**“God Is…” – Week 1 (Awesome)**

**September 25-26, 2021**

I’m excited about our new series that starts today called “God Is.” Every week here at Northview Students, we learn something about God, and this whole series is designed to help us learn a different part about God each week. Here is what I am challenging you to do over the next several weeks: come with a heart and attitude that is ready to learn. Secondly…come with a heart and attitude that is willing to change the way you live based on what you learn. We would love nothing more than for every 5th & 6th grade student at our church to be in awe of God and to think He is awesome…because He is awesome! In fact, that’s where I want to start off this message and this entire series.

**THP: God is awesome!**

That word “awesome” is something we say a lot, and yet, we probably need levels to the word “awesome.” The English language can’t really help us there. We can say pizza is awesome, naps are awesome, Netflix is awesome, the NBA is awesome, and God is awesome…without any difference whatsoever!

The Gospel writers, Matthew and Luke, describe God’s name as “hallowed” in the New Testament, which means holy or set apart. There were many believers in God in ancient history that wouldn’t even say the name of God because they were so in awe of Him. In other words, He was awesome and because He was so awesome, they hesitated to even say His Name.

However, I sometimes wonder (and maybe you do, too), “What makes God awesome?” I mean, there has to be a reason for it. Here are a couple reasons…

**No one/Nothing else is like God.**

God is unlike anyone or anything else in all of creation. We’re told in Genesis 2 that God created male and female in His own image. That means human beings were a special creation by God and that parts of God were put into us. However, even then, human beings aren’t even remotely close to being like God. He is perfect, He is all-powerful, He is awesome! Remember how I used the word “hallowed” earlier? Matthew and Luke (Matthew 6 and Luke 11) both record a conversation where Jesus tells people that God’s name is hallowed: holy, set apart, or special. It is the first line of what we know as The Lord’s Prayer: *“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.”* Simply put, Jesus is saying nothing compares to God!

Here is the second reason that God is awesome…**God is our Creator.**

Christians believe that God created the world: in Genesis 1, at the very beginning of the Bible, it says He created the heavens and the earth. Oceans, mountains, caves, animals, planets, stars…everything! The entire universe! Whoa! Just to give you an idea of what God created, this video illustrates the awesomeness of God being a Creator. Some of you may have seen this video before, but I think it really captures the awe of who God is and His creation.

**(Teacher’s Note: Show “Awe Factor of God” video)**

Does anyone feel kind of small right now? I do. After watching something like that, it might be easy for some of you to think, “With all that going on, why would God care about me? Why would He even care about my family, my grades, what sports I play, the things I pray about, what boy or girl I like, what my favorite food or movie is? He has way more important things to deal with.” However, this is what makes God the most awesome: He can handle all of that and yet give you His undivided attention at all times! How crazy is that?!

In fact, Jesus even talks about that in the New Testament in Luke 12:6-7: *“Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”*

Jesus is saying that God takes care of the sparrows and makes sure they have enough to eat. God knows how many hairs are on your head! Again, you might be thinking, “Doesn’t God have more important things to take care of or worry about?” Not according to Jesus! In fact, it’s the exact opposite. God cares about every detail! They are important to Him.

Let’s make it more personal…He cares about every single detail of YOUR life. NOT A SINGLE ONE OF YOU IS FORGOTTEN BY GOD. He cares about you. He loves you. That is awesome!

**This great big God, who COULD choose to not bother with us…He could just stay somewhere far away from humanity like, “I’ve got more important things to do.” In fact, a lot of people in our world see God like that. But…you know what He did instead? He sent His only Son: Jesus Christ, God in human form. GOD IN THE FLESH! He did that so that He could identify with us…so He could come close to us and actually show us that He loves us. He gave us a small glimpse of who He was.**

Paul says this in the New Testament in Colossians 1:15-17 says this: *“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”*

I love that last part: IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER. Nothing can happen apart from God. Nothing. Students…I want my life to be in God’s control and I want yours to be, too, because He is awesome…just like our THP says.

**Since God is awesome, we can trust Him with anything in our life. We know He cares about it and since He is a perfect, loving God…we can know that He will take good care of us. Now THAT is awesome! Let’s pray.**