CONFIDENT

Walk Boldly in Your Faith Part 2

Statement 1- God exists and is involved with Humanity

God <u>EXISTS</u> – **He is NOT Dead**; He is NOT Distant
We believe in the existence of an eternal supernatural God who both created and governs the earth and humanity

| CREATION – Our Origin, flicker of first life, finetuning of life |
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| Genesis 1:1 'In the beginning created the heavens and the earth' |
| Global Culture says – 'In the beginning NATURALISM' |
| Bible says – 'In the beginning GOD created the heavens and the earth' |
| Consequences : random vs. intentional; meaningless vs. purposeful; party life vs. focused life |
| Evidences: design mandates a Designer; interdependent systems of life |

<u>CONSCIENCE</u> – God hardwired Himself and His laws into the human heart Everyone has a <u>MORAL</u> code; Every culture has a code of law Everyone is a <u>WORSHIPPER</u>; Every people group has a god

CHRIST – historical life and claims of Jesus proven true.

Four evidences:

His divine **attributes**Rev. 1:8: Mat. 28:18; Heb. 13:8; 1 Pet 2:22; John 8:46
His personal **assertions**His divined **authority**Mark 2:5-7, 10-11
The **accusations** from His enemies
John 8:59, 10:31-33
The **affirmations** from other NT authors
Colossians 1:15, 2:9; Heb 1:8
(Todd Wagner's list)

<u>CONVERTS</u> – Genuine change for the good, compassion for others Power of **transformed** lives **Impact** of Christianity on the world

These four evidences are actually <u>INVITATIONS</u> from God to receive Him into your life!

Auburn Grace Community Church - Sept. 17th, 2023

Life Group Discussion Questions – September 17, 2023

Isaiah 40:28-29 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. He gives strength to the weak, and to him who lacks might He increases power."

DISCOVER

- 1. Define the word "evidence." What is the role of evidence in a court of law? In a trial, how does the quantity of evidence affect the outcome? Can a single piece of evidence bring a justifiable verdict? Why or why not?
- 2. Generally speaking, in a criminal court, a firsthand eyewitness account has a lot of power or influence. Why is the testimony of such a witness so compelling? Are there different kinds of things that can discredit a person's testimony? Give examples.
- 3. Pastor Phil shared three evidences that we can present that supports the existence of an eternal supernatural God who both created and governs the earth and humanity. What are they? Can you add to this list?

EXPLORE

- 1. If we don't worship God, we still worship. We all worship something. In a sense, this means we all have a religion (of sorts). Discuss the origin of this idea. What is it based on?
- 2. Genesis 1:1 says that God created the heavens and the earth (and everything in it). What are the "heavens"? Did He leave anything out and eventually add to this
- short, 2-item list of creation? What does creation say about God?
 3. For those who don't believe in God as Creator, how does randomness, their explanation of the origin of life, foster hopelessness and propagate evil? Why does design mandate a Designer?
- 4. Survival of the fittest says, "If I perform well, I am a successful person. If I don't, I'm a miserable failure." God's answer to survival of the fittest is survival of the weakest (eg. "The last shall be first."). How can you explain this?
- 5. Believers in Christ are compassionate and work for genuine change for the good, ultimately for transformed hearts that give glory to God. Why do we, as a human race, desire to improve our lives?

EXPERIENCE

- 1. If someone says, "I am not a religious person" or "I don't believe in God." How might you respond? What is your heart's posture when they say this?
- 2. Identify some of the evidences that God is inherently close to and working in humanity? How might non-believers explain the origin of morality? On what basis or criteria might they label something as being evil? Can evolution develop a moral code?
- 3. Why do human beings refuse to take responsibility for continuing to spoil what God has created? What can Christians do to help non-believers to see their roles in our broken world?
- 4. Was there ever a time when you felt closer to God than you are today? Why do you think that is?

PRAY

Pray... Father God, You have created us a little lower than Yourself, for only we, in all creation, bear Your image. But we will not boast that You have given us this honor and privilege, but that You have given us Your Son, Jesus, so that our names are forever registered in Heaven. Amen.