

# Lake Merced Church of Christ

Home Groups

Is God Really There? He's Uncaused

## Ice Breaker

What is the coolest memory or experience you have of God showing up in a supernatural way? Have you ever experienced something where God's hand was undeniable? Tell about that time(s).

## Opening Prayer

## Discussion

Spend some time as a group reviewing and discussing the following questions. Make sure everyone has a chance to participate:

1. Tell about a time in your life where you struggled with faith or belief in God in some way. Perhaps you struggled to believe He existed at all. Maybe you struggled just to believe He was good and loving. Maybe you're even struggling right now in some way. What was the source of your doubt and struggle? If you were able to work through it, how or where did you gain clarity?
2. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16 together as a group and reflect on the text. What do you think it means or looks like to "always be prepared" to give an answer for your hope? If someone asked you right now why you believe what you believe, do you feel prepared to answer them? Why or why not? Why do you think Peter emphasizes "gentleness and respect?"
3. Josh's message on Sunday introduced the first of four common arguments or "proofs" for the existence of God; it was a look at the Cosmological Argument for His existence. He illustrated this with a train of fallen dominoes. Try to put in your own words, if you can, what that train of dominoes represented. What caused each domino to fall? How does that correlate with the existence or cause of anything that exists?
4. Just as the domino train required someone to cause the first domino to fall, the argument says that our existence is dependant on someone or something causing us to exist. Why do you think these causes can't go on forever ("Infinite Regression")? And why do you think we can have confidence that God is that "Uncaused, First Cause" of all that is?
5. Read Exodus 3:1-15 together as a group. In order for the Cosmological Argument to hold up, two things need to be true: God must be singular, AND God must be "Uncaused." In what ways does God affirm those two truths in His exchange with Moses at the burning bush?
6. When God says, "I AM," He's not just saying "I AM." He's saying, "I was. I AM. I will be." God's claiming an eternity about Himself with that statement that we often miss in English. When you reflect on God as an eternal God, what emotions strike you? Fear? Reverence? Distance? How easy/hard is it to believe in and relate to that kind of God?

## Closing Prayer