



Belief: What we believe

23-Feb: God

Series Summary: Many view doctrine as something that is only important for pastors. Nothing could be further from the truth. What we believe matters? This is why Paul told young Timothy to watch his doctrine closely (1 Tim 4:16)

Big Idea/Question: There are plenty of people that believe in God, or a God rather. The question is does what you believe about God line up with what God has declared to be true about Himself?

GET THEM TALKING

What did Pastor Russell say that stuck out to you?

What are you still uncertain about?

GROUP DISCUSSION

(loving father)

What do you think the Bible refers to God as God the Father? How is God like a loving father?

Leader Note: The answer to the above question is not that God the Father created the Son (Jesus) or the Holy Spirit. That view is actually heretical.

2 Peter 3:8-9 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. **9** The Lord is not slow in

keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

What does this passage teach us about God?

Leader Note: This passage is packed full of descriptions about the nature of God. I would take some time and go through them slowly.

- God's view of time is vastly different than ours
- God keeps his promises! In this passage, this is primarily referencing Christ's return.
- God is patient with us (even when we do not deserve patience or have patience ourselves)
- God desires for everyone to know him by believing in His son Jesus Christ's work on the cross. This does not however support universalism.

Matthew 6:25-27 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? **26** Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? **27** Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

Who here deals with worry often? No guilt trip. What was the last thing that you were worried about?

What does this passage teach us about worry? How does God's nature help when fear and worry start to dominate our lives?

Matthew 6:28-31 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. **29** Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. **30** If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? **31** So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"

Vs 28-30 - What does this passage teach us about God?

Vs 30 How does knowing God's nature help us deal with the worries we face?