



THE TRINITY: IN CREATION – JOHN 17:24-26, HEBREWS 1:2-3

GETTING STARTED

How did the universe begin? How did life begin? Is there a purpose to our life? These are questions that have been answered in a myriad of different ways throughout history and even in our day. The most common answer in our culture is that the universe began with a big bang, life formed by random chemical process and successive mutations and any purpose we derive from life can only be personal because there is no purpose to our lives. This narrative gets spun in a few different ways, but it ultimately ends with there being no meaning to our lives. Here is where not only does the Bible give a different answer, it gives a better one! God created the world in the harmony of the Trinity so that we could know and experience his love. Not out of any need or deficit that God had, but out of abundance God created the world to enjoy the beauty of his glory and love. Our purpose then is found not in a pursuit of self, but a pursuit of God in all of his splendor.

READ THE TEXT: JOHN 17:24-26

²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”



READ THE TEXT: HEBREWS 1:2-3

² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

Extra verses for studying this topic: Genesis 1:1-2; 26-27, Psalm 33:6-9, Colossians 1:15-17, John 1:1-3, Acts 17:24-25, John 17:5

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. When Jesus prays that the disciples will know God and know his name, what is implied by that statement? Clearly Jesus has more in mind with his prayer than that they would know what name to call God.
2. How does the writer of Hebrews contrast the Old Testament prophets to the ministry of Jesus? In what ways is Jesus greater?

APPLY THE TEXT

3. How might the knowledge that God did not keep His love, but shared and spread it to His creation, change the way you think, work, and relate to others?
4. How might the fact that God's creation is good, known, sustained, and being redeemed change your perspective?

SHARE & PRAY

1. As we discuss the role of the Trinity in different facets, how does this understanding help us pray more specifically? How can we use this to thank the Father for his work, the Son for his work and the Holy Spirit for his work?
2. The Trinity is one of the most uniquely Christian teaching teachings, how can we explain this to an unbeliever? How does a better understanding of the Trinity help us share the gospel?

