

ANNOUNCEMENTS

09.20.2026

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES:

JOHN 3:16 Join others from TCCO on Fri. 9/25 from 5:30-7:30pm to serve dinner to the shelter guests. All volunteers 16 & older are welcome, and students, ages 12-15, can serve with a parent. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve others and connect with your TCCO family. Contact Sarah Simpson to sign up to serve, or with any questions at outreach@theconnecting.co.

LUNCH WITH THE STAFF: Our Fall Semester LWTS is scheduled for Sun. 9/27, 12:30-2:00pm. This event is important for anyone who has never attended before or is new to TCCO in the last 6-12 months. LWTS is a great opportunity to hear our heart and more of our story as a church; to learn about our mission, vision, and core values; to connect with and meet our staff and some of our leadership team; to ask any questions; and to get more connected. Lunch and childcare for 5th grade and under (by registration only) is provided. Please use the QR code to RSVP no later than TODAY. Contact brittany@theconnecting.co with any questions.

TCCO STUDENTS+ TOURNAMENT NIGHT: All 6th-12th grade students are invited to join us on Wed. 9/30 for our next TCCO Students+ Night, 6:30-8:00pm; doors open at 6:15pm. Grab a teammate and get ready to compete in various tournament games throughout the night! Plan to be there and invite all your friends to join you! Contact Pastor Walter at walter@theconnecting.co with any questions!

LOVE TULSA SUNDAY: TCCO is partnering with City Church again this year for a city-wide outreach day to serve and love on our community on Sun. 10/4, 9:00am-12:00pm! Childcare will be provided for children 4 & under here at TCCO. Families are encouraged to serve together. Use the QR code or link to register no later than Fri. 9/25. FREE Love Tulsa t-shirts to wear that day are available for first-time participants on a first come basis; adult & youth sizes available. (If you have your t-shirt from May 2025; please use/wear it; design is the same.) T-shirts will be handed out at TCCO on Sun. 9/20 & Sun. 9/27. Contact outreach@theconnecting.co with any questions.

CHILD DEDICATION SUNDAY: Several places in scripture we see examples and the importance of dedicating our children back to the Lord. Our next Child Dedication Sunday is scheduled for Sun. 10/25. This opportunity is open to all parents of children that have not been dedicated to the Lord yet. Sign-up using the QR code by Sun. 10/11. For questions, please contact our TCCO Kids Director, Elaine Hathaway at elaine@theconnecting.co.

SAVE THE DATE:

Sun. 11/1 TCCO's Party on the Lawn



“GOD IS...”

WEEK 2

God Creator

Travis Cherry



we exist to
connect people
to Jesus and
each other

“GOD IS...”
Week 2: God Creator
09.20.2026

Genesis 1:1 — *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Elohim: one of the most common identifiers for God throughout the entire Old Testament.

1. ELOHIM EXISTED BEFORE EVERYTHING

Genesis 1:1 isn't the beginning of God...it's the beginning of creation; God was already present.

Psalm 90:2 — *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

Genesis 1:1 isn't telling us when God began...it's telling us when everything that is not God began.

Creation depends on God...God does not depend on creation.

God doesn't NEED creation in order to be God; God WANTED us!

2. ELOHIM CREATED EVERYTHING

Genesis 1:2-3 — ² *The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.* ³ *And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.*

God speaks and creation responds!

Psalm 33:6, 9 — ⁶ *By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.* ... ⁹ *For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.*

Genesis 1:31a — *And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.*

Chaos does not threaten God's sovereignty.

Romans 1:25 — *because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.*

And this is the human condition...we keep taking things from the creation side and putting them on the Creator side.

Psalm 24:1 — *The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,*

Because God created you...you don't ultimately get to define yourself apart from Him!

3. ELOHIM CREATED YOU & ME IN HIS IMAGE

Genesis 1:26a, 27 — ^{26a} *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."* ²⁷ *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

Elohim: The image of God.

Our worth is never rooted in anything we do...our value begins and is rooted in whose image we bear and hold.

I can only truly know my identity and my purpose by knowing my Creator!

Genesis 1:28 — *And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

Your assignment is something you do, but your identity is something you've been given.

If my identity begins and ends with Elohim...I can work from worth instead of working for worth!

4. ELOHIM CAN BE TRUSTED WITH WHAT HE CREATED

John 1:1-3 — ¹ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* ² *He was in the beginning with God.*

³ *All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

Colossians 1:16 — *For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.*

Genesis 1:2b — *And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

Psalm 8:3-4 — ³ *When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,* ⁴ *what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?*

Psalm 139:13 — *For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.*

The bigger your understanding of God becomes...the more astonishing His attention toward you becomes.