



Title: Before "In the Beginning"

Date: 1.10.10

Series: In the Beginning

Text: Genesis 1:1

Synopsis: So you're getting ready to run a race. You think you are well prepared. You've been training for months, strengthening your body, increasing your endurance. You even bought some new shoes. Finally you get to the starting line and discover to your horror that you do not know the route. You assume that you'll know the way because it is the direction that everyone is running. But what if they are running the wrong way? In a panic, you look around, and suddenly you're not sure if you are in the right race. Was this the 10k or the 20k? All of the sudden a wave of uncertainty floods your consciousness and you begin to question the existence of the race altogether. Who are all these people? Why are they here? These are not my shoes?

As ridiculous as this all may sound, it is often the place we find ourselves in a postmodern/existential culture. We prepare ourselves to run the race of life only to become completely paralyzed by questions that should be easily answered. Who am I? Why am I here? How did I get here? Who is God? Does he exist? Do I exist? As believers our temptation may be to say that all these answers are found in the Bible (which they are), but why would anyone read it? Isn't it just an ancient book written by ancient people about their ancient religion? How can that possibly impact me?

Before we crack open the Bible and read those opening ten words, "In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth" we have to wrestle with two questions: "is there a God?" and "what does he want from me?"