bible recounts God's story: His dealings with humanity in their trials and their victories; His promises that are kept time and time again; the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and the salvation we can all have by placing our faith in Him. There is no greater story in history.

And yet the Bible is more than just stories: it is a living word that speaks anew to us every time we open it; that draws us closer to God when we abide in it; and that provides all we need to know the one true God.

## JOURNAL

Read Romans 1:18-20. What can we know about God through creation?

---

---

---

---

Read Romans 2:14-16. What can we know about God through the human conscience?

---

---

---

---

---

Read Psalm 19:7-11. What does the Word of God accomplish in our lives?

---

---

---

---

---

