## Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE

## "In The Beginning, God"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

When your life seems empty, chaotic and Is there anyone who can help?

By the sheer power of His Word, the triune God brought order and beauty out of chaos, emptiness and darkness. He spoke the universe and all that is into being, from the tiniest atoms and living things unseen by the human eye to the great creatures of the sea to the awesome galaxies

deep in space. When we human beings "create" something, we must gather the materials we need. We may get some paints, a palette and easel; or we may buy the necessary ingredients for an elaborate dessert; or we may stock up on the lumber, nails and tools needed for a building project.

darkness surrounds you, so "ex nihilo," a twenty- of nothing." to whom can you turn? five cent term meaning "In the beginning, God mudpie mix with which that the one who believes, offering receipts will created the heavens and to begin. There was no accepting Jesus Christ into impress the Creator God. the earth. And the earth "primordial soup" can his or her life is a "...new was formless and void to open. Romans 4:17 creature (created being), (empty), and darkness says it this way "...God the old things passed toward salvation and was over the surface of who gives life to the dead away; behold, new things eternal life with God. What happened next? which does not exist." things are from God..."

But when God created days, the entire creation things "ex nihilo." You "in the beginning," He did was formed, literally, "out can bring nothing to the

God is in a different eternal life. No church "out of nothing." God kind of creating business, membership records, didn'thave a super cosmic too. God's Word says or baptism records, or and calls into being that have come. Now all these

Lord Jesus to receive Such things will not earn you one brownie point

Salvation comes ONLY because of who "God said, 'Let there God spoke and, over six God is still creating Jesus is and what He has already done. He gave His life to pay the penalty for your sins. Jesus paid a debt He did not owe, because you owe a debt you cannot possibly pay. Until you have asked God for forgiveness in Jesus' Name through true repentance and are born again, your debt of sin and selfishness keeps you separated from God. Eternal life is a free gift, but you must accept the gift on the Giver's standards. God loves you with an everlasting love. Bring to Him all the "nothing" you have and He will give you everything you need! He will cleanse you from sin and create

# **A New Identity** Every day we leave impressions on those around us. How

we present ourselves reflects on our unique individuality, our personality and convictions. Our selfishness or unselfishness in small ways, our ability to remain calm when a storm surrounds us, whether we mostly smile or mostly frown...these traits tell others something about us, something about who we truly are. In 1 John 5:7 we hear, "And the Spirit is the witness, because the Spirit is the truth." Celebrate your identity at your house of worship each week; let God's truth leave an impression on you.

Weekly	Scripture	Reading

John 1 John 10.22-42 18.1-14 1.1-2.6

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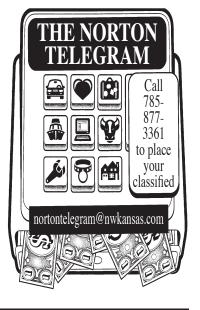
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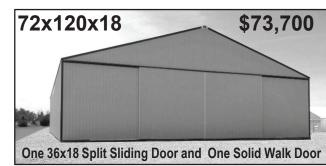
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4	5	7	6	9	8	3	2	1
2	3	9	7	4	1	6	8	5
8	2	5	3	7	4	9	1	6
3	9	4	5	1	6	2	7	8
7	1	6	8	2	9	5	3	4
9	7	3	4	8	5	1	6	2
5	8	1	9	6	2	7	4	3
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"Best Buds"														
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