

Our Speaking God

1. **GENERAL** Revelation – God is, and has always been, speaking to **every** individual person, in **every** generation, in **every** land, to the ends of the earth.

- God tells us that He **EXISTS** - Romans 1:18-23

External creation reveals His **attributes**

Innate conscious awareness **confirms** His existence

- God tells us that He is **POWERFUL** – Psalm 19:1-6

Both **Macro**-creation and **Micro**-creation speak to us

- God tells us that He is **LOVING** – Matthew 5:43-46

He sends **sunshine** and **rain** to people who love and hate Him

General revelation has **limitations**: It does not tell us **details** of who God is and what He is like; or how to have a **relationship** with Him; or how to get to **heaven** to be with Him.

2. **SPECIAL** Revelation - Information about God we could **never** know unless He told us! Hebrews 1:1-3

- **Prophets** and **SCRIPTURE** – recorded words and actions **directly** from God

- The **Person** and work of **JESUS** – God with us to see, touch, know, and worship

- Special revelation is historical, **progressive**, accurate, purposeful, **sufficient**, and **authoritative**

Wrap up:

When any man, woman, or child examines **creation** and listens to their innate **conscience** they come to conclude that God exists, and that He is both powerful and loving.

When any man, woman, or child **pursues** God from General Revelation, He will lead them to **Special** Revelation, so they can know Him personally.

Life Group Questions – June 30, 2019

Romans 1:19-20 “...because that which is known about God is evident **within** them; for **God made it evident to them**. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been **clearly seen**, being **understood** through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

QUICK REVIEW

1. A week ago, last Sunday, Pastor Phil said that our God is fair-minded. This statement indicates that God is impartial. Is this true? Like Christians, wasn't Israel sanctified (set apart)? What is the basis for Phil's assertion?
2. Read Psalm 1. What does the term “walking in the counsel of the wicked” mean? What is the antidote? Can't we just take **both** the guidance of our smart unbelieving friends/family **and** the truths of God's Word into consideration? After all, that's integrating the best of both worlds, isn't it? Explain.

MY STORY

1. Read Romans 1:18-23. According to this passage, God tells us that He exists; that He has made Himself obvious to all of mankind. When did you first put God and creation together? In what other ways has God revealed Himself to you personally?
2. Creation also speaks forth of God's power and His love. Where do you see the supremacy of God in creation? Compare human love with God's love. How does His love impact your relationship with others? (see Matthew 5:43-46)
3. What would you say to someone who says that God is unknowable?

GOING DEEP

1. What are some of the limitations of general revelation? What is the difference between general revelation and special revelation? Why are the distinctions important?
2. Read Psalm 19:1-4. What does this passage show us about God's revelation?
3. What does God's speaking to humanity demonstrate about Himself? In what ways do you best hear God speaking to you? How much time do you spend listening to His voice?
4. It has been said that: “God gave up His personal privacy so we could know Him.” How did He do this? How should we then respond to this impassioned gesture? How are you doing in your response to His desire for personal intimacy with you? What are some ways you can draw closer to God?

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for **you** to remember?