

# Create



## ✔ Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Provide pens/pencils and paper for the writing option or keep an ongoing journal for participants to return to or take home each week.
- Provide and keep a collection of art supplies for each week including but not limited to: crayons, chalk, color pencils, markers, glue, tissue paper, colored construction paper, paint brushes, watercolors, finger paints, scissors, and a variety of scrapbooking paper and old magazines.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

## ✔ Breath of God

Ask a volunteer to read Mark 13:1-8. Then show the *Bible Background Video*.

**Say:** In Mark 13:1-8, we hear Jesus speaking to the disciples about the end of the world. Often, we hear this text as a guide for how to recognize the end of the world. Or, we just dismiss Jesus' words as something that does not happen to us. One message is clear, though. Jesus is reminding the disciples not to put their faith in temples, buildings, and stones. These things, while seemingly solid, are still fleeting and temporary in light of the power and permanence of God. Today, we put our faith and attention in so many things that we take for granted as a permanent part of life – technology, cars, electricity, our church buildings, even our families and friends. Yet, Jesus reminds us that even the strongest human built foundation is fleeting in comparison to God's permanence.

**Ask:** What does it mean for something to be permanent? What does it mean to put our faith in something?

Invite each participant to choose either the Writing or Visual approach and spend the next 10-15 minutes with that experience.

## ✔ Create- Writing

Invite the writing participants to make a list of the characteristics of God. Then, ask the participants to make a list of the things that we may put our faith in instead of God.

## ✔ Create- Visual

Invite the visual participants to draw a picture of God or other type of visual representation of some of the attributes of God. Then, ask the participants to make a visual representation of the things that we may put our faith in instead of God.

Call the group back together and spend the next 5-10 minutes with the following experience.

## ✔ Create- Writing and Visual

Ask the group to work together as a large group or in smaller groups or pairs. Ask the visual and the writing participants to work together to create a display that shows these characteristics of God and the types of things that we often look to instead of God.

## ✔ Share

Call the group together. Invite participants to share their creations with the large group.

**Ask:** What would it look like if we put our faith completely in God instead of things or people?

Close in prayer.

(After the session, consider finding a way to share the creations of the group- post pictures on Facebook, on a church website, or in a portfolio/frames kept either in a public place in the church or in your group's special gathering place).

**By Noelle Owen**