

## Sermon Notes

### Starting with God

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”* (Genesis 1:1)

#### 1. Why is what we think about God so important?

*“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.”* (Romans 1:18-23)

#### 2. What do we substitute for the truth about God?

**Theism:**

**Polytheism:**

**Deism**

**Pantheism**

**Atheism**

#### 3. What difference does it make what I think about God, as long as I'm sincere?

## **For Further Thought and Discussion**

### **Getting Started**

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. "What comes into our mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us." Agree or disagree? Why?

### **Going Deeper**

3. Please Genesis 1:1. Why do we need to start at the beginning of the Bible to understand the Bible? What problems would you anticipate for people who ignore the beginning and dive into the Bible part way through? Why does the story of the Bible start with God?
4. Please read Romans 1:18-23. Why is what we think about God so important? What is the connection between our view of God and our behavior?
5. Here is a list of alternative views of God. Identify each and speculate how that particular view of God would shape those who hold to it.

**Theism:**

**Polytheism:**

**Deism**

**Pantheism**

**Atheism**

6. In what ways might gaining a more accurate view of God change you?

### **Application**

What is one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?