

WEEK 2: WHO IS GOD?

OBJECTIVE

Help your group identify and articulate false beliefs they've held, and new truths they've learned about the character of God. Process the story of Creation, the Fall, and God's plan for redemption while encouraging vulnerable and honest sharing.

CHECK LIST

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare your heart by reviewing the devotions for the week | <input type="checkbox"/> Review the Rooted Covenant, and have those sign it if they did not on Week 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrive early, and set up meeting area (chairs, snacks, nametags) | <input type="checkbox"/> Set a time for the prayer experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have two people share their story | <input type="checkbox"/> Assign the next two people to share their story |

PRAYER POINTS

People will be excited to come back and connect. As you lead in vulnerability, and share from your own life, they will want to share openly and authentically as well.

God will give you wisdom, insights, and a non-judgmental heart for each person in your group.

God will help you uproot false or incomplete images of Him.

GROUP TIME

Welcome – 10 minutes

- Greet each person by name, and let them know you are glad they're here.

Icebreaker—15 minutes

- Use an icebreaker to help the group connect. See examples in the appendix.

Story—10 minutes

- Have two people share their 2-5 minute story of how they came to Christ, or how they ended up in this group.

TIP: Take notes when each person shares their story, writing down things they question or may not believe, or breakthroughs in their spiritual journey. You will use all of these notes when you pray for them to break free of strongholds, and during the celebration.

Introduction Questions—15 minutes

- What was a lie you told as a kid? What happened?
- What lie do you or did you believe about God?

Discussion—40 Minutes

TIP: Be sure to bring your Bible, and encourage your group to bring their Bibles to guide your discussions around what God's Word says, rather than what they think it says.

- To transition into discussion, ask: What challenged you, or impacted you from your reading and journaling this week?
- You can ask a question about the homework: "Which day did you like the best? Which day challenged you the most?"
- You can pick one or two questions they answered in homework, and use it as basis for discussion.

TIP: Pay attention to what is said—as well as what is not said—as your group shares, so you can ask good questions.

TIP: Watch for "overtalkers," create space for honesty, and redirect questions to encourage more conversation: "Has anyone else experienced anything like that?"

TIP: Not everyone will get a chance to answer every question. Direct the discussion to include those who have not shared, and to keep others from overtalking.

Prayer Requests—20 minutes

- Prayer requests can be presented as a group, or you can break into prayer partners.
- Remind everyone of the importance of confidentiality—ensure each person has signed the Rooted Covenant.

Closing—10 minutes

- Set a time for the prayer and serve experiences, and remind everyone of the dates.
- If you have decided as a group to set up a social network to keep in touch, follow up on the status of that. Designate someone to do this for the group.
- Make sure that you have two more people prepared to tell their story the following week.

WORKBOOK REVIEW

Who Is God?

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2

DAY 1 – THE MYSTERIOUS GOD

What have been your false or incomplete images of God?

What new thoughts do you have about God?

DAY 2 – THE WORLD GOD MADE

What do you learn about God from the creation story?

What questions does this account raise for you?

How does creation declare the glory of God to you?

DAY 3 – THE CROWN OF GOD'S WORK

How do you see God's love and care for you?

How does it make you feel to know God has given us the job to care for the Earth?

How do you respond to the idea that God wants a relationship with you?

How have you seen this played out?

DAY 4 – WHAT WENT WRONG

Where do you see the consequences of human rebellion in our world? In your own life?

What kind of death have you experienced because of your sin?

DAY 5 – THE BEST NEWS EVER

Is the way of salvation, as is explained in this chapter, what you had previously thought? If not, how is it different?

Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior and Lord? If yes, how has that changed you? If you haven't, what is keeping you from doing it now?