

“Who is God Roundtable”

OPEN IT



- **The "Mystery" Question:** What is one thing in the natural world (space, the ocean, physics) that you find completely unexplainable or mind-boggling?
- **The "Seeking" Question:** Growing up, what was the "hardest" question you ever asked about God or the Bible? Did you ever get an answer that satisfied you?

READ IT:

- **Isaiah 55:8-9:** God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours.
- **Hebrews 1:1-3:** Jesus as the exact representation of God's beings.
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17:** The purpose and origin of Scripture.
- **Exodus 34:6-7:** God's character revealed in the Old Testament (mercy and justice).
- **John 14:6:** Jesus' claim as the exclusive way to the Father.
- **Romans 8:18-23:** Hope in the midst of a broken, "groaning" world.

EXPLORE IT

- **The Unexplainable God:** If we could fully explain and understand God with our human logic, would He still be worth worshipping? Why or why not?
- **The Trinity & Jesus:** In John 3:16 and Gethsemane, we see the distinction between the Father and the Son. How does understanding the Trinity as "one God in three persons" help explain why Jesus would pray to the Father?

- **The Worldview Filter:** Many religions share themes like "love your neighbor." How do we learn from the wisdom in other cultures while still maintaining that Jesus is the unique, definitive revelation of God?
- **The Problem of Pain:** When God delays healing or allows disability, it can feel personal. How do we reconcile a "Good God" with a "Broken World" without resorting to easy, cliché answers?
- **Science & Genesis:** When we read Genesis 1-2, why is it important to ask, "What did this mean to the original ancient audience?" before asking "How does this fit into modern science?"
- **The "Two Gods" Myth:** Is the "Violent OT God" vs. "Soft NT Jesus" a fair characterization? Where do we see God's mercy in the OT and His judgment/justice in the NT?
- **The Slavery Question:** How does the Bible's overarching narrative of "Redemption and Imago Dei" (being made in God's image) eventually lead to the dismantling of systems like slavery, even if the ancient text addressed them within their historical context?
- **Certainty vs. Faith:** How can we be confident that our view of God is "right" without becoming arrogant toward those who are still searching or struggling with the supernatural?

DO IT:

- **Identify Your "Hard Question":** This week, pick one of the questions from the panel that still bothers you. Spend 15 minutes in prayer or study specifically on that topic, asking God to give you peace even if you don't get a perfect answer.
- **The "Bridge-BUILDER" Conversation:** Find someone in your life who has a different worldview. Instead of debating, ask them: "What is your biggest hurdle to believing in God?" Just listen and validate their struggle without trying to "fix" it immediately.
- **Worship in the Mystery:** Read Job 38-40 this week. When you encounter things about God you don't understand, practice a "breath prayer": "Lord, I don't understand Your ways, but I trust Your heart."