

TRUST ISSUES



*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

2/4/2018

The name *Elohim* is used through the creation narrative in Genesis 1-2. Being creator, God (*Elohim*) is known as personal, powerful and purposeful. To understand this name more fully we need to focus more on knowing God personally than on our own power or purpose.

QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing you took away from Sunday's message?
2. How does God as creator impact your understanding of who he is? How might this impact your daily life?
3. Of the three characteristics—personal, powerful or purposeful—that John mentioned, which one most intrigues or resonates with you? Why?
4. How is God personal? How is he personal in being both near us (at hand) and also sovereign over all things (far away)? (Jeremiah 23:23-24)
5. Jeremiah states that God fills, or occupies, both heaven and earth. What does this communicate about his power?
6. As creator, he stands above and among his creation. Genesis 18:14 asks, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Does this understanding of God currently come to mind in the midst of challenge? Why do you feel that is?

7. What comes to mind when you think of God being powerful?

8. Does the image of a powerful creator instill trust or fear?

If you mentioned fear, what would help move the needle a little closer to the trust side?

9. John mentioned that knowing God as a creator, who is personal, powerful and purposeful allows us to trust and rest in him. What does he mean by this?

10. How does our view of God as *Elohim* shape our ability to rest in him?

11. In what way(s) will you respond to Sunday's message?

Closing Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord our God, king and creator of the universe. You reigned before any form was created and, in your wisdom, you laid the foundations of the earth. You created humanity in your image and instilled within us purpose. I am grateful to you that you hold all things together in your hand. Grant me the humility to focus on knowing you personally, that I might find rest and purpose through you and your purposes. I pray this in the name of Jesus, to the glory of God, our creator and Father, Amen.