

**The God Who Is (October 17, 2021)**  
**“The God Who Gives Life: Part 1”**

**OPENING QUESTION:**

**SERMON DISCUSSION:** How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

**READ Genesis 1:1-8, 26-27, 31**

1. What thoughts or questions arise when you ponder, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1)?

2. Give the definitions of “beginning” and “create”. How do these definitions along with Hebrews 11:3 give a clearer perspective of Genesis 1:1?

3. Read Genesis 1 and explain how God views His creation. How does this impact your view of mankind’s responsibility of the created world?

4. Explain how the creation of man differs from the rest of creation (Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:14)? How do these scriptures help you to view and value **every** human being in this manner, especially for those you find challenging?

5. Describe the Trinity's involvement in creation (Genesis 1:1-2, 26-27; John 1:1-5).

6. **NOTE:** In Genesis “there is a clear establishment of order from disorder. This disorder is described in verse 2, starting with the Hebrew terms *tohu* and *bohu* [formless, without form and empty, void]...these terms indicate that the cosmos was empty of purpose, meaning, and function—a place that had no order or intelligibility...the term *tohu* seems to refer to a situation which lacks something abstract that should be there, such as worth, purpose, truth, profit & integrity.” (The NIV Application Commentary-Genesis p. 73, by John H. Walton)

From this week's passage, we learn that when God created the world, “He spoke into chaos, by the power of his word (into the void, into the darkness, into what was formless) and what came about was Cosmos (order, substance, light, beauty)” (Dan Smith). How would recognizing God's power in bringing order out of chaos at creation encourage you with any chaos you find in your own life presently?