

## Activity Sheet, 12 November 2017

### The importance of beginnings

*Genesis 1v1; Jeremiah 10v1-12; John 1v1-14*

- Accurate directions don't work unless you have the right starting point.
- Genesis gives the foundation to make sense of the Bible, the gospel.

➤ When Paul was in Athens did the people initially understand his message? (See Acts 17v18, 20)

#### (1) Begin with God's words

- listen to God
- give God's explanation

➤ “Everything we know is knowledge that comes from God” True or false?

➤ “If you are asked why you believe (1 Peter 3v15) you should never defend your beliefs using the Bible.” True or false?

#### (2) God has no beginning

- not idols
- not me
- not stuff

➤ If the universe was not made by the uncreated God then how plausible do you find the alternatives: (a) universe came from nothing, (b) universe has always been there?

➤ What is the difference between God and idols according to Jeremiah 10v11-12?

➤ Which came first: (a) person or (b) matter?

#### (3) Beginning of God's plan for creation

- creation of everything from nothing
- God who loves creation

➤ How does God identify himself in Jeremiah 33v2?

➤ Isaiah 43v1-2: the God who creates is the God who r \_ d \_ \_ ms [= saves].

▶ Jesus, the Saviour, is the same uncreated God who creates in Genesis 1 [John 1v1]

#### Questions for discussion:

1. Was Francis Schaeffer right to say that when we are explaining the gospel we need to start with creation?
2. What do we learn about God in Genesis 1 that is different to the various ideas people have about God today?
3. Everyone has an explanation for where everything came from. How plausible are the different explanations? What practical difference for everyday life do the different explanations make?
4. How should you respond to knowing that God is your maker?