

“Epic #1 – The Foundation”

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For the next few weeks, we’ll be talking about the epic story of how a loving God reached out to “put together” a world and people that had “come from together” in almost unimaginable ways.

Five Fundamental and Foundational Realities

**FOUNDATIONAL REALITY #1** -- We know this story because it has been revealed to us

- There has been enough \_\_\_\_\_ that our lives can be \_\_\_\_\_ for eternity and, if you stop to think about it, that should be enough.

**FOUNDATIONAL REALITY #2** -- The story begins with \_\_\_\_\_

- Revelation 4:11

**FOUNDATIONAL REALITY #3** -- We live in a created world and we can infer qualities about the Creator

- Inference #1-God has incomprehensible \_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 2:19)
- Inference #2-God is \_\_\_\_\_
- Inference #3- God’s creativity and \_\_\_\_\_ are also incomprehensible

**FOUNDATIONAL REALITY #4** -- Everything comes from the same source – interrelated and working together

**FOUNDATIONAL REALITY #5** -- It was good

Why are these foundational truths so important?

- They shape our \_\_\_\_\_
- These explain what holds things together and where we have our \_\_\_\_\_
- Tell us where true \_\_\_\_\_ lies
- They tell us \_\_\_\_\_ in the order of things
- They let us know something has gone \_\_\_\_\_

What else do we need to know?

EPIC

You don’t have to be a rocket scientist to look at our world and realize that something has gone wrong. How did it get this bad? And how do we find our way out of this mess? In the weeks leading up to Easter we’ll explore the epic story of a good creation gone bad and the price God paid to bring it back to Him. Over the next few weeks we’ll tell that story in three chapters by walking together through the Old Testament in order to see what went wrong, what that means for us today, and what God has done to set things right.

EPIC: In the Beginning...

- 2/13: The Foundation
- 2/20: Created in the Image of God
- 2/27: Broken by our Own Evil Choices

EPIC: Broken By Evil

- 3/6: Our Broken Relationship with God
- 3/13: Our Broken Relationship with Ourselves
- 3/20: Our Broken Relationship with Each Other
- 3/27: Our Broken Relationship with the World

EPIC: The Great Rescue

- 4/3: Abraham, the Patriarchs, and the Exodus
- 4/10: The Judges, the Kinds, and the Exile
- 4/17: The Life, Ministry, and Death of Jesus (Palm Sunday)
- 4/24: The Resurrection of the Son of God (Easter Sunday)

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Talk it over...with your friends, family, or Growth Group.

*Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.*

- As we looked at Genesis 1 today, Joe described some of his thoughts about the nature of God that was revealed in this chapter. If the Bible stopped here, what would be your impression of God? Do you think we tend to minimize the power and authority of God? If so, why?
- Many people look to these early chapters in Genesis to provide answers to questions about creation and evolution. In light of today's sermon, how do you think chapter 1 contributes to that debate? What questions does it answer and what questions does it not address?
- Why do you think God had you here today? What do you need to take away from this sermon? What steps do you need to take to apply this to your life today?

**Some next steps:** Here are some things you can do this week to dig deeper:

- Set aside some time this week to sit down and carefully read the first two chapters of the Bible—Genesis 1 and 2. Keep a blank sheet of paper with you and, as you read, ask yourself the question “What do these verses show me about who God is and what He is like?” Write down as many things as you can.
- Next week Joe will talk about what it means that humanity was created “in the image of God.” Take a few minutes this week and try and answer that for yourself. In what ways were we created in God's image? What does that mean? How are we like Him? How are we different? Feel free to use the list you created above as a starting point.



SERMON NOTES