

CONFIDENT

Walk Boldly in Your Faith

Statement 1- God **exists** and is **involved** with Humanity (Part 2b)

God EXISTS – He is **NOT Dead**

God is INVOLVED with Humanity – He is **NOT Distant**

God is active among humanity. He is both fulfilling His eternal purpose of DISPLAYING HIS GLORY by helping humans get to heaven AND, through the work of the Holy Spirit, helping His followers stand strong and stay confident.

All individuals and people groups are 'UNDER GOD' – Acts 17:25-28
– His sovereign will has been **Planned, Penned, and Preserved**

All individuals and people groups are INFLUENCED by the '**god of this world**' (Matthew 4:8-9; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 John 5:19; Revelation 12:9)
–Satan's influence is **pervasive** (nations) and **impactful**

We believe there are two UNSEEN kingdoms; God's Kingdom of light and Satan's Kingdom of darkness. We know that these two Kingdoms are in constant conflict, primarily over the souls of humanity.

We believe in the existence of NON-PHYSICAL realities that influence our physical reality

The ORIGIN of Satan and his kingdom – (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Rev. 12:7-9, 12)

Satan deceived ADAM AND EVE, capturing humanity and the cosmos, and is currently allowed to be the 'god of this world'. (1 John 5:19; 2 Corinthians; Ephesians 2:2; Rev. 12:9; 2 Timothy 2:26)

God DECLARED the fate of Satan and his kingdom at the beginning (Gen. 3:15), accomplished it at the cross (Colossians 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8b), and one day will complete it permanently (Rev. 20:10).

We believe God is actively engaged among humanity to defeat Satan and his kingdom, and to draw humanity to His kingdom of light, all to reveal His glory!

Auburn Grace Community Church – Oct. 1st, 2023

Life Group Discussion Questions – October 1, 2023

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."

DISCOVER

1. Think back to your childhood. What did you believe about God in those years? Describe some ways your views have changed since then? What are some factors that have influenced your current beliefs about God?
2. Your co-worker asks you: "Why would an infinitely almighty God care about us little and therefore, insignificant humans?" How would you respond?
3. Does God interact with both believers and non-believers in the same way? Explain.
4. Have there been notable circumstances in human history where most people would agree that God intervened in some way? Give some examples and discuss why you think God stepped into those situations(s). How might the outcomes have been different without His guidance?

EXPLORE

1. Read Job 34:14-15 and Psalm 104:29. How do these verses say that God can be found or is "knowable"?
2. An American missionary goes to Africa, sensing and witnessing palpable evil at every turn. On returning home, things are 'normal' again and he/she no longer senses the demonic activity. What does this say about who we are in our daily living? What does this say about the devil?
3. Discuss how the unseen, non-physical reality influences our present, physical reality. Give examples.
4. In what ways does the story of Lucifer's fall shed light on the struggle between good and evil? (see Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:11-19 and Revelation 12:7-9,12)
5. Read Colossians 2:13-15. From this passage, we can see that Jesus accomplished a lot of things for us. What one thing has Jesus done for us that trumps all the rest? (Hint: this is the source of our righteousness).

EXPERIENCE

1. No other creature is self-aware (knows it exists) or understands its purpose. Why do you think God brought you into existence in this particular time and place? (see Acts 17:25-28)
2. Not too long ago, the "God's Not Dead" Christian-fiction movies depicted a pastor who argued for the reality of God through a number of occurrences. Borrowing from that premise, what realities would you point to for a series dubbed "Satan's Not Dead?" What kind of reviews do you think would be generated? Do you believe that most people in our culture are done believing in the adversary? If so, how is this such an insidious and powerful deception?
3. Discuss the pitfalls and ramifications of taking the devil too seriously. What about taking him not seriously enough? How is this a mirror of how we view God?

PRAY

Pray... Father in heaven, I confess I don't always walk in the confidence that I profess. Fear and doubt seep in from time to time. But You are my Encourager. With You, I fear no evil. I trust in You and believe that I really am who You say I am... a child of the Most High God. Help me to endure, O Lord, that I might be obedient and, therefore, be victorious in You. Thank You, that You have given me Your Word as I wait upon You. Great is thy faithfulness! In Jesus' Name. Amen.