

**Home Groups | Week 1 [9.11.16]**  
**True North | Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

**Ice Breaker Question:**

Share with your group how you encountered God this summer.

**Read and discuss Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

1. What attributes of God do you see in the story of Creation? What other attributes of God do you see in other parts of scripture?
2. In Genesis 1:27 it says God created us in his image. This might bring to mind what we and God look like visually. What do you think are other ways we are God's image bearers?
3. Do you think what you believe about God makes a difference in your life? If so, what difference does it make?
4. What obstacles do people have in believing God? Are there attributes about God (as given in scripture) that are hard for you to believe?
5. Are there times when you live as if you, and not God, created the heavens and the earth? In what ways does that reveal itself in your life?
6. Do you struggle with reconciling the goodness of God and the evil in the world? How do you explain this?

**As your group closes, please keep the following prayer requests in mind:**

- > Prayers of healing for Wanda Baker, Karen Barnes, Stan Johnson, Greg Lanham, and Mona Ruby.
- > Prayers of comfort for Dan and Jody Puck in the death of Jody's father.
- > We celebrate with parents, Rob and Kelsey Kern, and grandparents, Bob and Pam Bierwagen, in the birth of Ryker Kern.

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**Reminders for your group:**

- > Welcome back! This 10-week Home Group session goes through the week of November 13.
- > ZPCHMS is looking for Home Groups to provide snacks or dinner for HSM meetings on Sunday evenings.  
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**Leader's Notes:**

Sunday mornings this fall we will be taking a closer look at our faith and asking questions about what we believe about God, the Bible, and our identities in Christ. Much of the unpacking of our faith and answering these questions will take place in our Home Groups. This week we are using Genesis 1 to help us unpack who God is and then hopefully applying what we believe about God to our everyday lives.

**[Question 1]** All through scripture, God is making himself known to us. The opening chapter of the Bible is no different. Have your group make a list of God's attributes seen in Genesis 1 and other parts of scripture. If you are able, you can make a group list on newsprint so everyone can see the attributes of God your group comes up with.

**[Question 2]** Having just created a list of God's attributes, think about how we, as humans, reflect the image of God in many different ways.

**[Question 3]** Knowing God more, growing to be more like him, and living out his teachings should shape us in certain ways and make our lives look differently. (For example, if we believe God owns everything and we are stewards of all he has given us vs. believing everything belongs to us, how might we live differently?)

**[Question 4]** We all have things that challenge our faith in God and our challenges may be different from others in our group. Have your group members share what causes them to question and what they do when it happens.

**[Question 5]** Ways we might live as if we created the heavens and the earth are:

1. As if the gifts talents and possessions we have are of our own doing and not gifts from the creator.
2. Worrying all the time and allowing anxiety to consume us because we think we have control over this life and this world vs. realizing we don't have control over much of this life and relying on and trusting God.

**[Question 6]** Whether it's senseless violence, the death of a child, or some other tragedy, we all probably have asked the question, "How can God allow that to happen?" What clues does Genesis 1 give us into why God allows bad things to happen?