

A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a brown jacket and a sweater, stands in a classroom. He is pointing his right index finger towards the text on a green chalkboard. The chalkboard has the title 'BACK TO BASICS: CHRISTIANITY 101' written on it in white, stylized capital letters. The background shows a window with multiple panes on the left and wooden desks in the foreground.

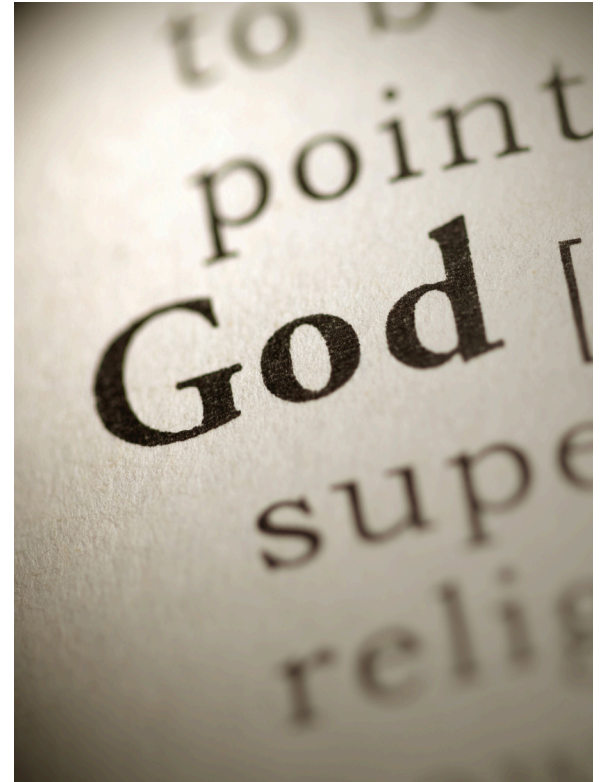
BACK TO BASICS: CHRISTIANITY 101

LESSON 1: I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD...

I believe in one God...

Who is God?
What do we
know about
Him?

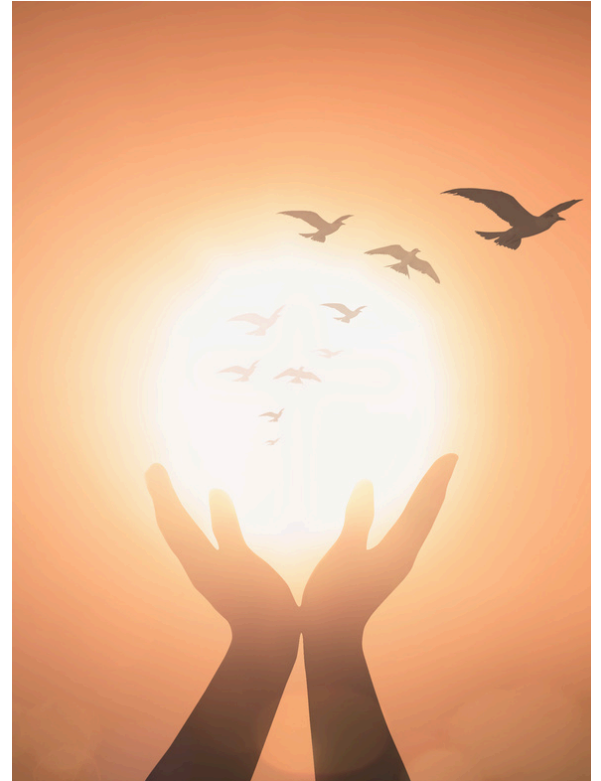
YA Only: How
do we know
God exists?



I believe in one God...

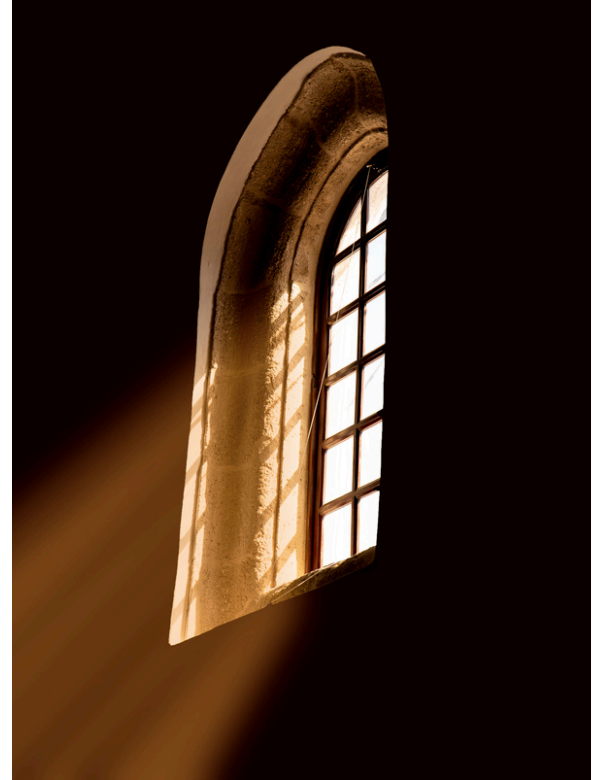
The Christian view of God

- Why He exists
- What He is / What we know about Him
- Why He is worthy of worship



I believe in one God...

God's Existence



I believe in one God...

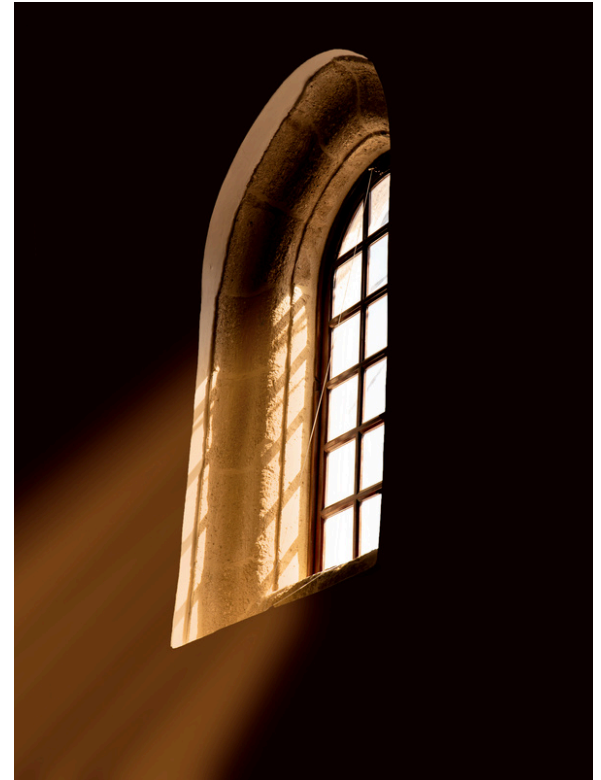
God's Existence

The Kalam Cosmological Argument (William Lane Craig)

- 1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause of its existence.
- 2 . The universe began to exist.
- 3. Therefore, the universe has a cause of its existence. That cause is God.

-This aligns with God's role as Creator (Gen 1:1)

-Points to God as first cause (Aquinas)





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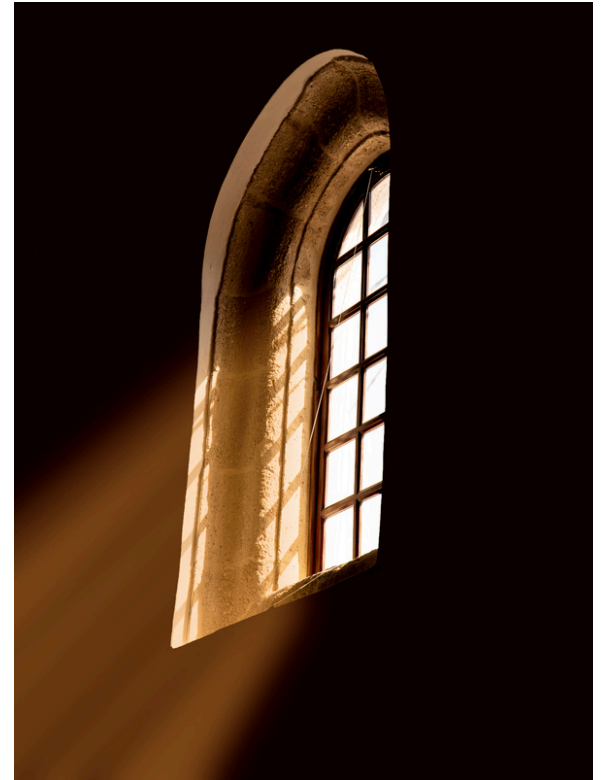
God's Existence

The Teleological (Fine-Tuning) Argument (Ray Comfort, John Lennox)

- God must exist due to the universe displaying complex order and fine-tuning that cannot be explained by chance.
- We can then conclude that the fine-tuner is God.

-God explains the intelligent design behind the creation of the universe.

-Ex. Watch, DNA





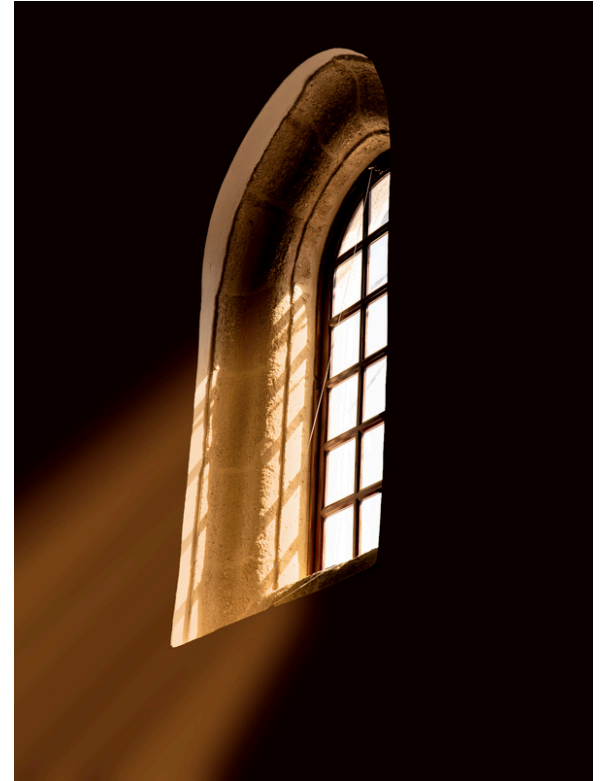


I believe in one God...

God's Existence

The Ontological Argument (Anselm of Canterbury, Alvin Plantinga)

- 1. Imagine the best, most perfect thing you can think of.
 - Let's say it's the ultimate superhero, smartest person, or greatest hero ever.
- 2. Now, if that thing only exists in your imagination...
 - It's not truly the greatest, because something greater would be if it actually existed in real life.
- 3. But God is defined as the greatest possible being, ever.
 - So by definition, God must exist in reality, because existing makes Him greater than just imagined.



I believe in one God...

God's communicable attributes (His energies)

- **God's love**

- God's love is self-giving, unconditional, and sacrificial (Romans 5:8)
- God's love is persistent and unwavering. (Romans 8:38-39)
- We are called to reflect His love to others. (1 John 4:19)



I believe in one God...

God's communicable attributes (His energies)

- **God's Mercy/Grace**
 - Mercy is His withholding of deserved judgment; grace is giving us blessings we do not deserve.
 - We are all sinners, but receive God's mercy, as Jesus takes our punishment. (Ephesians 2:4-5)
 - We receive God's grace in His gift of eternal life through Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9)



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- **God's Holiness**

- Holy: set apart
- God is not like other "gods:
- Just as God is set apart and holy, we are also called to be set apart (1 Peter 1:15-16)



I believe in one God...

God's Incommunicable Attributes (His essence)

- **God's aseity/role as Creator**
 - God does not depend on anyone for existence. He is the Creator, the source of everything (Genesis 1:1)



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God's Incommunicable Attributes (His essence)

- **God's Transcendence**

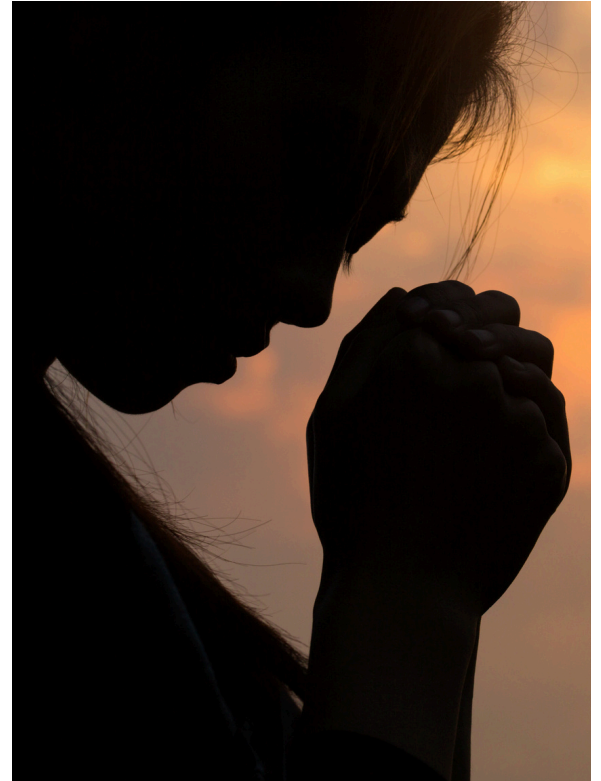
- Transcendence means God is beyond all creation, and in a lot of ways, above our understanding. (Isaiah 55:8–9)
- Because He is greater than us, He commands worship and praise, because there's no being that is greater than God.



I believe in one God...

Why is God worthy of worship?

- We worship God because of who He is. (Revelation 4:11)
- We worship God because of what He's done. (Psalm 95:1–2)
- Finally, we worship God because it transforms ourselves and others. (Matthew 5:16)



Additional Resources

- Some more arguments for God's Existence to check out (Here's a [video](#) that lists a ton):
 - The Transcendental Argument for God (Jay Dyer, Van Til)
 - The Argument from Beauty (Hans Urs von Balthasar)
 - The Argument from Contingency (Thomas Aquinas, William Lane Craig)
 - The Argument from Desire (C.S. Lewis)
 - Arguments from Testimony
 - 5 Ways (Thomas Aquinas)
 - Argument from morality (C.S. Lewis)
 - Argument from history (J Warner Wallace, Lee Strobel, Gary Habermas)



I believe in one God...

Additional Resources, Pt. II

- [ODBU Apologetics Course](#)
- [Westminster Confession](#) (Reformed)
- An [article](#) on God's goodness

