DR. CURT DODD

JOHN 1:1-18



Part 2: The Real Creator

John 1:1-5

INTRODUCTION NOTES In this week's message, we are going to be focusing on John 1:3, which says, "Through him, all things were made; without him, nothing was made that has been made." As humans with limited minds, we are constantly searching for answers and clarity, specifically when it comes to how this planet and all of creation came about. But when we find ourselves looking too hard for definition, we refuse to acknowledge God for who He is. Scripture makes it very clear that He is the Real Creator. Jesus is the Real Creator. **KEY POINTS** 1. The Big Who The book of John describes the connection of God's selfcommunication. Jesus is the Logos; He is how God communicates to us about who He is. So therefore, since Jesus is the voice of God, the Bible tells us that Jesus not only existed before all things, but He created all things (Colossians 1:16-17). And just as the Lord created all things in the beginning, He is still creating today. Jesus said in John 5, "My Father is always at work to this very day, and I, too am working" (John 5:17). He is creating new things all the time, including each of us as we choose to follow Him, for we are new creations once we surrender our lives to Him. 2. The Big Why Now that you have a better understanding of who God is in relation to creation, you might be wondering why God did all of this, why He created everything. Well, there's one simple purpose and reason for why God created all things. He did so for His glory. He made you a new creation as His child so that you could bring Him glory with your life. Paul makes this point clear in his letter to the Romans, when he says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). When you understand what God's purpose for your life is, and when you realize that He is allowing things to happen in your life to shape you into the image of His Son, you can begin to grasp the fact that when you look more like Jesus, that gives God glory. 3. The Big Now What So, we've talked about the background of creation with Jesus being the source of all things, and we've talked about His reasoning for creating everything. But now we need to ask the question, "Now what? What should we do next?" If you and I are going to align with God's ongoing work of creation in our lives, we need to do the following things:

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-	Receive Jesus by turning from sin and being born again. The
	most important decision you could ever make is to turn to Jesus and
	turn away from your sin, so you can be born again. Don't focus on the
	religion. Instead, focus on the relationship with your Savior. There is
	no chance for you to give glory to God until you first begin a
	relationship with Him, and you do that by turning from your sin and
	placing your faith in Christ.

- Reframe your worldview to align with God's purpose and plan. There are a lot of Christians who say they love Jesus, but then they choose to think from a secular perspective. Your life is not split between secular and spiritual. It should all be lived through a spiritual filter. That doesn't mean you can't read and absorb information that is given from a secular worldview. But as you take in that information, your foundation should be in Christ and in the worldview that Scripture provides for us.
- Redefine your present situation to answer a different question. Many of us, when life doesn't make sense, we ask, "Why is this happening to me? I didn't deserve this." If we're honest, though, none of us would be here right now if God had given us what we really deserved. In this light, you and I need to come to a place where we redefine our present situation in light of what First John says. Instead of asking, "Why is this happening to me?" ask, "God, since you are the Creator, what do you want to recreate in me, so you receive glory through this situation?"

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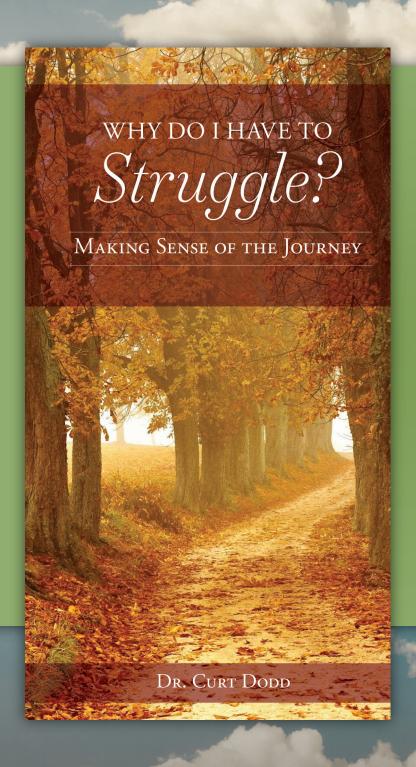
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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. If someone were to ask you how you believe the world was created, what would you tell them?
2. What is something going on in your life right now that God could be using to bring Himself glory?
3. When you're going through a difficult season, do you tend to ask, "Why is this happening to me?" Or do you look to see what God might be wanting to accomplish through your difficulty?

WE ALL HAVE STRUGGLES



God is with us when we are struggling the most.

Visit **HigherAim.org** to order your free copy of Dr. Dodd's most recent book, Why Do I Have To Struggle? Making Sense of the Journey.

