

# Foundations

Week 1 – December 6, 2020

Scripture: Psalm 19:1-4, Exodus 31:2-3, Genesis 1:1-2

*Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!*

**Share:** Are you creative? Share your immediate response and explain why you feel this way.

**Read Psalm 19:1-4, Exodus 31:2-3 and Genesis 1:1-2 together:** Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

**Discuss the following context:**

The heart of Kensington is to create moments for people far from God that allow them to become more aware of God and then take steps to engage with Him. This 3-week series is a celebration of the Kensington legacy and the Kingdom journey God has us on. Each week reflects on the last three decades of Kensington's history through the eyes of the three founding families. Week one will look at the importance of creativity, surrender and excellence in all we do. The second week will look at the "go pulse" of the church and the heart of our mission to go to all the ends of the earth. The last week will look at our passion for reaching the person that is far from Christ.

People are created by God and made to create; the ability to create and imagine is at the heart of God. What God creates has the ability to reflect back to the world His truth and reality. God gave humanity a way to create and express, in all different forms, and this creativity can be used to draw people to Christ.

**Share your thoughts about following questions:**

1. Creation alone can express the majesty and glory of God the Creator, pointing to the ultimate artist. It is here that God can be found. (Psalm 19:1-4)
  - a. Have you ever heard a song, read a poem, watched a movie or engaged with a beautiful painting and found that it moved you deeply? Share your experience.
  - b. When we notice creation around us, how can that help us to recognize we are creative beings with an opportunity to live out and create beauty?
2. In Exodus 31:2-3 God filled a man named Bezalel with the Holy Spirit. He was an artist commissioned by God to create and build the temple for God. This is the first acknowledgement of being "filled with the Holy Spirit" in scripture. Focus on how God chooses, fills and calls His people to create. Is Bezalel any different than us? How?
3. At the heart of creation is a God who hovers over formless and dark spaces and then creates something beautiful out of what seems like nothing. (Genesis 1:1-2) God gives humankind, different than animals, the unique ability to use imagination, future thinking and creativity; the ability to bring about something that wasn't there before, something new. This act of creating helps find meaning, purpose and point towards God.
  - a. No matter who you are or what you do, you have the ability to bring about something new each day. What does this mean for you?
  - b. How can you create moments to engage with God or point others towards God?

**Pray together:** Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Thank God for creating us in His image. Thank God that we have the ability to use our imagination, creativity and ingenuity to make and create because we are created in His image. Ask God to reveal to you what that means for you. Ask God to help you create moments to engage with Him and point others toward Him.