

INTRODUCTION

- Creation reveals its Creator as a work of art reveals the mastery of the artist, like a classic novel displays the brilliance of its author.
- Just as we can learn about an artist from studying his painting, or an author by reading his work, we can learn about the Creator by studying His creation.

POINTS TO THE EXISTENCE OF GOD (PS. 8:3-8).

A. The _____ argument for the existence of God

- By examining the design and purpose of the universe we see evidence of the Designer.
- The vastness of the universe gives reason to believe God exists and demonstrates the smallness of humanity.

B. The _____ argument for the existence of God

- Asks, "What or who caused the universe in the first place?"
- Answers, "Whatever begins to exist has a cause of its existence. The universe began to exist. Therefore, the universe has a cause of its existence."

Application: Arguments and proofs are important, and while these traditional proofs for God's existence bolster our faith; they do not create it. God desires not be analyzed but adored. You cannot argue someone into the kingdom of God. Salvation is a matter of faith in Christ.

POINTS TO THE NATURE OF GOD (GEN. 1:1; PS. 14:1-3).

A. The Bible _____ God as the Creator of all things (Gen. 1:1).

B. The Bible _____ the existence of moral right and wrong (Ps. 14).

- The "moral argument" for existence of God says, "If God does not exist, then objective moral values and duties do not exist. Objective values and duties do exist. Therefore, God exists."
- Disbelieving in God is a moral decision, not just an intellectual decision.

Application: While we may not deny the existence of God philosophically as an atheist would, we often deny His existence in practice (practical atheism). Notice similar traits that both the real and practical atheists share:

- They pray rarely if at all.
- They do not read or study the Bible.
- They walk by sight, and not by faith.
- They give little or nothing to charitable or Christian causes.
- They live primarily for this life rather than eternity.

ALL HUMANS HAVE AN INNER _____ THAT GOD EXISTS (ROM. 1:21; PS. 10:3-4).

A. We have taken the _____ knowledge of God and used it in the wrong way – idolatry.

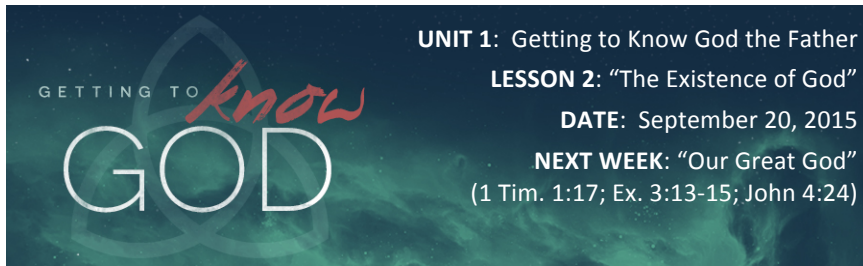
B. We still have a _____ because of God's grace.

- God's common grace _____ the unbeliever's heart through conscience.
- God's gospel grace _____ the unbeliever's heart through Christ.

Application: Appeal to the unbeliever's heart through conscience. Present the saving grace of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that God will open their eyes to the truth.

CONCLUSION

- Making a case for the existence of God is an important step in evangelism. Still, we must remember that believing in God is not enough to save us. It is possible to believe that God exists and yet not have a saving relationship with Him. People must start with accepting the existence of God the Creator before they are ready to hear the good news of the Savior.



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