**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**

**THERE IS A GOD THAT CAN BE KNOWN — SELECTED SCRIPTURE**

 **Session 1 — September 14 & 21, 2022**

**THERE IS A GOD WHO CAN BE KNOWN**

THE BIG PICTURE There is a true God to know. As He has chosen to reveal Himself to all humanity, He now calls us to seek Him and find Him.

OBJECTIVES FOR THIS SESSION

1. To be able to define *systematic theology* and understand its categories, limitations, and usefulness to the believer individually and the Church at large.

2. To be able to adequately state the three ways God has revealed His existence to humanity.

3. To understand the reasons people suppress truth about God.

4. To be able to articulate the *why* and *how* God wants us to seek Him.

5. To understand that Scripture reveals how our God is one we can know intimately, trust fully, and love deeply.

KEY VERSE TO MEMORIZE

*“He who comes to God must believe that He is,*

*and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6*

An Introduction to Systematic Theology

1. From your handout, rewrite the given definition of systematic theology in your own words and explain why we should study it.

2. If a systematic theology is using *only* verses from the bible in a consistent way, does this make systematic theology inspired? Explain why or why not.

The Existence of God

3. Read the following sets of verses, then describe three ways that reveal God's existence? Which of these verses speaks most powerfully to you. Why?

 > Psalm 19:1-2, 4; Romans 1:18-20; Acts 14:16-17

 > Romans 1:19-20, 21, 25; 2:14-15; 8:15-16; Eph 3:14-16

 > John 12:48; Acts 17:24-25, 28; Romans 11:36; 1 Cor 14: 37-38; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21

4. Read the following verses and describe the biblical reasons men and women reject God's existence even though "God has shown it to them?"

 > Psalm 10:3-4, 6, 11, 13

 > Psalm 14:1

 > Romans 1:21-22, 25

5. Using Blue Letter Bible, define the following words from the verses above:

 > From Psalm 14:1, Strongs #5036 *fool (Hebrew nabal)*

 > From Romans 1:22, Strongs #3471 *fool (Greek* *mōrainō - see Vines entry also*)

6. Romans 1:22 and 25 states that in *"claiming to be wise, they became fools.... because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator..."*. What is the lie?

7. What stands out to you most when you consider the great gulf between the way God judges a person and the way they judge themselves. How should this affect your thinking toward people who reject the existence of the true God?

Knowing the God Who Exists

8. Because we can know God, we should seek to know Him. Meditate on Proverbs 2:3-5 and Hebrews 11:6 and record your thoughts. If you struggle with inner doubt that God exists, what help is found in these verses? If you are not struggling with doubt and enjoy a strong personal relationship with Him, how could these verses strengthen your faith even more? What practical steps will you take to make this happen?

9. Why should we seek God? Record what you learn from the texts below.

 > Jeremiah 9:23-24

 > John 17:3

10. From the texts below, what do you discover about *how* we should seek God?

 > Acts 17:24-25, 29 Why is it dangerous when our knowledge about God comes from the way we think or feel about Him? Give an example of this. How should we gain knowledge about God and why?

 > Job 11:7; 36:26; Psalm 145:3; 147:5; Isaiah 55:9 Can we seek God even though we cannot learn all there is to know about Him?

 > Psalm 27:5; 68:5; 91:2; Proverbs 30:5; Isaiah 25:4; 2 Corinthians 1:3 God has chosen to reveal Himself by relating to us personally. From the preceding verses, list the qualities that God wants us to understand about who He is and how He acts toward us. What response should this bring forth in us?

 11. How can we reconcile the incomprehensibility of God and that fact that we can know God intimately?